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**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION - DIVISION OF  
PORTFOLIO PLANNING**  
**Resiting of Eagle Academy - 4/3/12**

1 [START 290\_216]

2 MR. LENEN MURRAY: Good evening, everyone.  
3 May I have your attention, please? Thank you.  
4 Thank you. We are about to begin the joint  
5 public hearing for the proposed re-siting of the  
6 Eagle Academy for Young Men, Eagle Academy  
7 3292327 to Louis Site [phonetic] building Q633.  
8 I want to welcome everyone here this evening.  
9 We really appreciate you coming out. And this  
10 is a joint public hearing with the Department of  
11 Education, the Community " - - " Education  
12 Council " - - " teams for Eagle, and I69. So I  
13 am Lenen Murray [phonetic], the superintendent  
14 of District 29. This is my fifth year as  
15 superintendent. Previous to that, I was  
16 assistant principal, a principal, a teacher in  
17 the district. So " - - " also the District 29 "  
18 - - " president is behind me, " - - " , and the  
19 school district team of the Eagle Academy for  
20 Young Men, they are here as well. So I'm  
21 expecting Tangeline [phonetic] from I69 school  
22 district team. Is she here? Tangeline? She's  
23 right here. Okay. Linda Kerns [phonetic]?  
24 Linda Kerns? Is Linda here? Okay, good. Kathy  
25 Gale [phonetic]? Kathy Gale? Good. Marie

1 Ruveen [phonetic]? Beautiful. And Mr. Lewis  
2 [phonetic]? Mr. Lewis? Okay. He isn't here  
3 for the " - - " team. And President Elisia?  
4 President Elisia Hyman from district 29 " - - ".  
5 She's right there. Okay. We also have  
6 Principal Reed [phonetic], Principal Reed over  
7 here, and Principal Gordon [phonetic]. Welcome.  
8 I see that you made it as well. Welcome. Good  
9 to see you.

10 This hearing is being recorded. The purpose  
11 of this hearing is for you to provide comments  
12 about the proposal. And I will briefly describe  
13 the proposal. I will make sure that we are in  
14 the opportunity to provide your input. So the "  
15 - - " from the Office of Portfolio Planning, she  
16 offered the invitation for you to sign up just  
17 outside the auditorium. So please take  
18 advantage of that opportunity. The sign-up  
19 sheet will close shortly. And speakers, I will  
20 give you the floor in the order in which you  
21 signed up. Please remember all comments are  
22 limited to two minutes.

23 If your elected officials come in during our  
24 proceedings, we will let them speak. We  
25 accommodate them at the opportune moments, so we

1 can have their input. All comments, as we  
2 mentioned in the announcements " - - " , to be  
3 published and provided to the Panel of  
4 Educational Policy the evening before the panel  
5 votes. Right now the vote is scheduled for  
6 April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2012. In addition, we welcome any  
7 comments and feedback you have at any time  
8 before the panel votes. So please note the  
9 email address which is db29proposals,  
10 d29proposals, with an "s" at the end,  
11 @schools.nyc.gov. And the phone number you can  
12 call is 212-374-7621, 212-374-7621. Okay.

13 Briefly, " - - " statements—thanks, Maria.  
14 Briefly, the proposal is to re-site Eagle  
15 Academy to build a Q633 and 110-21 " - - " 433  
16 District 29 beginning in 2012/2013 school year.  
17 Eagle Academy is currently located right here at  
18 59 and 132-55 Ridgedale Street. And if this  
19 proposal is accepted, then the Eagle Academy  
20 would vacate the space in 59, that is 59, 259  
21 Louis Site into Q633 also District 29. Eagle  
22 Academy is an existing school composed of sixth  
23 thru seventh grades and will grow to serve sixth  
24 thru twelfth grades in Q633. If this proposal  
25 is approved, the school would expand to serve

1 grade eight in 2012/13, ninth grade 2013/14,  
2 and then continue to grow thru twelfth grade in  
3 subsequent years in that building, Q633.

4 That building has an estimated target  
5 capacity of 557 students. In 2013/14, the Eagle  
6 Academy would serve approximately 230 to 260  
7 students in sixth thru ninth grades. " - - "  
8 estimated their utilization rates of 55% to 62%.  
9 Eagle Academy will mix the sixth grade students  
10 near the middle school " - - " process and the  
11 school maintains a limited unscreened application  
12 process with priority given to male students who  
13 are attending the school information " - - ".

14 Current students at the school will, of  
15 course, remain in the school. And the proposal  
16 is not expected to impact the current admissions  
17 process. It will only " - - " partnerships of  
18 Eagle Academy. However, I can " - - " the  
19 staff, Ms. Kendra [phonetic], " - - ", and Ms.  
20 Night [phonetic], the best staff in the world.  
21 Good to see you guys. Pleasure. At this point  
22 in time, I'll just to this role over to  
23 President Elisia, Elisia Hyman, of CBC so she  
24 can make her statement.

25 [Applause]

1 MS. ELISIA HYMAN: Good evening, parents,  
2 committee members. As a CBC 29 representative,  
3 I will say that we fully endorse the relocation  
4 of the Eagle Academy to the official number of  
5 the building, " - - " we all know it as the  
6 Adam's school. We don't see any departments, or  
7 foresee, any hesitancy on behalf of the  
8 community. Because we do feel that every school  
9 deserves its own building to grow and " - - " in  
10 which " - - " pleased the Eagle Academy will  
11 still be in the South " - - " Community. " - -  
12 " . Thank you.

