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**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION - DIVISION OF
PORTFOLIO PLANNING**
**Move 75X010 out of X844 into X240 -
4/2/12**

1 [START 290_197]

2 MR. GARY HECHT: Okay. Good evening
3 everyone, this is a joint public hearing of the
4 Department of Education or DOE, the District 9
5 and 10 Community Educational Councils and the
6 school leadership teams of the affected District
7 75 P10X school site of P10X which we will refer
8 to as P10X and MS 327 Comprehensive School Model
9 Project or MS 327. I am Gary Hecht, Community
10 Superintendent for District 75.

11 We have asked that Districts 9 and 10
12 Community Educational Councils and the school
13 leadership teams to participate in this joint
14 hearing. I am joined tonight by Barbara Hanson,
15 Principal of P10X, Manuel Ramirez, Principal of
16 MS 237. CEC 9 President, Meryl Espada
17 [phonetic] indicated that she would be here but
18 she hasn't arrived yet, CEC 10 President, Marvin
19 Shelton. This hearing is being recorded.

20 The purpose of this hearing is for you to
21 provide comments about the proposed re-siting of
22 P10X from building 844 in District 10 to
23 building X240 in District 9 where P10X would be
24 co-located with MS 327 and PS 555.

25 Before I describe the proposal I want to

1 make sure that you're all aware of the
2 opportunity to provide your input. All those
3 who wish to speak must sign up in the speaker
4 signup area located just outside the auditorium.
5 The signup list will close in 15 minutes.
6 Speakers will be given the floor in the order
7 they are signed up. All comments are limited to
8 two minutes.

9 I would also like to remind you that
10 translation services are available for those who
11 need interpretation.

12 There may be elected officials who show up
13 at different times throughout this evening. If
14 they wish to speak we will do our best to
15 accommodate them at the first opportune moment.
16 Those officials who are here at the start of the
17 public comment segment will be asked to speak
18 first.

19 All comments will be addressed in the
20 Analysis of Public Comment to be published and
21 provided to the Panel for Educational Policy on
22 the evening before the panel votes. The vote is
23 scheduled for April 26th, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. The
24 panel meets--the panel meeting will take place
25 at the Prospect Heights Campus located at 883

1 Classon Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11225.

2 The email address where comments may be made
3 is d09proposals@schools.nyc.gov. The phone
4 number where comments may be made is 212-374-
5 5159. I will present the proposal and then
6 we'll take comments from the speaker list.

7 Proposal summary. P10X is an existing
8 District 75 school that currently serves 18
9 autistic kindergarten students in building 844
10 located at 3880 Sedgwick Avenue in District 10
11 in the Bronx. Last September due to increased
12 demand for District 75 placements the DOE opened
13 a new P10X site in building X844 to serve
14 additional sections of incoming District 75
15 kindergarten students for the 2011 and '12
16 school year.

17 The DOE is now proposing to move this P10X
18 site to a permanent location that is better
19 suited for the District 75 students. If this
20 proposal is approved, P10X site currently at
21 X844 would relocate to building X240 prior to
22 the beginning of the 2012/13 school year.

23 Building X240 is located at 1501 Jerome
24 Avenue in District 9 of the Bronx. It is a new
25 school construction that will be completed by

1 the start of the 2012/13 school year.

2 If this proposal is approved P10X will be
3 co-located with MS 237, an existing District
4 choice middle school expanding to become a
5 secondary school, and PS 555, a new district
6 choice elementary school.

7 A co-location means that two or more school
8 organizations are located in the same building
9 and may share common spaces such as auditoriums,
10 gymnasiums, libraries and cafeterias.

11 The three sections of P10X students proposed
12 to be re-sited from X844 would join a P10X site
13 already planned for the building X240 which will
14 serve new kindergarten sections of District 75
15 students.

16 Building X240 has enough capacity to
17 accommodate this P10X site, including the
18 kindergarten section and the 18 students
19 proposed to be re-sited from X844 as well as MS
20 237--I'm sorry, MS 327 and PS 555 at scale.

21 Building X240 has a target capacity of 1,087
22 students. If this proposal is approved in the
23 2012/13 school year when the building opens, it
24 will serve approximately 581 to 689 total
25 students resulting in a projected target

1 utilization of 53 to 63%.

2 In the 2018/19 school year when all school
3 organizations have reached full scale the
4 building will serve approximately 916 to 1,094
5 total students resulting in a projected target
6 utilization rate of 84 to 101%.

7 Although utilization rate in excess of 100%
8 may suggest that a building will be over-
9 utilized or overcrowded in a given year, this
10 rate does not account for the fact that rooms
11 may be programmed for more efficient or
12 different uses than standard assumptions in the
13 utilization calculation.

14 Accordingly, the DOE believes that this
15 building X240 has sufficient space to
16 accommodate the addition 18 first grade students
17 planned for P10X site as well as MS 327 and PS
18 555 at scale. The re-sited District 75 students
19 will continue to have their needs met under the
20 IEPs as they have in building X44 if this
21 proposal is approved.

22 This proposal is not anticipated to impact
23 current or future student enrolment or
24 instructional program at PS 10X, PS 555 or MS
25 327.

1 Presentation by hearing participants. Are
2 there members of this council meeting that would
3 like to speak this evening?

