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**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION - DIVISION OF  
PORTFOLIO PLANNING  
Expansion of 06M178**

**Building M178  
12-18 Ellwood Street  
Manhattan, NY 10040**

1 [START RECORDING]

2 MS. DD BUDD: Okay, good--I'm getting ready  
3 to say good morning. Good evening, everybody.  
4 I'm DD Budd; I'm the Principal of P.S. 178. And  
5 I want to thank you all so much for showing up  
6 at this very important meeting. I'm going to  
7 introduce the District 6 Superintendent, Elsa  
8 Nunez. And it actually is her meeting and the  
9 DOE's meeting. And she is going to Chair. So I  
10 am going to turn over the entire meeting over to  
11 her. If you have signed up to speak, make sure  
12 you have a number. All right? Thank you so  
13 much.

14 MS. ELSA NUNEZ: Good evening. My name is  
15 Elsa Nunez. I am the Superintendent of District  
16 Six. And next to me is...

17 MR. BRYAN DAVIS: Bryan Davis.

18 MS. NUNEZ: CEC Member.

19 MS. JENNIFER HOPPA: I'm Jennifer Hoppa.  
20 I'm a parent here at P.S. 178 and a member of  
21 the SLT.

22 MS. SUSAN COOTS: Susan Coots, also a  
23 parent. And PA Co-President and SLT member as  
24 well.

25 MS. KENIA LEE SAM: Kenia Lee Sam. I'm an

1 SLT member as well.

2 MS. DAHLIA GONZALEZ: Dahlia Gonzalez. I'm  
3 the UFT Chapter Chair in our school and the  
4 Social Worker. And I'm a member of the SLT.

5 MS. LAURIE BURKE: Laurie Burke,  
6 Chairperson, SLT, kindergarten teacher.

7 MS. NUNEZ: Another member of the CEC just  
8 joined us.

9 MS. MAGGIE VELEZ: Good evening, Maggie  
10 Velez, CEC member. Also a previous 178 parent.

11 MS. NUNEZ: Okay. So this is a joint public  
12 hearing of the Department of Education,  
13 Community Education Council, and School  
14 Leadership Team for the proposed grade expansion  
15 of P.S. 178 from a K-2 school to a K-5 school  
16 beginning 2013-2014. We have asked the District  
17 6 Community Education Council and the School  
18 Leadership Team members of 178 to participate in  
19 this joint public hearing. All that were  
20 present introduced themselves tonight. This  
21 hearing is being recorded. The purpose of this  
22 hearing is for you to provide comments about the  
23 proposal. Before I describe the proposal, I  
24 want to make sure you are all aware of the  
25 opportunity to provide your input. All of those

1 who wish to speak must sign up in the speaker  
2 sign up area located just outside the  
3 auditorium. And I believe that happened  
4 earlier. The sign up list will be closed in 15  
5 minutes. Speakers will be given the floor in  
6 the order that they signed up. All comments are  
7 limited to two minutes. There may be elected  
8 officials who arrive at different times  
9 throughout the evening. If they wish to speak,  
10 we will do our best to accommodate them as they  
11 first arrive. Those who are here at the start  
12 of the public comment segment will be asked to  
13 speak first. All comments will be mentioned in  
14 the analysis of public comment to be published  
15 and provided to the Panel for Educational Policy  
16 the evening before the panel votes. That vote  
17 is scheduled for December 20. In addition, we  
18 welcome any comments and feedback you may have  
19 at the time before the panel votes on this  
20 proposal. The email address and phone number  
21 for comments may be made are  
22 d06proposals@schools.nyc.gov and 211-374-3466.  
23 The proposal: the New York City Department of  
24 Education is proposing to expand P.S. 178 to  
25 serve kindergarten through fifth grades. P.S.

1 178 is an existing zone district elementary  
2 school serving students in kindergarten through  
3 second grades in building M178, located at 12-18  
4 Elwood Street, New York, New York 10040, in  
5 Community School District 6. P.S. 178 is an  
6 early childhood center. Early childhood centers  
7 are small elementary schools that focus on early  
8 childhood education, typically kindergarten  
9 through second grade. P.S. 178 currently  
10 services 224 students in kindergarten through  
11 second grade. It currently offers a Spanish  
12 dual language program and an ASD nest program in  
13 additional to a monolingual program. If this  
14 proposal is approved, second grade students  
15 currently enrolled in any of the programs at  
16 P.S. 178 would be able to stay at P.S. 178 for  
17 third through fifth grades. P.S. 178 would add  
18 one grade each year until 2015-2016, where it  
19 would reach full capacity and serve students in  
20 kindergarten through fifth grade. This school  
21 will continue to offer both dual language and  
22 monolingual programming to all incoming  
23 kindergarten cohorts, as well as ASD nest in  
24 alternating years. M178 has a capacity of 292  
25 students and currently serves 224 students in

1 kindergarten through second grades, yielding a  
2 utilization rate of 77%. If this proposal is  
3 approved, the building would serve approximately  
4 320-380 students and have a utilization rate of  
5 110-130% in 2015-2016, when P.S. 178 reaches  
6 full scale. This utilization rate is expected  
7 to decrease in later years after 2015-2016, as  
8 larger cohorts graduate. As discussed in the  
9 educational impact statement, the building has  
10 sufficient space to provide P.S 178 with at  
11 least its baseline room allocations. Therefore,  
12 M178 has the capacity to accommodate the  
13 proposed grade expansion of P.S. 178. The  
14 proposal to expand P.S. 178 initially came from  
15 the school community. In February 2012, the  
16 P.S. 178 School Leadership Team submitted a  
17 letter of intent to the Office of New Schools to  
18 expand the grades served by the school. That  
19 application was supported by parents in the  
20 broader school community. This suggests a high  
21 level of satisfaction with the school and its  
22 parent body and the expectations that an  
23 expanded P.S. 178 will suit the needs of the  
24 children in District 6. In addition to this  
25 proposal for the grade expansion of P.S. 178,

