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**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION - DIVISION OF
PORTFOLIO PLANNING
SCN Brooklyn 7 @ K907 - 12/6/12**

**K907 Building
1150 East New York Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11212**

1 [START RECORDING]

2 MR. GREGG BETHEIL: My name is Gregg
3 Betheil. I'm the Executive Director for School
4 Programs and Partnerships at the Department of
5 Education, and I'll be acting as the facilitator
6 and moderator for this joint public hearing. We
7 do have a small crowd this evening. If there's
8 anybody who has not had a chance to sign up to
9 speak, please make sure you do so. Right now we
10 have about five speakers that have signed up.
11 Even though it's a small group, there are some
12 formalities that we need to get to, so if you'll
13 just bear on with us, we'll do that as quickly
14 as we can and get to your comments. This is a
15 joint public hearing of the Department of
16 Education, the invited Community Education
17 Council 17, and the invited School Leadership
18 Team to discuss the following proposal: the
19 proposed co-location of a new public charter
20 school, Success Academy Charter, Brooklyn 7,
21 also known as SA Brooklyn 7, 84K, and their
22 school number is to be determined, with the
23 existing school, Brownsville Academy High
24 School, known as Brownsville Academy, 17K, 568,
25 in Building K907, beginning in the 2013-2014

1 school year. Tonight's proceedings will be
2 recorded and transcribed. Success Academy
3 Brooklyn 7 has been approved by its charter
4 authorizer, the State University of New York's
5 Charter School Institute, or SUNY, to open a new
6 public charter school in School District 17.
7 Although this proposal has not yet been approved
8 by the Panel on Educational Policy, the city is
9 required to hold a facilities hearing to receive
10 feedback on the proposed co-location of Success
11 Academy Brooklyn 7 with Brownsville Academy. As
12 such, this joint public hearing will also serve
13 as a facilities hearing. There's a
14 representative from SUNY in attendance. If you
15 have any questions or comments on the charter
16 itself, Liz Genco from the City Charter
17 Institute will now tell you how to submit those
18 questions and comments.

19 MS. ELIZABETH GENCO: Good evening. My name
20 is Elizabeth Genco, and I'm the Program Analyst
21 at the SUNY Charter Schools Institute. I'm here
22 tonight to hold a public hearing on behalf of
23 the Board of Trustees of the State University of
24 New York, or SUNY. SUNY is the authorizer of
25 the charter school we are discussing today.

1 That means that SUNY's trustees approved the
2 application to create the school. My
3 organization, the SUNY Charter Schools
4 Institute, will visit the school and report on
5 its progress to parents. As the school gets
6 older, we will also make a recommendation to the
7 SUNY trustees about whether or not the school
8 has earned the right to stay open. Today our
9 focus will be on where the school will be
10 located. Education law requires SUNY to hold a
11 public hearing any time one of the schools it
12 authorizes might open within an existing public
13 school building. I'm here tonight to listen to
14 your comments about the proposal to moves grades
15 K to five of the Success Academy Charter School
16 Brooklyn 7 in part of Building K907, beginning
17 in the fall of 2013. SUNY is holding the
18 hearing now at the same time that the DOE is
19 holding its hearing, so that we don't have to
20 ask parents and community members to attend two
21 different hearings on the same subject. We want
22 to be sure that we have the opportunity to hear
23 from as many parents, teachers, school leaders,
24 and members of the community as we can. I do
25 want to note that SUNY has to make its own

1 decision regarding the school using the
2 proposed space. I will be taking notes on the
3 comments made tonight. In addition, you - - any
4 written comments you may have with you. You can
5 email comments to charters@suny.edu. You can
6 mail comments to 41 State St., Suite 700,
7 Albany, NY, 12207, or fax comments to (518) 427-
8 6510. I have extra copies of our notices with
9 me tonight that includes all of our contact
10 information. SUNY will accept comments through
11 December 28th, 2012. We set this deadline for
12 five days after the meeting of the Panel for
13 Educational Policy where this co-location will
14 be discussed. That way if there is any
15 information that you get that is part of this
16 conversation at the PEP meeting, that you may
17 want to share with us, you have time to do so.
18 SUNY will make a decision on this co-location
19 after the close of the comments period. In
20 advance, I want to thank you for your comments
21 tonight. We appreciate your taking this time -
22 -.