4 Okay, public comments. We have now
5 concluded the formal presentations. We will now
6 open the floor for public comments. Speakers
7 will be given the floor in the order that they
8 signed up. All comments are limited to two
9 minutes.

10 MR. WILFREDO PAGAN: Okay, all right. My
11 name is--sorry, give me a second please, I
12 apologize. My name is Wilfredo Pagan, I'm the
13 representative to the Panel of Education Policy,
14 representing the Bronx Borough President, Ruben
15 Diaz Junior.

16 And we got a couple of concerns with this
17 proposal. And we're talking about 18 autistic
18 kids who have serious issues, serious problems,
19 and co-locating them to another school has a lot
20 of issues because we're talking about
21 transportation, we're talking about wondering if
22 these kids are from the zone or they're not from
23 the zone. We're talking about how these parents
24 are going to feel knowing that their child is
25 going to another location that's not from this

1 area. And we're also concerned about students
2 being on a bus waiting to pick up other students
3 from around and across the area, and if you
4 know, if you're aware that if this--maybe one of
5 these kids might be from--might not be, not from
6 the zone, so they might be on the other side of
7 Riverdale and they might come from--is it
8 Riverdale? Yeah, I think it is Riverdale, it's
9 Riverdale, right? And so they might have
10 parents who come and bring their kids from over
11 there.

12 So what are we going to tell these parents
13 when their kid--they have to know that their
14 kids are now traveling all the way to almost in
15 the middle of the Bronx, to 175th--what is it,
16 172nd Street, 173rd Street in the Bronx in
17 Jerome?

18 And you could consider these as questions or
19 just concerns, but these are things that parents
20 really want to know and it's a serious issue.
21 Although it's 18 kids, we're talking about 18
22 kids who need a lot of attention and they need
23 to be taken care of properly and effectively.
24 So I would like to know what really are the
25 effective plans besides this proposal of just

1 co-locating them to another school so that I
2 can have a much better idea. So I do need that
3 I can further proceed any other questions I
4 might have concerning this proposal, thank you.

5 MR. HECHT: The Principal of P10X is here
6 and will speak, but also I will just give some
7 historical background in District 75. District
8 75 schools provide services to students that
9 have unique disabilities, and that requires
10 students being bused to various districts
11 because a program may not be available in that
12 district.

13 So in District 75, for the last 30 years
14 that the program has been providing services to
15 students depending on the disability of the
16 students, the students would then be sited a
17 site that would be close to their home,
18 hopefully in their geographical location or the
19 district in which they live in. However,
20 because of their disability there are not
21 programs available in every district for
22 students that have significant disabilities. So
23 it's also based on their IEP.

24 I know there is questions about students
25 travelling and parents' concern. Barbara

1 Hanson, who is the principal, will speak to
2 you because she has spoken to the parents
3 specifically.

4 MS. BARBARA HANSON: Okay, I just want to
5 say in regards to the issue, in regards to
6 programs, P10X has been a school that's been
7 around for a long time and we've been servicing
8 students with autism for many years now. So we
9 have a very nice program. The program that has
10 been housed here for this past year, that
11 program will continue at the new school as well
12 as having more classes in the new building.

13 I held a meeting with parents and the
14 parents that did show up, letters had gone home
15 in regards to what was going to be happening
16 with this site as well as having a meeting at
17 this site for my parents as well as the letter
18 that went home about this meeting.

19 The parents that did come to the meeting
20 were thrilled that the students were going to be
21 going to a brand new beautiful program, new
22 building. They were really not concerned that
23 much about the travel, as Mr. Hecht said, many
24 of the children come from an outlying area to
25 begin with. So for some students that site

1 might even be closer for them than it is here.

2 So parents were happy about going into a new
3 building, as unfortunately this building really
4 did not service us well here as a program. Plus
5 the students will have opportunities to
6 participate in activities with our Gen Ed
7 schools that will be housed in that building.
8 So they were very happy in regards to the move.
9 Okay?

10 MR. HECHT: I think we have to remember
11 students with autism, one of our goals is to
12 improve their social skills. And having the
13 opportunity to be integrated with the General
14 Education peers allows students that ability to
15 move forward. Being in this building segregated
16 with the classes and no other students available
17 in this building kind of goes against what we as
18 an organization promote in socialization for our
19 students. Any other questions?

20 MR. PAGAN: Question. So currently P10X is-
21 -I don't want to say scattered, but has three
22 different-multi-sited and you're going to
23 collapse them all into--not all of them, but
24 just this one site and then you're going to
25 expand from a K to a K through 5? Okay.

1 MR. HECHT: Any other questions? Closing
2 remarks, again, we welcome any comments and
3 feedback you may have at any time before the
4 Panel for Educational Policy votes on this
5 proposal at its April 26th, 2012 meeting. This
6 meeting will take place at 6:00 p.m. at the
7 Prospect Heights Campus located at 883 Classon
8 Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11225.

9 The email address and phone number where
10 comments may be made are
11 d09proposals@schools.nyc.gov and 212-374-5159.
12 Thank you for your participation, this joint
13 public hearing is now closed.

14 [END 290_197]

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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

Handwritten signature of Carille Clarke in cursive script.

7 Date April 5, 2012
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