1 the DOE approved a change in P.S. 178's  
2 admission policy, such that P.S. 178 will be a  
3 choice elementary school rather than a zoned  
4 elementary school. P.S. 178 currently shares a  
5 zone with P.S. 152, Dyckman Valley, which serves  
6 kindergarten through fifth grade and offers a  
7 pre-kindergarten program at 93 Nagle Avenue, New  
8 York, New York, 10040. Less than one tenth of a  
9 mile from M178, students who live within the  
10 zone currently receive priority for admission at  
11 either P.S. 178 or P.S. 152. Beginning in  
12 September, 2013, P.S. 178 will become a choice  
13 school. As a choice school, P.S. 178 will be  
14 open for admissions to all students in District  
15 6 without giving priority to students who live  
16 in the school's current zone. Pursuant to the  
17 Chancellor's regulation A101, incoming students  
18 who have siblings enrolled in P.S. 178 at the  
19 time of entry will retain sibling priority.  
20 However, the zone itself will not change and all  
21 students in the zone will continue to be zoned  
22 to P.S. 152. This change in admissions at P.S.  
23 178 will occur regardless of whether this grade  
24 expansion proposal is approved. The proposal  
25 admissions process for P.S. 178 and the impact

1 on P.S. 152 is discussed in the educational  
2 impact statement. So now we would like to hear  
3 from those that have signed up to give their  
4 comments. I think this is the list. Does  
5 anyone of the SLT members or the CEC like to  
6 speak?

7 MS. BURKE: Okay, Hello. I will just  
8 introduce some other members of SLT and then  
9 some of them will be speaking.

10 MR. MATTHEW STERN: Hi, I'm Matthew Stern.

11 MS. EILEEN PIERCE: Eileen Pierce.

12 MS. GLORIA SHORT: I'm Gloria Short, a  
13 kindergarten teacher.

14 MS. BURKE: Okay. On behalf of the SLT,  
15 Diana Gonzalez is going to speak on behalf of  
16 all the teachers, the UFT. And then Susan Coots  
17 will speak for the Parents Association. And  
18 Kenia Lee Sam will speak on behalf of the  
19 parents representing the SLT. We'll start with  
20 Susan.

21 MS. COOTS: Hello. I was asked to speak on  
22 behalf of the Parent's Association but I feel  
23 like I really need to start by speaking as a  
24 mom. I chose P.S. 178 as a school for my  
25 daughter Ruby in part--and I think many parents

1 share this--because it was a small, intimate  
2 environment. I loved that it was a K-2 school  
3 and there would be no unruly fifth graders  
4 bullying my little baby. And now she's a second  
5 grader. And I still don't want fifth graders  
6 bullying her. But I realized at some point  
7 towards the end of kindergarten, this panic  
8 started setting in, like, oh no. I have to find  
9 another school. And I will not find one that is  
10 as wonderful as the current place that she is  
11 studying. The dedicated teachers, the staff. I  
12 learned very quickly that the intimate  
13 environment that is here is not because it's a  
14 K-2 school but simply because it is the culture  
15 of the school, from the Principal on down. And  
16 that, I fully believe, will remain the culture  
17 of the school as it grows to fifth grade. And  
18 at this point, as I said, my daughter is in  
19 second grade so I'm desperate for it to grow to  
20 fifth grade and know that the culture will  
21 remain the same. As the Parent Association co-  
22 President this year, I have learned that it's so  
23 hard. Every year the Parent Association works  
24 really hard and then two years later it's a  
25 whole new group of parents starting from the

1 ground up, doing the work over again. And if  
2 we had kindergarten through fifth grade parents  
3 all working, we would have so much more momentum  
4 to keep all of the great programming that we've  
5 started going, including fundraising, which all  
6 parent associations have to do to build  
7 enrichment programs at their school. And I  
8 really just feel like this is a really great  
9 opportunity for our school and feel fully  
10 confident that under DD's leadership, we will  
11 really grow to be a wonderful K-5 school and  
12 look forward to being part of that process.

13 MS. HOPPA: I'm Jennifer Hoppa again, SLT  
14 member and a parent of a first grader in the  
15 dual language program here. I support the  
16 expansion of the school to fifth grade. I  
17 consider it a privilege to be a part of the  
18 community here. It's intimate. It's inclusive.  
19 It's diverse and really has a wonderful sense of  
20 team spirit. And everyone is looking out for  
21 everyone else. And like Susan, I believe that  
22 under DD's leadership and the engaged and  
23 committed community of parents and students we  
24 have here, that would continue. And again,  
25 selfishly, it's as a parent looking for your

1 child's educational environment, once you find  
2 something that you think is worthwhile and that  
3 you can invest in and that is investing in your  
4 child, obviously you want to be able to sustain  
5 that. And so many of the parents and the people  
6 in the community get engaged maybe the second  
7 year their kid is here, kindergarten is  
8 overwhelming for most parents, especially if  
9 it's your first. And then all of a sudden, it's  
10 over in second grade. I just echo Susan's  
11 sentiment. I feel like so much more momentum  
12 could be achieved if the school continued  
13 educationally. Having my son in a dual language  
14 program and then not having the opportunity for  
15 him to continue that within his own neighborhood  
16 seems like a massive disadvantage in his  
17 educational process. And having the continuity  
18 of a dual language program helps ensure that he  
19 is going to succeed in a dual language program.  
20 [Spanish spoken].

21 MS. LEE SAM: Good night. My name is Kenia  
22 Lee Sam. I am the mom of Dylan. He is in the  
23 dual language in the first grade. And I am more  
24 than happy, more than honored, I am ecstatic,  
25 that he is in this school. It's very, it's

1 exciting. Everybody, all the teachers, and  
2 you know Miss Liz, how much I thank you for all  
3 what you did for Dylan. And you know that. And  
4 all of you--I'm so sorry. Well, I'm so excited  
5 because they work so hard for Dylan and he is so  
6 well now. And the teacher - - and Miss Jasmine,  
7 I also thank you. And you know that. And I am  
8 happy that it is going to go to fifth grade.

9 MS. GONZALEZ: My name is Dahlia Gonzalez.  
10 Like I said before, I am the UFT Chapter at this  
11 school and I am the School Social Worker. I  
12 have been in the school for, this is our  
13 eleventh year. And I've had the opportunity to  
14 work with the best teachers in the DOE. And  
15 therefore, I support the P.S. 178 grade  
16 expansion, because it really gives our families  
17 the opportunity to continue in a school where  
18 our dedicated staff is invested in giving the  
19 best education that is going to provide academic  
20 success to all of our students as they continue  
21 to grow and develop into higher grades. Thank  
22 you.