23 MR. BETHEIL: Thank you. The purpose of
24 this hearing is for you to provide comments
25 about the proposal. And before I describe the

1 proposal, I want to make sure you're all aware
2 of the opportunity for you to provide input. We
3 ask that anyone who wishes to speak during the
4 public comment portion of the evening sign up at
5 the table here on the side. Sign-up will end in
6 about 15 minutes. Only people who have signed
7 up to speak will be able to participate in the
8 public comment. All panel participants are
9 asked to be here no later than 5:30 p.m. And
10 now that we started, if a panel participant
11 arrives late, he or she will be given the time
12 to speak at the first opportune moment. We do
13 want to be respectful of everybody's time who
14 got here at the start of the hearing. There may
15 be elected officials who arrive at different
16 times throughout the evening. If they wish to
17 speak, we'll do our best to accommodate them at
18 the first opportune moment. Those who are here
19 at the start of the public comments segment will
20 be asked to speak first. Tonight's format will
21 include a presentation of the proposal and
22 presentations by hearing participants, followed
23 by the public comment. Speakers should have
24 already signed up on the table here on the side.
25 If you have not yet signed up, again, there's

1 about ten minutes remaining. Public comments
2 can be no longer than two minutes each. The
3 time will be strictly followed and speakers will
4 be informed when their designated time has
5 ended. All comments will be mentioned in the
6 analysis of public comment, to be published and
7 provided to the Panel on Educational Policy the
8 evening before the panel votes. That vote is
9 scheduled for December 20th. In addition, we
10 welcome any comments and feedback you may have
11 at any time before the panel votes on both
12 proposals. The email address and phone number,
13 and I'll repeat these again throughout the
14 evening, where comments may be made, are
15 d17proposals, again that's
16 d17proposals@schools.nyc.gov. And the phone
17 number is (212) 374-0208. Again, (212) 374-
18 0208. Now I'd like to introduce the panel,
19 which has been assembled for this evening's
20 joint public hearing. And then we'll provide
21 some clarifying remarks as well. We're joined
22 this evening by Karen Watts, who is the Brooklyn
23 High School superintendent. And you've already
24 met Elizabeth Genco, who is here from the SUNY
25 Charter Institute. - - between the Education

1 Council for District 17, and the School
2 Leadership Team, were informed of, and invited
3 to be part of this hearing. They informed us
4 earlier today that they would not be able to
5 attend. It was made clear to them that they
6 would both have opportunities to provide comment
7 through other vehicles, both written, and at the
8 PEP itself. But they've chosen not to be here
9 tonight to join us on the dais and we'll proceed
10 with the public hearing so that you have an
11 opportunity to provide your comment. I'm not
12 aware of any elected officials who have joined
13 us, but just want to make sure I haven't missed
14 anyone. Is there someone here?

15 MALE VOICE 1: - -. Elected officials?

16 MR. BETHEIL: Yes.

17 MALE VOICE 1: Yeah.

18 MR. BETHEIL: Miss Nora Daniel from Council
19 Member Darlene Mealy's office? Thank you for
20 joining us this evening. We'll give you an
21 opportunity to speak right at the beginning of
22 the public comment. I'll now turn the program
23 over to the - - Superintendent Karen Watts, who
24 will present the proposal.

