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**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION - DIVISION OF
PORTFOLIO PLANNING
Co-location of Educare - 12/6/12**

**Building K041
411 Thatford Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11212**

1 [START RECORDING]

2 MR. AINSLIE CUMBERBATCH: Department of
3 Education Community Education Council and School
4 Leadership Team, for the proposed co-location of
5 a new public early childhood program, Educare,
6 with existing school P.S. 41 Francis White in
7 building K041, beginning in 2013-14. I am
8 District 23 Community Superintendent Ainslie
9 Cumberbatch. We have asked the District 23
10 Community Education Council and the School
11 Leadership Team to participate in this joint
12 public hearing. I am joined tonight by
13 Principal Theresa Siegel from P.S. 41. Welcome.
14 Miss Nedra Robinson, from the Community
15 Education Council. Welcome as well. And Mr.
16 Milton Bolton Williams, also a CEC member. We
17 also have several CEC members in the audience
18 I'd like to recognize: Miss Sherri Anne Farrell
19 [phonetic], Miss Rose Laney, Miss Nedra
20 Robinson, I've already introduced, Miss
21 Iannetta Jeffers, welcome to you as well. This
22 hearing is being recorded. The purpose of this
23 hearing is for you to provide comments about the
24 proposal. Before I describe the proposal, I
25 want to make sure you are all aware of the

1 opportunity to provide your input. All those
2 who wish to speak must sign up in the speaker
3 signup area located just outside the auditorium.
4 The signup list will close in 15 minutes.
5 Speakers will be given the floor in the order
6 that they have signed up. All comments, please,
7 are limited to two minutes. There may be
8 elected officials who arrive at different times
9 throughout the evening. If they wish to speak,
10 we will do our best to accommodate them at the
11 first opportune moment. Those who are here at
12 the start of the public comments segment will be
13 asked to speak first. In addition, we welcome
14 any comments and feedback you may have at any
15 time before the panel votes on December 20th,
16 2012. The December 20th panel meeting will take
17 place at 6:00 p.m. at the High School of Fashion
18 Industries, located at 225 West 24th St. in New
19 York City. That is Manhattan. The email
20 address and phone number where comments may be
21 made are D23proposals@schools.nyc.gov. Again,
22 D23proposals@schools.nyc.gov. And (212) 374-
23 0208. Again, you may also call (212) 374-0208.
24 All comments made at today's hearing and through
25 the DOE's dedicated phone number and email

1 address for this proposal will be discussed in
2 the analysis of public comment that the DOE will
3 publish on the DOE's website, and provide to the
4 Panel on Educational Policy before the panel
5 votes on this proposal. I will now present the
6 proposal. And then we will open up the speaker
7 list. The proposal reads as follows: "The New
8 York City Department of Education is proposing
9 to co-locate Educare, a new full-day, year-round
10 public early childhood program, that will serve
11 children from ages six weeks to five years, in
12 Building K041. If this co-location proposal is
13 approved by the Panel for Educational Policy,
14 Educare New York City will be co-located with
15 P.S.I.S. 41. A co-location means that two or
16 more organizations are located in the same
17 building, and may share common spaces like
18 auditoriums, gymnasiums, libraries, and
19 cafeterias. Educare New York City would open in
20 September 2013 in Building K041, and would serve
21 35 to 55 children from ages six weeks to five
22 years old. Educare New York City would reach
23 full scale in 2014-2015, at which point it would
24 serve approximately 115 to 135 children. The
25 program would admit children based on their zip

1 code, and their family's income. K041 would
2 also house Educare New York City's Leadership
3 Institute, which will serve as a training hub
4 for aspiring and current directors of early
5 childhood education programs in Brownsville, and
6 of course New York City. Training activities
7 will be embedded within the Educare New York
8 City site, so that Leadership Institute
9 participants can learn firsthand how best
10 teaching and administrative practices are
11 implemented in a high-quality program setting.
12 The proposed co-location of Educare is not
13 expected to impact the enrollment or educational
14 options of students currently attending P.S.
15 I.S. 41. The proposed co-location of Educare is
16 not expected to impact P.S.I.S. 41's ability to
17 continue to offer extracurricular activities
18 based on student interests, available resources,
19 and staff support for those programs. However,
20 the co-location may change the way those
21 programs are configured. We will now hear
22 presentations from various members on the dais,
23 starting with Principal Siegel, from P.S.I.S.
24 41. I'd like to pause at this time to ask the
25 interpreter to please make an announcement if

1 anyone would like interpretation services.

2 FEMALE VOICE 1: Turn it on; turn it on.

3 MALE VOICE 1: [Foreign audio] 0:07:47.

4 MR. CUMBERBATCH: Thank you. Miss Siegel?

5 MS. THERESA SIEGEL: I'm excited to be part
6 of a process that will be bringing, if passed,
7 such a wonderful early childhood opportunity to
8 the community of Brownsville, and to the
9 P.S.I.S. 41 community. And I look forward to it
10 being a very positive working relationship as a
11 co-located program, if it is passed. And I
12 believe that both programs can learn from each
13 other. And I believe that it is such a
14 wonderful thing to be coming into the community.
15 I am very grateful that we get to be part of it.
16 Thank you.

17 MR. CUMBERBATCH: Thank you, Miss Siegel.
18 It's my understanding that the CEC declines to
19 make a statement. Thank you. Mr. Milton Bolton
20 Williams will make a statement on behalf of the
21 CEC.

