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**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION- DIVISION OF
PORTFOLIO PLANNING
P.S. 48 William C. Wilcox (31R048)
with a District 75 Program (75RTBD)
at New Building R071**

1 [START RECORDING]

2 MS. EMINIA CLAUDIO: Good evening, this is a
3 joint public hearing of the Department of
4 Education Community Education Council and School
5 Leadership Team for the proposed resiting, grade
6 expansion and co-location of P.S. 48 William C.
7 Wilcox, with District 75 at New Building R071,
8 beginning in 2013, 2014 school year. I am
9 District 31 Superintendent Eminia Claudio. We
10 have asked the District 31 Education Council,
11 and the School Leadership Team of P.S. 48 to
12 participate in this joint public hearing. I am
13 joined tonight by Beth [phonetic] Coleman
14 [phonetic], Susan Loya [phonetic], UFT; Lisa
15 Ince [phonetic], Sarah [phonetic] Quesa
16 [phonetic], Susan Orlando [phonetic], Laurie
17 [phonetic] - - , Christine [phonetic] Murphy
18 [phonetic] from the S.L.T., and Sam - - and
19 Steven Beck [phonetic] from the C.E.C. This
20 hearing is being recorded. The purpose of this
21 hearing is for you to provide comments about the
22 proposal. Before I describe a proposal, I want
23 to make sure you are all aware of the
24 opportunity to provide your input. All those
25 who wish to speak must sign up in the speaker

1 sign area, located outside the room, or
2 actually in this case at the end of the table.
3 The sign up list will close in 15 minutes.
4 Speakers will be given the floor in the order
5 that they signed up. All comments are limited
6 to two minutes. There may be elected officials
7 who arrive at different times throughout the
8 evening. If they wish to speak, we will do our
9 best to accommodate them at the first opportune
10 moment. Those who are here at the start of the
11 public comments segment will be asked to speak
12 first. All comments will be mentioned in the
13 analysis of the public comment to be published
14 and provided to the Panel for Educational
15 Policy, the evening before the panel votes.
16 That vote is scheduled for June 26th at 6:00 p.m.
17 at Prospect Heights Campus, 883 Classon Ave., C-
18 L-A-S-S-O-N, Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11225.
19 In addition, we welcome any comments and
20 feedback you might have at any time before the
21 panel votes on both proposals. The email
22 address and the phone number where comments may
23 be made are d31proposals@schools.nyc.gov. And
24 the phone number is (212) 374-7621. Again,
25 d31proposals@schools.nyc.gov. And the phone

1 number is (212) 374-7621. Okay, the proposal
2 summary is, the New York City Department of
3 Education is proposing to resite and expand P.S.
4 48 William C. Wilcox, an existing zones
5 elementary school, that currently serves 551
6 students in kindergarten through fifth grade.
7 P.S. 48 is currently located in building R048 at
8 1055 Targee Street, Staten Island, New York,
9 10304, in community school district 31. If this
10 proposal is approved, P.S. 48 will be resited to
11 new building R071, located at 1050 Targee
12 Street, Staten Island New York, 10304, also in
13 community school district 31. A resiting means
14 that a school will be located in a different
15 building than the building it is currently
16 located in. This proposal also describes a
17 planned grade expansion at P.S. 48, which will
18 be submitted to the D.O.E.'s office of new
19 schools for approval. The proposal provides,
20 that in the 2013/2014 school year, P.S. 48 will
21 enroll sixth grade students for the first time.
22 The school will then one grade each year until
23 reaching full scale, serving students in grades
24 kindergarten through eight, in the 2015/2016
25 school year. The expansion at P.S. 48 provides

1 the opportunity for its elementary students to
2 have a seamless transition into middle school.
3 The resiting into a new building provides
4 students a faculty that includes a gymnasium, an
5 auditorium, a gymnasium, a music suite,
6 including a music instrument store room, a
7 building, I'm sorry, a science room, a science
8 lab demo room, finally, since the R048 building
9 is over utilized, and the current building is
10 not sufficient to meet the growing elementary
11 school demand, this resiting will help relieve
12 overcrowding in the community. Building R071 is
13 a new site, currently under construction by the
14 school construction authority. The resiting and
15 grade expansion of P.S. 48 is contingent upon
16 the completion of this new building. The new
17 building also includes design spaces for a
18 District 75 school. As such, if this proposal
19 is approved, P.S. 48 will be co-located with a
20 yet to be determined District 75 school, which
21 will be referred to as 75R TBD. A co-location
22 means that two or more school organizations are
23 located in the same building, often sharing
24 large common spaces like the auditorium,
25 gymnasium, and cafeteria. Because it is a newly

1 constructed facility, no school organization
2 currently uses space at R071. The building is
3 projected to have the capacity to serve 844
4 students. If this proposal was approved, P.S.
5 48 K to five students will be resited to R071
6 for the 2013/2014 school year, with the sixth
7 grade cohort, and a District 75 school. During
8 the 2013/214 school year, these organizations
9 will serve approximately 702 to 782 students,
10 yielding a projected building utilization rate
11 of 83 to 93%. In the 2015/2016 school year,
12 when P.S. 48 has reached full scale, serving
13 students in grades kindergarten through eight,
14 there will be a total of approximately 830 to
15 920 students. The District 75 School is
16 projected to serve approximately 62 to 72
17 students in the 2015/2016 school year, yielding
18 a projected building utilization rate for both
19 organizations of 106 to 118%. Okay, all right,
20 would the CEC want to say anything?