23 MS. BURKE: Now we'll go to the other side.

24 MR. STERN: Hi. My son Noah was here in  
25 kindergarten and is currently a first grader

1 here at P.S. 178. And I really feel, and I  
2 think this sentiment is overriding in this room,  
3 that this is a great school. We have a great  
4 Principal, we have great teachers, the staff,  
5 the facility. And what I think this proposal  
6 boils down to is we just want to stay. We don't  
7 want to go anywhere else. We want to be here.  
8 We're here. We love the community. We love the  
9 progress that our kids are making. And we see  
10 no reason to go through the strain and the  
11 pressure and the great difficulty it is to find  
12 that other school that we hope might live up to  
13 the standards that we've gotten used to here at  
14 P.S. 178. We know how difficult it is trying to  
15 find that right fit for your son or daughter  
16 when you start kindergarten, but then to do it  
17 all again when we have the proposal here and we  
18 could approve it and we could just stay right  
19 here where we are, continue to enjoy the great  
20 growth, and community. Because what it boils  
21 down to is this will build our community. It's  
22 about expanding and bringing people into this  
23 great building with these wonderful people and  
24 letting our kids blossom. So I feel like this  
25 will be great for our school and our family is

1 thrilled about this. And thank you for your  
2 time listening and thank you all for being here.

3 MS. PIERCE: My name is Eileen Pierce, as I  
4 said before. Also a member of the SLT team, but  
5 I am the Literacy Coach of the school. And I  
6 just feel that our good early childhood teaching  
7 practices will only enhance our students as they  
8 go up to the upper grades. And we ask you for  
9 your support.

10 MS. BURKE: That concludes the SLT speakers  
11 and we'll turn it back to Ms. Nunez. Thank you.

12 MS. NUNEZ: Do any of the CEC members want  
13 to make a comment?

14 MR. DAVIS: First comment is a question: I  
15 am interested in knowing how many people in here  
16 actually reside in the 152 zone. If I could see  
17 a raise of hands of how many parents actually  
18 reside? Currently reside in the 152/178 zone?  
19 Okay. All right. It's just a rhetorical  
20 question. Anyway, the CEC has taken no official  
21 stand or position on the co-location yet. But I  
22 think I can speak for many members on the  
23 council--not co-location, grade. We're so used  
24 to that. Sorry. The grade expansion. I can't  
25 speak for Maggie; I'm sure she can speak for

1 herself. But I, from conversations I've had  
2 with other members on the council, I know that  
3 many members support this grade expansion and  
4 support the concept of choice in general. So  
5 anyway...

6 MS. VELEZ: Hello. Well, I have an issue  
7 about the grade expansion, actually, because I  
8 feel it should have happened last year. So I  
9 was a previous parent here and the experience  
10 that I as a parent and my child, they had a  
11 wonderful experience here. From staff to  
12 administration, to other parents and even the  
13 children themselves. It was a good three years  
14 and unfortunately we had to leave because this  
15 did not happen previously because DD pulled the  
16 application. But this is a great school. It  
17 really is. Everyone is caring, very supportive  
18 to everyone here. And my child had the right  
19 start here so he continues to grow and I think  
20 part of it had to do with what he got here. So  
21 thank you, DD, because great leadership is what  
22 makes a school. There is no doubt about that, I  
23 could tell you, great leadership. Thank you.

24 MS. NUNEZ: Thank you to the SLT and the  
25 CEC. Now we will take any public comments.

1 MS. BURKE: Okay. If you guys have  
2 numbers one through five, I'm going to butcher  
3 people's names. Sandra Feliz, Eli Gantias--I'm  
4 going to butcher your last name, Laura Thorpe,  
5 Crisfanny DeLuna.

6 MS. SANDRA FELIZ: Hi, my name is Sandra and  
7 I am the mother of a second grader. And I was  
8 excited when I found the teacher, some teachers  
9 over the summer, tell me that they were having  
10 an expansion. Because I was one of those  
11 parents that, right in September, I was worrying  
12 where was my child going to be next year. You  
13 know, and then you have to find a school from  
14 three to fifth and then you have to find another  
15 junior high school. So I am really excited.  
16 This is a wonderful school. I am also a teacher  
17 in District 6 and I can't tell you how excited I  
18 am. You come into the school, you see DD. She  
19 is by the door greeting everyone. You see  
20 Yolanda, which Yolanda, you came come to her.  
21 You call, Yolanda picks up the phone. She is  
22 always available. The teachers here are  
23 amazing. My daughter loves this school. And,  
24 you know, that is all I have to say. This is a  
25 wonderful community. I live across the street

1 and I am really, really hoping that this  
2 expansion would happen. Thank you.

3 MR. ELI GANIAS: I wrote it out. I timed it  
4 out. Go. My name is Eli Ganiias. I am the  
5 father of current second grader here at 178 and  
6 a current father of a former student at 178,  
7 Alexander, in the fifth grade now. My older son  
8 came here in 2007 as part of the ASD Nest  
9 program. And during that last meeting with his  
10 teacher before he moved on, it dawned on me in  
11 that room, that I was in the room with  
12 incredible professionals that knew my son, in  
13 many ways better than my wife and I knew him.  
14 And I can't describe to you how that felt, how  
15 wonderful that felt. I could, but as you can  
16 see I'd get all emotional. And nobody wants to  
17 see that. A few years earlier than that, we had  
18 placed our faith in this school. We felt good  
19 about it. But with your first son, your first  
20 child, there is always the question, did we do  
21 the right thing? Well, in that meeting, it  
22 became quite clear that we did the right thing  
23 and the payoff was greater than my wife and I  
24 ever imagined. So when the time came for our  
25 second son to start school, we passed on

1 accepting a GNT placement to send him here for  
2 the dual language program, knowing full well  
3 that we were going to have to find another  
4 school for him in third grade. Then late last  
5 year that I learned that that may not be the  
6 case, that 178 was applying to expand to the  
7 fifth grade. And I'm here today to voice my  
8 support for that expansion. My younger son,  
9 like his older brother before him, is thriving  
10 here, with his incredible teachers. And now,  
11 that know him so well. All under the steady  
12 hand of Principal DD Budd. And I have more  
13 faith now than when I started years ago that the  
14 thoughtful guidance of Principal DD and the  
15 wonderful teachers here, that this school, once  
16 fully realized, will be the envy of the entire  
17 public school system in New York City. How much  
18 time do I have? [singing] Thank you.