25 MS. KAREN WATTS: Thank you. Good evening.

1 The DOE's proposing to site Success Academy
2 Charter School Brooklyn 7, a new public charter
3 school that will serve students in kindergarten
4 through fifth grade, in Building K907, beginning
5 in 2013-2014 school year. Success Academy
6 Brooklyn 7 will be co-located in K907, with
7 Brownsville Academy, an existing transfer high
8 school that serves students in ten through the
9 12th grade. A co-location means that two or more
10 school organizations are located in the same
11 building. And they share common spaces like
12 auditoriums, gymnasiums, and cafeterias. K907
13 also houses two community-based organizations:
14 the New York City Mission Society, and CAMBA.
15 Success Academy Brooklyn 7 is a new public
16 charter school that is authorized by its charter
17 authorizer, the State University of New York
18 Charter Schools Institute, also known as SUNY,
19 to serve grades K through five. Success Academy
20 Charter Schools is a charter-management
21 organization that currently operates 12 public
22 elementary charter schools in New York City.
23 Success Academy Charter Schools has been
24 authorized by SUNY to operate six new public
25 elementary charter schools starting in 2013-

1 2014, including Success Academy Brooklyn 7.
2 The four Success Academy Charter Schools'
3 elementary schools that received a progress
4 report for the 2011-2012 school year received an
5 overall grade of an A. If this proposal is
6 approved, Success Academy Brooklyn 7 would open
7 in September 2013, and would serve 164 to 210
8 students in kindergarten and first grade, and
9 would add one grade each year until it reaches
10 full scale in 2017-2018 school year. At that
11 time, Success Academy Brooklyn 7 would serve
12 approximately 434 to 556 students in
13 kindergarten through fifth grade. The school
14 would admit students via the charter lottery
15 application process, with preference given to
16 District 17 residents and a set-aside for
17 English language learners. K907 has been
18 identified as an underutilized building. K907
19 has the capacity to serve 503 students. But in
20 2012-2013 school year, Brownsville Academy is
21 only projected to serve 225 students. This
22 yields a building utilization rate of
23 approximately 45%, which demonstrates that the
24 building is underutilized, and has the space to
25 accommodate additional students. In 2017-2018

1 school year, K907 will serve 644 to 796
2 students between Success Academy Brooklyn 7 and
3 Brownsville Academy combined. - - would yield a
4 projected utilization rate of 128% to 158%, and
5 suggests that the building will be over-utilized
6 or overcrowded in a given year. This rate does
7 not account for the fact that rooms may be
8 programmed for more efficient, or different
9 uses, than the standard assumptions in the
10 utilization calculation. Based on current and
11 potential - - at K907, the School Construction
12 Authority, the SCA, estimates Building K907 will
13 have a target building capacity of 658 students
14 once Success Academy Brooklyn 7 has fully phased
15 into the building, and the building is
16 programmed more efficiently. Using SCA's
17 updated target capacity for the building will
18 result in a projected utilization rate of 98% to
19 121%, once Success Academy Brooklyn 7 is fully
20 phased into the building. In addition, the
21 certificate of occupancy issued by New York City
22 Department of Buildings for K907 states a
23 maximum occupancy rate of 992, which is
24 sufficient to safely accommodate all students
25 and staff of both schools, should the co-

1 location be approved. Finally, the DOE will
2 work Principal Robinson on a fire safety plan
3 and support any work required to make all exits
4 useable, should this co-location be approved.
5 The DOE has successfully co-located several
6 elementary schools with high schools, and also
7 has several examples of successful K through 12
8 campuses. The DOE supports the permanent
9 placement of a Success Academy Charter School in
10 District 17. If this proposal is approved,
11 Success Academy Brooklyn 7 will add
12 approximately 434 to 556 kindergarten through
13 fifth grade seats in District 17. Thank you.

14 MR. BETHEIL: Thank you. For those that
15 were unable to pick it up when they came in,
16 there is a copy of the full educational impact
17 statement as well the building utilization plan,
18 that are available at the door, and they cover
19 much of what Superintendent Watts just
20 discussed. Normally our next presenter would be
21 from Community Educational Council 17. They
22 indicated earlier this evening that they would
23 not be able to send a representative, and again,
24 they'll have the opportunity to submit any
25 information, letters, or statements into the