22 MR. MILTON BOLTON WILLIAMS: I just would
23 like to say this is a new program, and we would
24 like to hope that this program will be very good
25 for the community. And I hope everyone, you

1 know, like actually take a good look at the
2 propose and everything. And talk with the
3 parents and everyone around, and try to convince
4 other parents to come out to the meeting,
5 because we need more parents in to listen to see
6 what's going on everything, because I may
7 believe it's a good program, but some of you may
8 not believe it's a good program. I believe it
9 will be a good program for this community. We
10 need new things. We always talk about we want
11 new things in the community, but we are not
12 coming out to actually say yes or no to it. So
13 you know, like when things get passed, and we
14 fuss about it, it's only us to blame because we
15 ain't here. So we need more people to come out.
16 Please bring more parents out, if you can.
17 Thank you.

18 MR. CUMBERBATCH: Thank you, Mr. Williams
19 for your comment on behalf of the Community
20 Education Council of District 23. We have now
21 concluded the formal presentations. We will now
22 open the floor for public comments. Speakers
23 will be given the floor in the order that they
24 signed up. All comments are limited to two
25 minutes. A reminder that this presentation

1 includes an opportunity for comments. - - from
2 the Office of Portfolio Management and the Early
3 Childhood Office are available at the conclusion
4 of this meeting to take any additional
5 questions. I invite you now to come up in the
6 order that I call your names to make a comment.
7 And our first speaker is Vanessa Adones. Yes,
8 please. We'd like to get your statement on
9 record.

10 MS. VANESSA ADONES: Good evening, everyone.
11 My question was if the proposal passes, and if
12 the testing that they do here for the first year
13 of the school goes well, what would happen after
14 that? Will they continue having it here? And
15 if it doesn't go well, what will happen?

16 MR. CUMBERBATCH: Thank you. I would like
17 to invite our second speaker to make a comment.
18 Miss Jennifer.

19 MS. JENNIFER MANUBAH: Good evening,
20 everyone.

21 MR. CUMBERBATCH: Good evening.

22 MS. MANUBAH: All right, my statement. I'm
23 of the mind that public school is the best place
24 to educate our children. And that they provide
25 excellent teaching for our children if they are

1 supported with the caring teachers who have the
2 qualifications. I am not one for mayoral
3 control of public schools. And I do hope that
4 it will come to end soon. I feel that this
5 mayor has pitted parents against each other by
6 having parents to fight over the meager
7 resources that are given to us in terms of co-
8 locating schools. This one is not a school, but
9 charter schools and having parents fight for the
10 resources. So I have several questions.
11 Educare, I went to look on the website for
12 Educare. And it says that someone has to come
13 to them to make the request. So my question is
14 who went to Educare to request that it be
15 piloted in New York City? Because it said this
16 is the first pilot program for Educare. Then
17 another question that I have which goes along
18 with what Miss Vanessa says is, what happens if
19 there is a disparate impact on the current
20 students after Educare has been approved?
21 Because in the proposals, it's assuming that
22 there will be no disparate impact on the
23 students that are here. But my question is,
24 when it is piloted here, what happens if there
25 is disparate impact on the students here? Thank

1 you.

2 MR. CUMBERBATCH: Thank you for your
3 comment. The next speaker is Miss Sonja Hill.

4 MS. SONJA HILL: Good evening.

5 MR. CUMBERBATCH: Good evening.

6 MS. HILL: I'm a teacher and SLT member here
7 at P.S. 41, and I am glad to see a program
8 coming into the area that can benefit our
9 youngest members of our community. However, I
10 do need some reassurance that Educare will not
11 adversely affect P.S. 41. I'd like to be
12 reassured that co-locating Educare in 41 will
13 not decrease the number of grades that the
14 school serves. We do need some assurance that
15 41 will stay a K to eight school. There's also
16 a concern that 41 will not lose classes,
17 students, or teachers to accommodate Educare if
18 it increases in size and space in the future.
19 We are supportive of the Educare program, but
20 not at the expense of the staff and students at
21 P.S.I.S. 41.

22 MR. CUMBERBATCH: Thank you for your
23 comment. The next speaker is Raymond Council.

24 MR. RAYMOND COUNCIL: How're you doing?
25 Good evening.

1 MR. CUMBERBATCH: Good evening.

2 MR. COUNCIL: Yeah, my name's Raymond. I'm
3 part of the custodial staff here in this
4 building. And quite honestly, my question was
5 the same as Miss Hill's. I wanted to be
6 reassured that, I don't know where this program
7 comes from. But if you are, I think, going to
8 increase in size as far as your grades, or if
9 there's a way that the staff of this building
10 would still co-exist with your program.

11 MR. CUMBERBATCH: Okay. Thank you, sir.

12 The speaker list is now exhausted. Again, we
13 welcome any comments and feedback you may have
14 at any time before the Panel for Educational
15 Policy votes on this proposal at its December
16 20th, 2012 meeting. The December 20th panel
17 meeting will take place at 6:00 p.m., at the
18 High School of Fashion Industries, located at
19 225 West 24th St., New York, New York, 10011.

20 I'd like to remind all present today of the
21 email address and phone number where comments
22 may be made. And again, it's as follows.

23 D23proposals@schools.nyc.gov. That's

24 D23proposals@schools.nyc.gov. And also by

25 calling (212) 374-0208. Again, (212) 374-0208.

1 Thank you for your participation. This joint
2 hearing is now closed.

3 [END RECORDING]

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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

Signature *Anne Edelman*

Date December 9, 2012

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