19 MS. THORPE: That's a hard act to follow. I  
20 thought I was going to speak from the  
21 perspective of a mom, a parent of a kid who left  
22 here seven years. I think it was about the  
23 fourth graduating class of the school. But I'm  
24 going to speak from her perspective, because she  
25 told me when I came down here--and she couldn't

1       come because she's studying for an advanced  
2       Spanish test tomorrow--she's a freshman in high  
3       school. She's with all those juniors and  
4       seniors because of her experience here. She  
5       told me, "Mom, remember when I was at the end of  
6       second grade, crying in the bunk bed because I  
7       wanted DD to build another story on the--I  
8       didn't understand why they couldn't build  
9       another story." And she said, please tell the  
10      DOE that the experience that she had there was  
11      amazing. And it set her off on such a great  
12      path. She was happy here. She was secure here.  
13      She felt loved. Everyone knew her name. And  
14      I'm going to cry. And it's a place that she'll  
15      always remember and cherish. So thank you to DD  
16      and the whole staff. DD really knows how to put  
17      together a team. She knows how to select  
18      amazing teachers who fit in this culture and who  
19      put children first, always. So I hope this  
20      works.

21           MS. CRISFANNY DELUNA: Hi. I might not  
22      sound the greatest speaker, but I want to try my  
23      best. I just want to raise my voice and say, as  
24      a parent, my daughter is a second grader. She  
25      comes home every day, "Mommy, I love this

1 school. I love it, I love it, I love it."  
2 And I try to stay, motivate her, because I  
3 didn't know what to say when I didn't know this  
4 school was going to get an expansion. I toured  
5 so many schools around here before, when I was  
6 looking for a kindergarten school. And I didn't  
7 know what to pick. I didn't know which school,  
8 if I was making the right choice. If this  
9 school, she was lucky to fall in most of the  
10 school around here, the one that I tour. And  
11 that makes it really hard for me to pick which  
12 school was going to be the best for her. But I  
13 know every day, when I get home at the end of  
14 the day, I'm a full time parent, full time  
15 employee, and it makes me feel so safe and  
16 relieved that I know that I made the right  
17 choice to put her in this school. I love this  
18 school. I love the staff. DD is the wonderful  
19 leadership. I don't know how to thank all of  
20 the teachers of the dual language, they great.  
21 Yolanda is awesome. And I don't know what else  
22 to say. Thank you.

23 MS. NUNEZ: Okay. Numbers six through ten,  
24 please? Numbers six through ten.

25 MS. DIANA BARROS: My name is Diana Barros.

1 I am the Assistant Principal here. And I  
2 wanted to thank the parents and concur. I am  
3 going to speak just from the dual language  
4 perspective now, because we don't have a lot of  
5 time. But it makes a lot of sense. Our heart  
6 always breaks, and the teachers hate to lose the  
7 students in second grade, because we know that  
8 language proficiency and bi-literacy takes up to  
9 five years to really get academically. And so  
10 we really hate to see them go because we know  
11 that if we get to keep them until fifth grade,  
12 we're going to have that articulation, that  
13 coherence, that continuity, and the teachers  
14 will know the students even better. They know  
15 them well now. They will know them so much  
16 better and get them through those really tough  
17 academic years, third, fourth, and fifth--those  
18 testing grades. So we're very happy and we  
19 would like to see this approved so that we can  
20 keep our kids and continue to work with them the  
21 way we do. Thank you.

22 MS. NUNEZ: Number seven? She took the  
23 list. Okay. [break in recording] Number seven  
24 was Tim Davison. Is he here?

25 MR. TIM DAVISON: My name is Tim Davison.

1 I'm a parent of a former student here. We  
2 left last year because our child graduated from  
3 second grade. I will say a little bit about  
4 when he came here, he was completely  
5 demoralized. A very smart kid but completely  
6 demoralized with his pre-k experience. And what  
7 he found in this school was the kind of support  
8 that would get him back on track. And as a  
9 kindergartener he found himself and began  
10 gaining confidence. And then, of course, his  
11 first and second grade years he came back to a  
12 familiar place and was growing and progressing  
13 and was doing very well. One of the things that  
14 we found as we exiting this school was that we  
15 had to start the process all over, as many of  
16 the other parents have said, and finding another  
17 school that would provide the same kind of  
18 support so that he could get acclimated again  
19 was fairly difficult. And he is going through  
20 an experience now where he's getting used to an  
21 entirely different situation, which is not  
22 something that we would have chosen to do. So  
23 had we had the chance to stay here, we certainly  
24 would have done it. So I am completely in  
25 support of the school expanding the grades

1 through the fifth grade. It would have been a  
2 much less painful process, not only for his  
3 mother and myself, but also for a little boy  
4 that wouldn't have had to get acclimated again.  
5 Though we know he's going to make it, it just  
6 makes it a little bit more difficult. So we are  
7 completely in support of this school. We were  
8 very happy to have found it in the first place.  
9 And we wish that we could have stayed. Thank  
10 you.

11 MS. NUNEZ: Anne?

12 MS. ANNE MITTMAN: Hi, my name is Anne  
13 Mittman. I am the Treasurer of the Parent's  
14 Association here at P.S. 178. I wanted to thank  
15 you all, first of all, for coming out and giving  
16 us this opportunity to speak with you about the  
17 expansion. I'm basically going to reiterate  
18 exactly everything Susan just said earlier about  
19 how we came to this school. We felt that this  
20 would be a great environment for our son, the  
21 small size of it, the nurturing environment, the  
22 fact that it was a K-2 school. But we quickly  
23 realized it wasn't the fact that it was a K-2  
24 school that makes it a great environment for  
25 him. It's the administration, it's the

1 teachers, you know, it's not the K-2 factor.  
2 And I'm confident also that we'll be able to  
3 maintain this environment and this atmosphere if  
4 we move forward to fifth grade. And I fully  
5 endorse that. Also, like Susan said, as someone  
6 who is on the Executive Board, the starting over  
7 every two or three years with new parents is  
8 very difficult. As a treasurer, it takes just a  
9 long time just to get used to what goes on. The  
10 continuity would also enhance our environment,  
11 our community, pretty much, to be able to expand  
12 to fifth grade. I hope that you'll vote for  
13 this proposal - - and thank you very much.

14 MS. NUNEZ: I hope I pronounce this  
15 correctly: Aislin?

16 MS. AISLIN WEIDELE: Hi, I'm the parent of a  
17 kindergartener that just started here at 178 and  
18 I also have a three-year-old who I would love to  
19 see going to the same school as his brother at  
20 the same time. So that's one thing, one reason  
21 why I support this advancement into fifth grade,  
22 being able to keep my boys in the same school.  
23 And in general, I've been delighted by the  
24 school and hope to keep my son here until fifth  
25 grade.