1 record before it goes to the Panel on
2 Educational Policy. The same is true from the
3 School Leadership Team. They also informed us
4 earlier this afternoon that they would not be
5 joining us on the dais. I just want to make
6 sure there's nobody either from the Community
7 Educational Council or a representative from the
8 School Leadership Team that would like to make a
9 statement. Okay. With that, I'd like to begin
10 to move us to the conclusion of the formal
11 presentations. And we'll begin to ask the
12 speakers to come up. We'll have folks right up
13 here to the left of the table. If you have
14 written comments, you're welcome to submit those
15 comments to us after they've been made. And
16 I'll take those from the speaker. We'll hold
17 them 'til the end to make sure they're included
18 in the record. You are reminded that public
19 comment must be limited to two minutes. Time
20 will be kept and we will signal you when you
21 have 30 seconds remaining, and when your time is
22 up. Since we have a limited number of speakers
23 tonight, so we'll certainly allow you to finish
24 your thought but - - who respect the time as you
25 may have other speakers behind you. Before we

1 begin, I would invite up to the microphone
2 first Miss Nora Daniel, - - Council member's
3 office. And come on over here.

4 MISS NORA DANIEL: Unfortunately, the CEC
5 and School Leadership Team weren't able to be
6 here tonight because of the scheduling - -.

7 MALE VOICE 2: Is that mike on?

8 MALE VOICE 3: Maybe we should switch mikes.

9 MALE VOICE 2: I don't think they can be on
10 at the same time.

11 MALE VOICE 3: Okay. Is that one on?

12 [crosstalk]

13 MISS DANIEL: The CEC and the School
14 Leadership Team were not able to be here tonight
15 because of scheduling difficulties, I believe.
16 But I'm here representing Council Member Darlene
17 Mealy, just to speak a little bit about what we
18 learned about Brownsville Academy High School
19 and the co-location issue. Brownsville Academy
20 High School is an incredible school. Principal
21 LaShawn Robinson and her amazing staff have
22 helped the scholars of BHS realize their
23 potential and find their way to academic
24 success. The proposed co-location does a great
25 disservice to both the scholars of BHS and the

1 new students slated for the Success - -
2 Charter School, and should not occur. Council
3 Member Mealy strongly urges the DOE to reject
4 this proposal for co-location. The co-location
5 proposal directly contradicts the DOE's own
6 criteria for co-locations. Co-locations are
7 supposed to occur only if these two criteria are
8 met: one, that the school is failing, and also
9 if the building is underutilized. BHS does not
10 meet the first criteria; the school is not
11 failing. As evidenced by the new progress
12 report that was just recently released, BHS is
13 doing a fantastic job. They received an A
14 rating in the report, and also were named by the
15 *New York Post* as one of the top 25 high schools
16 in the city. This success should be rewarded,
17 but even if the DOE chooses to ignore the
18 success the school should certainly not be
19 punished by forcing the students into a crowded
20 situation that does not meet their needs. The
21 school is not failing; it should be treated as
22 though it were. Not only does it not meet the
23 first criteria for co-location; it also does not
24 meet the second, underutilization. The success
25 model of the school is entirely dependent upon

1 small class sizes. BHS serves an academically
2 diverse population of students, with initial
3 grade levels that can range from fourth grade to
4 12th grade. This diversity of learning levels
5 requires both small class sizes and the ability
6 to group students appropriately. This is
7 impossible if the co-location occurs, and they
8 are forced to downsize from 34 classrooms to
9 eight classrooms. It would be impossible to
10 only have eight classrooms and still continue to
11 serve the diversity of learning levels. Also,
12 the DOE is proposing to alter the capacity of
13 the school, which also creates many safety
14 concerns. Not only is this a clear
15 contradiction of the DOE's stated guidelines,
16 but it's specifically harmful to the educational
17 goals and the futures of the scholars.

18 Oftentimes the students at BHS have not been
19 served by traditional settings, but they've now
20 learned to excel. They've been guided by
21 Principal LaShawn Robinson and her dynamic
22 staff. Council Member Mealy urgently requests
23 that the DOE allow the scholars of BHS to
24 continue their upward trajectory by rejecting
25 this proposal for co-location.