21 MR. STEVEN BECK: Congratulations, we know
22 you've been working on this for this for a very
23 long time.

24 MS. CLAUDIO: - - elected officials. Please
25 introduce yourself. Thank you Sir.

1 MR. STEVE MADD: Thank you, My name is
2 Steve Madd. I'm Councilman - - .

3 [Background Noise].

4 MR. MADD: The Councilman wanted me to come
5 tonight and just read a few remarks, obviously,
6 with his involvement throughout the year, I just
7 wanted to go on record and say a few things.
8 He's in budget negotiations. So if you could
9 bear with me for a few minutes, I'll just read
10 his statement. First, thank you to the
11 Bloomberg administration, especially Chancellor
12 Walcott and Deputy Mayor Wilson. The Chancellor
13 said from day one, he would give our - - fair
14 hearing, and I'm happy to say that he kept his
15 word. Second, Principal Jackie - - dedicated
16 teachers and staff have wanted this opportunity
17 to continue molding the minds and live of our
18 kids, and they will now have it, and we will all
19 be better for it. I thank them for the work
20 they do on a daily basis, and for their
21 dedication to the students under their charge.
22 Third, we would not be here, but for a cadre of
23 dedicated, passionate women, led by P.T.A.
24 leaders, Gloria Ellel [phonetic], Gloria Finnes
25 [phonetic], and Parent Coordinator Terri

1 [phonetic] Guthrie [phonetic]. If there is
2 such a thing as willing something to come to
3 fruition, they did it in this situation. I
4 thank them for their wise council and dogged
5 advocacy, on behalf of the students of P.S. 48.
6 I would also like to thank the - - at NY1, for
7 the continuous coverage of this issue. This has
8 been a long and arduous process. It began back
9 in 2006, when I, along with Senator Lanzor
10 [phonetic], first proposed the idea of
11 purchasing the old doctor's hospital site, to
12 expand P.S. 48. I have been to P.S. 48 many
13 times, and know the facilities are woefully
14 inadequate. No child should have to utilize a -
15 - gymnasium on a daily basis in school, for
16 the multitude of purposes this room serves in
17 the current P.S. 48. After initially being told
18 no, to my delight, in 2009, after a visit by
19 then Deputy Mayor Walcott, the Bloomberg
20 administration agreed to purchase the property
21 to expand P.S. 48. This was a major
22 achievement. But in my mind, this was not the
23 end of the process. In order to complete the
24 dream of so many, this new building must go to
25 eighth grade. The approval of this proposal

1 will finally provide my constituents with that
2 option, and I am thrilled for them. In fact,
3 the educational impact statement notes that the
4 grade expansion is intended to increase access
5 to a high quality middle school option, for the
6 students of P.S. 48. I thank the Department of
7 Education for recognizing this overriding
8 concern and desire as legitimate, and for acting
9 in accordance with the wishes of the community.
10 Making P.S. 48 K to eight will have the further
11 benefit of providing the Principal and her staff
12 with more time to further shape the young minds
13 under their care. I am so excited to see what
14 P.S. 48 accomplishes with its new grade
15 configuration. It already is one of the best
16 schools in the city, and with this change, it
17 will be taken to greater heights. Ultimately, I
18 believe that the decision to purchase doctor's
19 hospital to expand P.S. 48 and provide for its
20 grade expansion will rival the Mayor's growth
21 management reforms among its best local
22 achievements. The impact of this decision will
23 be that powerful. Finally, on a personal level,
24 I can say that throughout this process,
25 strangers have become colleagues, and neighbors

1 have become friends. It has been wonderful to
2 be a part of the movement that will affect so
3 many good people. For the following reasons, I
4 urge the approval of this proposal, thank you.

5 [Applause]

6 MS. CLAUDIO: Our next speaker is Ms.
7 Alecco.

8 FEMALE VOICE: - - .

9 MS. LORI ALECCO: Hi, I'm Lori Alecco. I'm
10 one of the parents at the school. I serve on
11 the PTA and School Leadership Team, and I just
12 wanted to go on record for the parents to thank
13 the D.O.E., Chancellor Walcott, and most
14 especially, Councilman James Otto, Steve Maddeo
15 [phonetic] and their phenomenal staff for
16 backing us on this fight, and for seeing the
17 value in this school, and seeing all of the
18 wonderful things that Ms. Mamalito [phonetic],
19 and her incredible staff do on a daily basis
20 with out children, and for listening to us, and
21 hearing that the integrity of our school, and
22 keeping it our school, with our zone children
23 was so important to our community, and to the
24 people who call P.S. 48 their home. We want to
25 thank them for hearing us, and listening to us,

1 and for granting us this amazing opportunity.
2 And we're sure that with Ms. Mamalito's talents,
3 and her vision and her staff's dedication, that
4 the best is yet to come, and the next few years
5 are going to be a very exciting time for this
6 community. Thank you all for your support.

7 [Applause]

8 MS. CLAUDIO: Again, we welcome any comments
9 and feedback you may have at any time before the
10 panel for education policy votes on this
11 proposal at its June 26th meeting. The email
12 address and phone number where comments may be
13 made is, d31proposals@schools.nyc.gov,
14 d31proposals@schools.nyc.gov and the phone
15 number is (212) 374-7621. Again, the phone
16 number is (212) 374-7621. Thank you for your
17 participation. This joint public hearing is now
18 closed.

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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

Maisha A. Brand

7 Date: June 24th, 2012
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