1 MS. NUNEZ: Elizabeth Rice?

2 MS. ELIZABETH RICE: Hello. My daughter  
3 Molly is in second grade. Her two plus years  
4 here have been wholly positive. She loves her  
5 school. P.S. 178, as you've already heard  
6 stated many times, many ways, is a warm and  
7 supportive environment. Yet, it also has very  
8 rigorous standards and I've been quite pleased  
9 with how she has been challenged and risen to  
10 those challenges. For instance, she is  
11 currently embarking on a research project in  
12 second grade. Her topic is the New York  
13 subways. And what her teacher is asking her to  
14 do is not that different from what I ask my  
15 ninth grade students in a specialized high  
16 school. I am impressed by this. And also the  
17 level of support, how excited she is embarking  
18 on this project and the suggestions her teacher  
19 has given her, how she is holding her hand  
20 through the whole process and yet, like, wow.  
21 They are embarking on this process. So I've  
22 been quite impressed with the level of reading  
23 and writing that they do here. Also, I'd just  
24 like to reiterate that I think the dual language  
25 program that she's in is an amazing opportunity.

1 I have tried and failed many languages in my  
2 adult life. And I wish for my daughter to be  
3 bilingual, as I am not. And I know many second  
4 graders, when they leave this school, are unable  
5 to continue that opportunity in other places.  
6 So I definitely think that's a huge bonus of  
7 continuing this school. And I know P.S. 178 has  
8 warm, committed, and experienced staff and I  
9 think that my daughter would be in good hands as  
10 she went through upper elementary school here.  
11 Thank you.

12 MS. NUNEZ: Numbers eleven through fifteen.  
13 Number eleven: Eva Tavarez?

14 PARENT: [Spanish spoken]. I was asked to  
15 go over my two minutes. I am a mother of a  
16 child who is presently in first grade and a  
17 daughter who graduated two years ago. She is in  
18 fourth grade. My daughter, when she started  
19 here, started here when this school was a pre-K  
20 school and she never had a horrible experience.  
21 She loved it. She might have hated homework,  
22 but she totally loved it. When we had to switch  
23 her into third grade, the change isn't only the  
24 school, the teachers, the facility, but also you  
25 have to start getting them ready for standard

1 testing, which on top of that is so stressful.  
2 It was such a hard year for us just to get her  
3 acclimated. And then, again, with my son. He  
4 had to start preschool in another school and he  
5 was treated horribly. I was, I'm telling you,  
6 my son would cry to go to school. And that's  
7 not something you want to have to go through,  
8 telling your son, convincing him that he should  
9 go to school. And that's why I made sure that  
10 he was going to come here, even though I have to  
11 travel, take my daughter to a different school  
12 and take him here, because I wanted a guarantee  
13 that he would love school as much as his sister  
14 loved school when she went through this school.  
15 So I don't have to say how much the community is  
16 so great. Everybody knows that. But I'm  
17 talking on behalf of my kids, who have been in  
18 other schools and who have had to transition.  
19 It is so difficult on them. And expanding this  
20 school saves them, that horrendous experience  
21 for them. So I thank you for that.

22 MS. EVA TAVAREZ: [via translator] Good  
23 evening. My name is Eva Tavarez. I am the  
24 mother of two children who come to this school.  
25 One is in kindergarten and the other is in the

1 fifth grade--second grade. I want to thank  
2 the school for the great support they have given  
3 us, parents, in regards to our children. I am  
4 able to say that this is one of the best schools  
5 and you must come to see that they have great  
6 skills and that the teachers are highly  
7 qualified. They are prepared and they have the  
8 space to expand the program. This is a special  
9 school because the kids work very hard to earn  
10 their grades. All the staff is excellent and  
11 they communicate with parents in such a way that  
12 it's very satisfactory to us. Also, as a mother  
13 with two children, as I said, it's very  
14 difficult to--as it is for other parents--to  
15 send our children to a different school once  
16 they already got used to this one. I think that  
17 changing environments so much would somehow  
18 affect their education. And with this, I'm just  
19 asking you to take into account what I've said  
20 so that a fair decision will be taken. Thank  
21 you. Good night.

22 MR. KEN MILLER: Hi, good evening. My name  
23 is Ken Miller. My wife, Barbara Rossi, and I  
24 have twin boys in kindergarten at this school,  
25 Aiden and Maxwell. So their first three months

1 of school has really been an incredible  
2 experience. We chose to come to P.S. 178. We  
3 chose to have Aiden and Maxwell here. We really  
4 want them to be bilingual. And the dual  
5 language program was really important for us.  
6 My wife's a public school teacher, a third grade  
7 teacher, and in our tour and in all the times  
8 we've seen the school, she really felt like this  
9 was a wonderful place for early childhood  
10 development. The way the school is organized,  
11 she loves that it's a Teacher's College  
12 supported school, that the instruction in the  
13 classrooms has been really fantastic from what  
14 she saw when we were doing our tours, that it's  
15 a small school, that it's a nurturing  
16 environment. And I'm responsible for the drop  
17 off of the boys every morning, and you can't not  
18 feel that every adult in this building is  
19 focused and really cares about kids. Every day,  
20 there is a lineup of all the adults that are  
21 helping in this school and they are all focused  
22 on the kids. It is really an amazing thing to  
23 see. Their classroom teachers have been  
24 fantastic. Miss Liz and Miss Sandra, really  
25 fantastic. Every day our kids come home and

1 they tell us what they do in class. They draw  
2 things. They draw little gifts for Miss Liz.  
3 Aiden is in love with Miss Liz. And it would  
4 really be a big benefit to be at this school as  
5 it expands. Whatever DD Budd has done, it's  
6 like hard to figure out how she's done it, but  
7 it's really a fantastic sense of how to lead and  
8 to select and to create a wonderful culture in  
9 this school. Thank you.