1 MR. BETHEIL: Thank you, Miss Daniel. If
2 you'd like to leave a statement with us, we'd be
3 happy to include it in the record as well. We
4 currently have eight speakers signed up, and
5 again, if there's anybody else that's here that
6 would like to add to add their name to the list,
7 we'll keep the speaker list open for two more
8 minutes. But I'd like to ask our first two
9 speakers to come to the front. And forgive me
10 if I'm having a hard time with the handwriting.
11 The first looks like Holly Hartman [phonetic],
12 and the second is Racquel Decare [phonetic]?

13 MS. HOLLY HARPER: Hi, how are you? Oh,
14 it's okay. It's okay. My name is Holly Harper.
15 I am a parent of a Success Academy student that
16 - - my daughter in her uniform. When we moved
17 into our neighborhood, we live in Clinton Hill,
18 we were zoned for District 13. And then we
19 found out a year and a half in that we were re-
20 zoned to District 14, which changed our choices
21 dramatically. As a daughter of an educator, my
22 father was a principal for 35 years, and now he
23 does consulting for charter schools as well as
24 other youth groups, what I've learned from him
25 is that you always make way for education. You

1 always find a way to progress. You always
2 find a way to think of children first. And what
3 I've seen from Success Academy has greatly
4 impacted our family, but I think it's a
5 wonderful thing for our community. And I'm very
6 proud to be a parent at Success Academy, and I
7 think that if we can find a way to share
8 space...okay, let's take for example, if the
9 school is at capacity, if the capacity of the
10 school is 500, and there was only 200 and some
11 kids, I mean, it might sound crazy, but what if
12 200 people had moved to that neighborhood? They
13 would have to go that school. You would have to
14 find room, right? Because the school would be
15 at capacity at a certain number. They would
16 have to go there. But if another school come in
17 and be there, I don't understand why they are
18 not looking in the best interest of education.
19 It's not so much our school/their school; it's
20 about children. Thank you very much.

21 MR. BETHEIL: Thank you.

22 MS. RACQUEL HAMPTON: Hi, I'm Racquel
23 Hampton, and I'm also a parent of two scholars
24 in Success Academy 1. For me, we went to 282,
25 Park Slope, loved it. But for me, I felt like

1 for my children, I wasn't getting exactly what
2 I needed. So I applied to P.S. 9. I got
3 accepted to P.S. 9, and I chose not go to P.S.
4 9. This October, 261 called me, which I was
5 really excited about, District 15, the community
6 I wanted. But what I'm getting is, I don't feel
7 that 261, all those schools that I was rah-rah-
8 rah about, I don't feel that they can actually
9 compete with what my children is learning. My
10 kindergarten can do division. I mean, really,
11 like you can give her a problem, and the way
12 they have taught these kids how to do numbers
13 and understand base ten, you would be amazed.
14 And I feel that Success Academy can only enhance
15 all these kids in this community who are not
16 getting education the way they should, to be
17 able to strive to go beyond what their
18 expectations are. I think it's really
19 unfortunate that people are trying not to allow
20 these schools to come in and to educate. The
21 point of everything is to be able to educate
22 these kids and not feel that they cannot
23 succeed. Success Academy teaches these kids
24 that they can succeed no matter what. On
25 Tuesdays we have Community Circle, and these

1 kids are out there, and they're chanting and
2 they've gone beyond Z--I know you're on - - .
3 But they are really doing wonderful things with
4 reading, math. I took my kids to the New York
5 Botanical Garden, and in the science section, my
6 kids was able to participate in what was
7 actually being said, just because we went to
8 Success Academy and these are the things they
9 are learning. You get science every day, which
10 is amazing for our kids. And I think it's just
11 that people need to really do their homework,
12 and really talk to parents who are actually in
13 the schools. I have a first and kindergarten,
14 and I love it. Thank you.