13 [Applause]

14 MR. LENEN MURRAY: Thank you, President  
15 Hyman. Who is the representative for Eagle SLD,  
16 the Eagle Academy " - - " SLD representative?  
17 Okay. Thank you.

18 MS. MARIE ADAM: Thank you. Good evening,  
19 parents. Good evening, Mr. Murray and guests.  
20 My name is Marie Adam of " - - ". I stand  
21 before you this evening as the PTA President, as  
22 an SLT member, and a proud parent of a student  
23 on the honor roll. And also I think of myself  
24 as a co-parent of the 165 students at the Eagle  
25 Academy. And on behalf of our parents, we are

1 in full support of this move. " - - " wants a  
2 boy who " - - " shows parents who believe can  
3 single-sex education form young men? The " - -  
4 " is now. We cannot sustain a single-sex  
5 education in a co-ed school. It is important  
6 that we move to this new place. It has been  
7 increasingly difficult to share the building as  
8 we are growing. And for example, our basketball  
9 team could not use the gym at certain times  
10 because it was being used by another school  
11 which was fine. It was their building.

12 Each year we continue to grow " - - " time.  
13 And at some point, we might " - - " confided " -  
14 - " students. We cannot remain here. We must  
15 move. The proposed building can accommodate  
16 about 557 students, and it seems to be the  
17 perfect match for us. It's located near public  
18 transportation. And it's still in District 29.

19 And I want to remind whoever has to make  
20 this decision that we aren't only parents. We  
21 are taxpayers. And most importantly, we are  
22 voters. And we have the right to the best  
23 education for our students, for our sons, in our  
24 own building, like everyone else. We should not  
25 have to fight for something that is rightfully

1       ours. Not too long ago, parents came here  
2       today, just like today, for to have you look at  
3       " - - ". And back then, you know the decision  
4       was made—and it was the right decision—to have  
5       the Eagle Academy. So we are really asking your  
6       support and also to have the PEP to vote on  
7       April 26<sup>th</sup>, yes. Vote yes for Eagle Academy to  
8       have its own building, its own home. Thank you.

9               [Applause]

10              MR. LENEN MURRAY: Thank you, Ms. Marie.  
11       Thank you so very much. At this point in time,  
12       we've concluded the formal presentation. So  
13       unless as a representative or one of the elected  
14       politicians in the community, if there's any  
15       representative from any of the elected  
16       politicians, they can raise their hand and come  
17       up to speak at this point. Any elected  
18       representative from any of the—okay. Thank you.  
19       I don't see any at this point in time. If they  
20       come in later, before we are done, we will  
21       certainly let them speak. At this point in  
22       time, we hope to, any speakers on behalf of  
23       Eagle signed up to speak, please take the stage.  
24       So Ms. Marie, I don't know that you wanted to go  
25       again, but you signed up. Okay. And then, Ms.

1 Cosena [phonetic]. Ms. Cosena?

2 [Applause]

3 MS. COSENA: Thank you. I guess my speech  
4 is now " - - ". First of all, as you know,  
5 many, many of those who can afford an education  
6 by access to many choices of their public school  
7 education. Today the day has dawned. They're  
8 finally our public school system. It's  
9 progressing, that our public school " - - ", our  
10 public school system's as well as all of our  
11 school, our " - - " now have a choice,  
12 especially in Queens. We can send our children  
13 to specialized high schools, specialized middle  
14 schools, and now gender schools. So on behalf  
15 of that, congratulate the DOE to move on, move  
16 forward, moving progressively. And as an  
17 educator myself, in a college setting, this is  
18 what we need. We need choices. We need access.  
19 And it's not anymore to the privileged that get  
20 these choices. It's for us today.

21 [Applause]

22 MR. LENEN MURRAY: Thank you. Thank you so  
23 much. Is anybody from IS59 sub-team wanting to  
24 say anything? Anybody from IS59 sub-team?  
25 Nobody wants to say anything? Okay. Okay. Ms.

1 Joseph [phonetic], go ahead.

2 MS. JOSEPH: Good evening. I just want to  
3 say to the Eagle Academy, I know that I am just  
4 watching your children, watching the students,  
5 it has been a pleasure to my eyes. And I just  
6 want to say keep up the good work. Because our  
7 young men, they need to grow up to be strong,  
8 independent, black males and Hispanic males.  
9 And we'll never " - - " that you actually take  
10 in. I hear your calls. I hear your sayings " -  
11 - " . And even my students, they stop and they  
12 listen. So continue, Principal Reed. Thank you.

13 [Applause]

14 MR. LENEN MURRAY: Thank you. Thank you so  
15 much. I don't have anybody else on the speakers  
16 list. So I want to thank Principal Reed. I  
17 want to thank Principal Gordon. I want to thank  
18 the SLTs of I69 and of Eagle Academy Three. I  
19 want to thank all of you parents for coming out,  
20 my office staff. I want to thank Alvin  
21 [phonetic] and his team. I want to thank the  
22 assembly aids from Portfolio. And in the  
23 absence of anyone else on the speaker list, the  
24 meeting is now adjourned. Thanks you so, so  
25 much for-

1 [Applause]  
2 [END 290\_216]  
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C E R T I F I C A T E

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2           The prior proceedings were transcribed from  
3 audio files and have been transcribed to the  
4 best of my ability.

5  
6           Signature

*Maggie S. Quason*

7           Date April 5, 2012

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