10 MS. CAROL MEDINA: Hi, good evening, it is  
11 very special for me to have the opportunity to  
12 say something because I am a teacher in this  
13 school. I am a second grade teacher. I see  
14 some of my former parents here. But I am a  
15 mother of two and that is what's really  
16 important for me tonight. I have my two kids in  
17 this school as of last year. Just like Ms.  
18 Velez was saying, we went through the same thing  
19 looking for schools. This school is so special  
20 for me for many reasons, obviously. You know I  
21 work here. We work really hard in this school.  
22 DD is amazing. All my friends, this is like a  
23 family to work here. I said, this is the place  
24 to really have my own children. And my kids  
25 went to this school, they were in the dual

1 language program also. And the teachers did  
2 an amazing job. My kids are, you know, they  
3 just learn so much in this school. And it was  
4 really tough to say goodbye last year for them.  
5 They are having a hard time right now. They  
6 still, it's December, and they are having a hard  
7 time in the new school. WE definitely want this  
8 school to go all the way to fifth grade because  
9 we need to do it for the kids. It's really  
10 special, especially the second grade teacher, to  
11 see their face. It's so hard for them to see  
12 them leave every year. We want to really give  
13 them more. I know we can. We have the great  
14 stuff in this school and it's going to be  
15 amazing. I know we are going to get ready to  
16 celebrate, DD. I know that.

17 MS. NUNEZ: Numbers 16-20.

18 MR. STARRETT PIERSON: Hello, I'm Starrett  
19 Pierson. I'm the math coach here at P.S. 178.  
20 And I'd like to address just one narrow but very  
21 important academic issue. Currently, we're  
22 informed of our graduate's standardized test  
23 scores, the third graders who have left us. And  
24 it provides some information for us to inform  
25 our teaching and to help us to learn how to help

1 our children do well on the standardized  
2 tests. But by the time we get these results,  
3 those students have already left us. They are  
4 out of our school for over a year. If we were  
5 able to have third through fifth grade in this  
6 school, the testing grades, the information that  
7 are gleaned from the testing results will  
8 directly benefit our own students and allow us  
9 to immediately and effectively address their  
10 needs while they're still with us. I agree with  
11 everything that everyone else has said, that  
12 most certainly this school will remain a small  
13 and nurturing environment and a rigorous  
14 environment for all of our students through  
15 fifth grade. Thank you.

16 MS. NUNEZ: Seventeen, Joseline Hernandez?

17 MS. JOSELINE HERNANDEZ: Hi everyone. I am  
18 one of the staff from P.S. 178. My son is a  
19 former student. [crying]

20 MS. BURKE: She just wants to say that her  
21 son's been out of this school for two years and  
22 he's still saying every day how he wants to come  
23 back here. And he does come back every  
24 afternoon. Because he likes snack in room K205.  
25 But he really does miss it here because he was

1 well cared for and well-loved and well  
2 educated. And Joseline misses him being here.

3 MS. TANYA FRIEDMAN: That's actually what I  
4 say when I leave also. I want to come back. So  
5 my name is Tanya Friedman. I've been a teacher  
6 here for 11 years. But I want to tell you  
7 really quickly that I had left for one year  
8 because I wanted to go work in Jersey to make my  
9 commute easier when I was living in Jersey. Big  
10 mistake. Because it is so true that this is a  
11 family here and you cannot duplicate that. And  
12 DD is so amazing to us and treats us to fairly  
13 and that trickles down the way we treat our  
14 students. I just can't emphasize that more. I  
15 also want to talk about the fact that last year  
16 we really did a push to align to the common core  
17 curriculum, so although our school was always  
18 rigorous, it really helped us with this  
19 readiness to get ready for third through fifth  
20 grade because we started aligning both  
21 horizontally and laterally. So we know what our  
22 students need to do each year. And housing our  
23 kids within us will allow us to prepare them for  
24 those rigorous tests that are coming up. So I  
25 just want to express to you that we are ready

1 for it and we think it is a fabulous idea.

2 And I never want to leave this place.

3 MS. MICHELE LAMBRECH: Hello. My name is  
4 Michele Lambrech. I have a daughter here in  
5 first grade and I also have a son who is three  
6 and I would love for him to go to school here.  
7 I also teach in District 6. I taught third  
8 grade for many years and I'm teaching fourth  
9 grade now. So just to echo what I've heard a  
10 lot of people say, it is a really big leap from  
11 second grade up to third when the testing  
12 starts. And I feel very confident that my  
13 daughter is being well prepared, but I just also  
14 feel that as a teacher, I have to say, I can't  
15 imagine how hard it is for the second grade  
16 teachers to say goodbye to those kids. Because  
17 I'm in a K-8 school and I know when they leave  
18 in eighth grade, you have a sense of connection  
19 with the students. And I think that really  
20 helps the kids because there is so much pressure  
21 with those standardized tests that to have them  
22 be in an environment where they are at least  
23 with teachers who have really known them for a  
24 long time and still have their eye on them, it  
25 goes a long way. And, you know, I think it will

1 be great for the teachers because they are so  
2 committed. It takes so much teamwork to succeed  
3 in this system. It's really apparent that  
4 there's a lot of it going on at this school. I  
5 think it's only going to be good for the staff  
6 to see how that really continues as the kids go  
7 into third, fourth, and fifth. And that's only  
8 going to help the children. So I am hopeful  
9 that my daughter and my son will still be able  
10 to say hello to Laurie and Starrett and Millie  
11 and DD and everybody that is so wonderful here  
12 on the staff when they are in fifth grade.  
13 Thank you.

14 MS. SUSAN RYAN: Hello. My name is Susan  
15 Ryan and I am a former P.S. 178 parent. My son  
16 Dylan started here in 2008 and we made a  
17 conscious decision to choose P.S. 178 based on  
18 things, good things, that we'd heard but also on  
19 our tour and our feelings. And we were not  
20 disappointed in any way, shape, or form. And he  
21 would still be at this school if it went past  
22 the second grade. The academic standards here  
23 are definitely high and the curriculum is no  
24 doubt rigorous. The two things that stand out  
25 for me that I really loved were tiger week--

1 together and getting everyone reading--and the  
2 science fair project with the amazon, which  
3 quite frankly, I'm studying teaching now and  
4 those are very high standard of work for K-2  
5 students that you see in that science fair with  
6 the amazon. But separately from that and what I  
7 really kind of wanted to talk about, the  
8 teachers, the staff, the administration, DD, are  
9 all top-notch. But for me, the culture of the  
10 school, there is so much a sense of community  
11 and inclusivity and diversity. And that was  
12 really important to us for our son, whether it  
13 was the dual language and the monolingual and  
14 special needs and inclusion in the classroom.  
15 Our son had actually attended a pre-K that had  
16 special needs students and inclusion in the  
17 classroom. And we were so thrilled when he  
18 continued to have that experience because that  
19 is really critical to develop empathy at a  
20 younger age. So I just wanted to say how much I  
21 really support the expansion. And I really  
22 think that expanding the school will actually  
23 serve to strengthen the sense of community and  
24 inclusivity, not only in the school itself but  
25 it will strengthen that sense of inclusivity

1 within the community that exists outside these  
2 doors. Thank you.