15 MR. BETHEIL: Next is Tyrone Francisco.

16 MR. TYRONE FRANCISCO: I'm Tyrone Francisco.
17 I am a scholar at Brownsville Academy. We are
18 not against any form of like, trying to enhance
19 children's education. We've grown comfortable
20 to this environment, because I came from a high
21 school, Sheepshead Bay High School, with classes
22 of like, 25, 20 to 25 students in one classroom.
23 And I was shunned because the teachers didn't
24 have enough time to go around to these students
25 who actually needed the help, actually needed

1 the classes to actually pass and get a
2 diploma. But I never had that, until I left
3 that school and came to Brownsville Academy.
4 They helped me individually. They talked to me
5 in these small, comfortable classrooms where
6 everybody could work together, and the teachers
7 could be able to assess what you need. What do
8 we have to do for you to pass? We are not
9 against any form of education for any student.
10 Just why fix something that's not broken, for an
11 A-plus school? We're 24 out of the 25 top
12 schools in New York. Why? There's no point,
13 insanity. There's no reason that you can tell
14 me to push, to limit the amount of students that
15 actually need help, that are around my age 18 to
16 21 years old. Why do that? It's impossible.
17 That's all I have to say. Thank you.

18 MR. BETHEIL: Thank you, Tyrone. Next is
19 Jewel Mills.

20 MS. JEWEL MILLS: As Tyrone Francisco said,
21 we are not against you and your vision. But
22 that stands that this school was designed for,
23 we are in a community where statistics prove
24 that children of my age, will either end up in
25 jail or not get a high school diploma, and will

1 not go to college. We're not against you, but
2 this school is modeled for us. We will be
3 losing vital rooms and programs that help us
4 succeed. I wanted to ask the parents if your
5 child grows up and is my age and is going to an
6 A-plus school, not a failing school, an A-plus
7 school, that gives children from broken homes an
8 opportunity to excel, and someone comes in and
9 kind of degrades the quality of education
10 because, in a sense, by taking away the space,
11 it goes against the model of the school, which
12 is a smaller-size classroom. More one-on-one
13 attention. That is degrading our quality of
14 education. That is taking away the purpose of
15 the school. How would it feel? How would it
16 feel that your child will, you know, they're
17 losing something? The reason why we're here is
18 because we went to schools that had large
19 classrooms, and as he said, we didn't have any
20 type of attention. It's unfair to be put in a
21 corner. I feel very violated as a scholar here.
22 I feel very violated to the point that I was
23 crying because this school deserves more than
24 this. And I do agree that you want the best for
25 your children. But my mom wants the best for me

1 also. She wants the best. And having a small
2 class, having this school, was the best choice
3 for me. That's all I have to say.

4 MR. BETHEIL: Thank you. Next is
5 Christopher Durosini.

6 MR. CHRISTOPHER DUROSINI: Good evening,
7 ladies and gentlemen. My name is Christopher
8 Durosini, and I'm a resident of Brownsville,
9 living at - -. I remember coming here in 2006,
10 when this was formerly Teachers Preparatory High
11 School, and utilizing the small class sizes, and
12 the one-to-one teacher ratio that it was. And
13 to see Brownsville Academy come and achieve that
14 with students in the area, that - -. And I just
15 want to echo the fact I am not against, you
16 know, a charter school moving in. I'm saying
17 that for all purposes, and to keep the
18 atmosphere of Brownsville Academy - -, that it's
19 essential that - -. I'm all for the school
20 coming into the area, but not to disrupt another
21 school that's already succeeding. There is a
22 lot of logistical circumstances that come into
23 play. You're mixing older children with five-
24 year olds, five to ten-year olds. That does not
25 work. Once again, it disrupts the integrity of

1 Brownsville Academy, a school that's been
2 achieving for years, since its inception, and
3 now is being disrupted. I'm going to have to
4 echo the scholars of Brownsville Academy, in
5 opposing this proposal. And we'll work to try
6 to find another place for your academy, for your
7 school. But at this time, cohabitation is not a
8 feasibility for the productivity of the school.