3 MS. NUNEZ: Numbers 21-25.

4 MS. LINA GONZALEZ: Good evening everyone.  
5 My name is Lina Gonzalez and I am a former  
6 parent of P.S. 178. My daughter, Laura, is  
7 currently in fifth grade and I can't thank  
8 enough the staff. I look at so many of you and  
9 this is definitely a school community and an  
10 expansion of your family at home. She spent  
11 three years here being nourished and fulfilled  
12 and challenged. And we received the support of  
13 many of the teachers, especially her second  
14 grade teacher, when we had to make the  
15 transition into a new school. In the process of  
16 that in her second grade, this was back in 2009,  
17 we spent a good chunk of time, I would say every  
18 spare moment, looking for a school that would be  
19 appropriate. While she received dual education  
20 and gifted and talented education here at this  
21 school, we could not find the same continuous  
22 education anywhere else in District 6, which  
23 took us to District 3. We are now outside of  
24 our neighborhood because we had to go somewhere  
25 else far away, doing a 45 minute commute every

1 day for the past three years. If we were  
2 here, if the school had had the expansion, it  
3 was up to fifth grade, we would have stayed  
4 here, very happy, supporting the community that  
5 we live in and the people that we are a part of.  
6 I just want to say again that I am very happy  
7 that we will have many parents not have to go  
8 through what we did. Our class were like herds  
9 going from one district, from one school to  
10 another, touring to find the right place, trying  
11 to find the jewel of Washington Heights, which I  
12 refer to as P.S. 178, somewhere else in our  
13 district. So DD, thank you so much. My  
14 daughter is now in good hands but we had to  
15 search far and wide to find something like this,  
16 to find P.S. 178. Thank you.

17 MS. SHARON VAN ENGEN: My name is Sharon and  
18 I am the parent of two former students here at  
19 P.S. 178. Luckily, I got my tears out of the  
20 way about five minutes ago. So we came to this  
21 school after being actually at another school  
22 and transferring in maybe a month into the  
23 school year. My son, I just realized it wasn't  
24 the right fit, and we came here. And within two  
25 hours of being here he came out and said, "Mom,

1 this is the right place for me." And so we've  
2 been happier ever since. And I will not being  
3 to thank all of my kids' teachers because it  
4 really will make me start to cry again. But  
5 they have walked away, like so many of you have  
6 said, with the gift of loving to learn and that  
7 was what I wanted in a school. And that's what  
8 they got. The eye contact is not good, Ms.  
9 Feliz. So the leadership, clearly, the school  
10 culture. I've had the privilege of being in  
11 many, many schools, touring many schools, for  
12 both my professional life and obviously because  
13 of my kids. And the culture here is really  
14 special. And I knew that when I came the first  
15 time. I know that even more now because I'm not  
16 here anymore and this year has been, although we  
17 are in a good school, it's been tremendously  
18 difficult for my family. For me, but most  
19 importantly for my kids, who are having a hard  
20 time in their new school. And they're in a good  
21 school but they're having a hard time. And they  
22 say to me, "Mom, it's the little things about"--  
23 this is a quote from my son--"it's the little  
24 things about P.S. 178, like everyone knows your  
25 name." And Ms. Feliz's classroom is just so

1 respectful. And my daughter go to direct a  
2 play, an Annie play, last year, just because it  
3 was part of the gift of learning and loving to  
4 learn. And Millie collects teeth and sends them  
5 home. Did everyone know that? And so all of  
6 these are things they are telling me about why  
7 it's so special. So it is and it's wonderful  
8 and I am so excited that it may expand and so  
9 full of envy. But that's a good thing to have  
10 and to learn and to move forward with, I guess.  
11 So I support it, obviously, and I'm just so  
12 grateful that we had the opportunity to be here.

13 MS. SHELLY MEGERMAN: Good evening. I'm  
14 Shelly Megerman. I'm the science cluster  
15 teacher and reading specialist. And I'm also  
16 one of the most senior people on our staff, so I  
17 have a lot of school experience, K through  
18 eighth grade, including a couple of my former  
19 principals in this room right now. And I think  
20 we can all say that P.S. 178 is incredible in  
21 all the ways that everybody has spoken about.  
22 I'm always amazed at how DD has picked staff  
23 that are incredibly warm, child loving, honest,  
24 and collaborative. And we remain that way.  
25 Every new person who comes to our staff just

1 fills in and it's as if they've been here  
2 forever. So I think that we are the heart,  
3 soul, and brains for everybody's children, and  
4 that's why it's important for us to continue. I  
5 agree with the statement about the testing  
6 situation and that if children stay within our  
7 building, they will be going into--if they have  
8 to be tested as much as we test nowadays--they  
9 will be going into their testing grades  
10 seamlessly, having been nurtured by our staff  
11 here. So for all of those reasons and including  
12 Josh, who was the first former student who I ran  
13 into when I got off the elevator before. And he  
14 said, "Mrs. Megerman, I still miss science with  
15 you." And then his mom told me that he's at the  
16 Muscota School and there's no science teacher.  
17 So I feel that we really need this expansion.  
18 We're ready for it. Thank you.

19 MS. MARIA HERRERA: Hi, I'm Maria Herrera.  
20 I was a parent here many, many years ago. And I  
21 think if anyone in this room came to hear  
22 something negative, they're very disappointed.  
23 The worst thing about P.S. 178 is that you have  
24 to leave. And so I think buying people three  
25 more years is really, obviously, what we all

1 really want. It's something, everyone already  
2 said everything I would really want to say and  
3 then some. But one thing I was remembering as I  
4 came back here and happily seeing all the faces  
5 that I know and consider part of my extended  
6 family, was that when we came here, what you now  
7 have as Nest, I think at the time the similar  
8 program was just called inclusion at the time.  
9 And so the building had this very strong  
10 inclusion program. You know, there was GNT dual  
11 language, it's a little different now--there was  
12 inclusion, there was non-GNT dual language and  
13 sort of standard monolingual classes. And what  
14 I think, one of the things that I didn't realize  
15 I was going to appreciate so much was that there  
16 were so many different kinds of kids in the  
17 building. And what happened in the building was  
18 that all little kids were little kids. And  
19 whether they had different abilities, 'cause we  
20 had a range from what's called gifted and  
21 talented to kids who literally needed someone to  
22 be with them every minute of the day and  
23 everything in between, that impact I think on  
24 all the students came from--again, it was sort  
25 of a top down and across the board model that I

1 think testifies to the fact that the school  
2 really keeps everyone nurtured in this  
3 wonderfully inclusive way that really speaks to  
4 the building and to everybody. Thank you.