9 MR. BETHEIL: Next is Patricia Conson
10 [phonetic].

11 MS. PATRICIA COUSER: Hello. My name is
12 Patricia Couser, and I'm a parent at Success
13 Academy. And my heart aches because I know this
14 is a very sensitive situation, the sharing of
15 spaces. I have to say I have a five-year old,
16 and I have an 18-year old. My 18-year old went
17 to private school all of her life because of my
18 fear about the public school setting. I also
19 had concerns that most of you have about sharing
20 a space. How would that work? My son is in a
21 school where they're currently sharing space
22 with at least three other schools. And again, I
23 understand, I feel what you - - are saying, but
24 it works. I was really surprised at how it
25 works. It's cohesive; it's quiet. They don't

1 clash. And it really works. And so I know
2 that change is hard for all of us. But I can -
3 - say I know academically, I am more than
4 impressed with what Success Academy is bringing
5 and offering. And perhaps we need to open
6 ourselves to see how, is this going to be a
7 negative change? It is going to impact the
8 children negatively? And I think that if we
9 open ourselves to saying that, consider it, if
10 we're going to share this space, how can this
11 work and it be productive for everyone? And I
12 at least can say, my own testimony is that I've
13 seen it work. It is working, and - -, and at so
14 many other schools. So my heart aches, but I
15 think that maybe we need to look at this from a
16 different perspective, and say can this really
17 work? And I think it is. It is working. I
18 have proudly brought my child into a public
19 school setting after paying for private
20 education, and his success is emulating that
21 very thing that I paid for, for my daughter for
22 18 years. And they're doing it. So perhaps,
23 again, if we open ourselves to say how can we
24 get a more cohesive - - and work under the same
25 umbrella, and that we create a win-win

1 situation? I think it - - work.

2 MR. BETHEIL: Thank you. Next is Teona
3 Terry [phonetic]. Are either Teona or Marlene
4 Terry [phonetic] here? Anybody know Teona or
5 Marlene Terry? Just want to make sure they have
6 an opportunity to speak. They're the last two
7 speakers that have signed up. For either Teona
8 or Marlene Terry, who are signed up to speak,
9 but they've chosen not to or have since left,
10 they will have an opportunity to submit comments
11 to the Panel on Educational Policy, via email or
12 by phone, just as everybody else does. This has
13 been a small hearing, and a short hearing. But
14 we've actually heard many significant comments.
15 And I actually have facilitated a number of
16 these hearings. And - - I'd like to thank
17 everybody. It is rare that we hear everybody
18 speak passionately about the thing that they
19 care about, whether that is the continued
20 success of Brownsville Academy, or the
21 opportunities that Success Academy is offering
22 to the community. But to do so without
23 attacking anybody else, and actually talking
24 about what you care about, is actually the kind
25 of feedback that gives the Department of

1 Education a lot to think about, and the Panel
2 on Educational Policy a lot to think about as
3 they form their decision over the coming weeks.
4 One of the things that was said earlier is that
5 Brownsville Academy is a successful school. And
6 I would just like to reinforce that that is in
7 fact the case. Nothing about the proposed co-
8 location has anything to do with undermining the
9 view that in fact, Brownsville Academy, their
10 leadership, their staff, and their scholars, are
11 in fact doing everything that we've heard folks
12 talk so passionately about tonight. So thank
13 you for sharing that with us, and I hope folks
14 will continue to do that as this - - to the
15 Panel on Educational Policy. Importantly, we
16 appreciate the feedback and contributions to
17 this hearing. The information will be shared
18 with the Panel on Educational Policy, which will
19 have its hearing on December 20th, at the High
20 School for Fashion Industries in Manhattan.
21 Again, the email address and phone number where
22 comments may be made are d17proposals, again
23 that's d17proposals@schools.nyc.gov. Or by
24 calling (212) 374-0208. Again, it's (212) 374-
25 0208. Again, thank you all for coming this

1 hearing. This joint public hearing is
2 officially adjourned.

3 [END RECORDING]

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C E R T I F I C A T E

1
2 The prior proceedings were transcribed from
3 audio files and have been transcribed to the
4 best of my ability.

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6 Signature *Anne Edelmann*

7 Date December 9, 2012
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