5 MS. DAHLIA SERAG: Good evening. My name is  
6 Dahlia Serag. I have taught kindergarten, first  
7 grade, and second grade at this school over the  
8 last ten years. And I want to start by  
9 addressing this culture of the school that  
10 you've all heard so much about. And one of  
11 aspect of that culture is the training and the  
12 professional development that we get at this  
13 school. I recently wrote a paper for my  
14 master's class where I had to analyze the  
15 school's report on highly qualified teachers.  
16 Over 90%--I actually want to say it's actually  
17 over 95% but I'm just going to say 90 for now--  
18 has a master's degree at this school. And  
19 something that if you've been at the school  
20 you've noticed a little bit, is that teachers  
21 are well trained in Teacher's College. We have  
22 staff developers that come to the school. We  
23 have teachers that go to Teacher's College for  
24 training, among other training and professional  
25 development. So that being said, it is without

1 a doubt that I think we are more than capable  
2 and more than ready for third, fourth, and fifth  
3 grade and for the testing years. And so I just  
4 wanted to address that aspect of it for a few  
5 moments. That's it.

6 MS. NUNEZ: Okay. Numbers 26-28.

7 MR. VICTOR JIMENEZ: Good evening. My name  
8 is Victor Jimenez. I am the parent of a  
9 kindergartener, Kayla. And I fully support the  
10 proposal before you today for the expansion of  
11 the school from grades K-2 to include third,  
12 fourth, and fifth grade. To be honest, when we  
13 started looking for a school in the area for my  
14 daughter Kayla, I didn't know that this school  
15 was going to be and turned out to be what I'm  
16 learning. Hearing parents before me and parents  
17 whose kids are going to another school, it is so  
18 incredibly exciting to know that we did the  
19 right thing and chose the right school for my  
20 daughter. Most important for us was her  
21 bilingual education. We are in a community,  
22 obviously, similar to many other communities in  
23 the city of immigrants. And being from the  
24 Dominican Republic and we wanted to make sure  
25 that our daughter, very early on, got the values

1 that would serve her well long after she left  
2 the school. And to learn that she would have  
3 the possibility to stay here through fifth grade  
4 is really exciting. So I fully support that.  
5 And thanks to all the staff for all the work  
6 they do.

7 MR. ALBERT TOM: Welcome CEC 6. Thank you,  
8 Ms. Elsa Nunez of the DOE, and of course,  
9 Principal DD, for joining us all today. I'm a  
10 proud parent of a first grader at P.S. 178 and I  
11 just love this school. I think that Principal  
12 DD and our teachers have done a really  
13 phenomenal job of crafting an early childhood  
14 development program and a dual language, Spanish  
15 and I guess English program, and also serving  
16 kids with really special needs. And it's really  
17 terrible that our school is threatened by this  
18 increased emphasis on testing on a methodology  
19 that doesn't really suit to a K-2 program.  
20 After our kids graduate from our schools, they  
21 go to a school that's lucky to have them and  
22 they have to transition, being in third and  
23 fourth grades and learning new skills and then  
24 get tested. Unfortunately, our school is going  
25 to be judged by a subset of those kids after

1 they leave our care. And frankly, I think  
2 that's unfair. And I just want to ask for the  
3 opportunity that our school be allowed to expand  
4 to K-5 and so that way we can better serve all  
5 the kids in District 6 by being a better school  
6 and just to have a level playing field. Thank  
7 you.

8 MS. CAROL GIFFEN: Hi, I'm Carol Giffen. I  
9 am a nervous and I hope I don't cry--I am a  
10 former parent. My daughter just started in  
11 third grade at a different school, in fact, in a  
12 different district because of not having any  
13 options, really, in this district, or certainly  
14 not having very many. And I wanted to, one  
15 thing I haven't heard addressed is the district  
16 options. So many people don't come to this  
17 school. That's why the numbers are not as high  
18 as they could be. But they don't come here  
19 because they don't want to have to go through  
20 what we've gone through. So they choose another  
21 school, that right, I'm busy, I can't do this  
22 again. So they don't come to a K-2 school.  
23 Once it goes up through fifth grade, hopefully  
24 there will be more people. And I tell you, it  
25 gives people choices. You know? It gives us

1 more to choose from in the district. When we  
2 first came, I came because I was impressed with  
3 the administration. [crying] Thank you. My  
4 daughter is struggling also with the transition,  
5 but I don't regret sending her here even so.  
6 That's what I wanted to say.

7 MS. NUNEZ: Okay. We have now concluded the  
8 formal presentations. The list has been  
9 exhausted. So I thank you and good evening.

10 MS. BUDD: Can I speak?

11 MS. NUNEZ: No. Everything has been said  
12 for you. No, I'm kidding.

13 MS. BUDD: I actually want to thank  
14 everybody for all of their comments. But the  
15 one thing I want to ask is that, it is now 7:20  
16 and I want you to know all of the members of the  
17 staff who have stayed. Everybody, P.S. 178,  
18 please stand so they can see how many staff  
19 members are here. Thank you. I want to  
20 acknowledge the former District 6 Superintendent  
21 who really supports P.S 178 and has supported us  
22 as a superintendent and now as an advisor, as  
23 part of my network, Martha Madeira. Also, my  
24 current network leader, who is actually my  
25 really boss, but Ben Soccodato, who is here.

1       Okay.  And so I want to thank all of the  
2       members of SLT and my Parent's Association and  
3       all of you guys who have come out to speak  
4       positively for us going to fifth grade.  We have  
5       been recorded.  So it is now on public record  
6       that we are in support of going to K-5.  And so  
7       thank you all.  Thank you so much.  Don't forget  
8       to buy some goodies as you leave.

9               MS. NUNEZ:  Thank you and good evening.

10              [END RECORDING]

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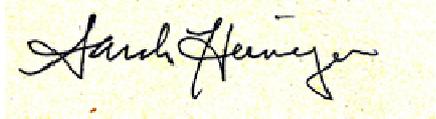
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C E R T I F I C A T E

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



Signature

Date\_\_12/10/12