

>> We will begin the public portion of the panel meeting secretary called the roll call established quorum I'll proceed with introductions I'd like to welcome our new panel member Roberto Soto Carron we look forward to working with you.

Can everyone on the stage please introduce themselves.

>> I'm David Roz, division of contracts and purchasing.

>> Good evening.

Deputy chancellor Kathleen Grim for operations.

>> Student panel member.

>> Roberto Soto Carron panel member.

>> Laura, president appointee to the panel.

>> Elsona Cleveland.

>> Camille La Hanks.

Appointee.

>> [Indiscernible] appointee.

>> Chief of staff to the chancellor.

>> [Indiscernible] chancellor.

>> Courtney Jackson chase secretary.

>> Vanessa appointee.

>> [Indiscernible] appointee.

>> Deborah dilling ham Queens appointee [indiscernible].

>> [Indiscernible].

>> [Indiscernible] mayoral appointee.

>> Fred Baptiste Eric Adams appointee.

>> Jesse Wong student panel member.

>> Thank you, the first order of business this evening will be approving the minutes from the March 18th panel meeting.

Is there a motion to approve the minutes from the March 18th panel meeting.

>> So moved.

>> Is there a second?

>> Second.

>> Please raise your hand if you vote to approve the minutes.

It's unanimous.

Thank you.

Chancellor free, I believe you have some remarks you'd like to share with us first.

>> Good evening and thank you for being here tonight.

This PEP meeting is now my fourth landing on my 99th day as chancellor.

As I approach my 100th I want to take a little time to reflect on the past several months what we've accomplished together.

First you all know the historic pre-K victory.

Soon we'll be able to provide more than 70,000 four-year-olds with truly universal high pre -K throughout the five borrows.

We'll have an ad that goes into every taxi if you do not want to see my face don't take taxis watershed moment for our children benefitting our city for years to come.

It's truly a very extraordinary progress.

Second, just this morning we proposed changes to the department's promotion policy for students in grades three through eight with standard promotion criteria.

Which will include a comprehensive review of students day to day work.

I understand much of the anxiety surrounding standardized testing and I know that students are more than a single exam.

So no longer will promotion from one grade to the next be determined solely on test score, instead we proposed a simple common sense solution.

Let's promote our students using multiple measures.

That means test scores can continue to inform promotion decisions but that real class work will help guide and empower educators to make decisions at the school level.

This panel will vote on those proposed changes next month.

Third, earlier this week we announced a new collaboration among our schools launching a learning partner's program.

This new initiative establishes a new pilot among 21 schools across everiboro to share and disseminate best practices, to be successful we need to work with not against each other, and this pilot which will expand significantly next year will encourage schools and educators to do so.

This is a lifelong educator that has truly been a personal dream of mine it's now coming into fruition.

But we've also had to make some hard choices that brings us to tonight.

I'd like to talk specifically about PS-11 in Queens.

And a proposal to be voted on this evening.

The goal of that proposal would be to provide a permanent addition to new construction to P S-11.

In order to alleviate overcrowding in the neighborhood.

This was supposed to be voted on last month, but we wanted to take more time to listen to community concerns so we underwent a process that I learned as a principal AIR.

You acknowledge the problem, you investigate it, and then you respond.

We acknowledge that there may have been a challenge and delayed the vote.

So we'd have more time to engage.

We did just that.

We investigated the concerns.

My senior leadership team including deputy chancellor grim did walk throughs with parents and community leaders and some of the PEP members on stage tonight.

We consulted with school leaders CEC members parents elected officials and others we had difficult conversations because of the different views on this issue.

We examined all available options within a three mile radius of PS-11 and considered numerous alternatives suggested by families.

We looked at various other DOE and non-DOE buildings.

After listening to the different concerns voiced, we determined that the original proposal would yield the best possible income.

Outcomes.

The proposal would mean that PS 11 students would be temporarily recited to the one 71 building.

171 building.

I'd like to thank the principals for being collaborative partners in this effort through in depth conversations we were able to respond in a way that allows us to address some of the concerns that we heard.

School staff from PS 11 will ride the bus to PS 71 with their kindergarten students.

That helps alleviate some of the family's safety concerns.

In addition, we will work to ensure that no student will have to be re-sited twice when is one of the issues that the parents brought up at the last meeting.

That means that students being temporarily moved to 171 will not have to attend school at another separate building.

I would like to thank assembly woman Kathy Nolan and other elected officials for so passionate ly representing their constituents.

We understand that to some this may be an imperfect solution.

But it's important for everyone to know that we have a responsibility to not only provide new school buildings and new construction, but to ensure that PS 11 is a full service school.

That's why we're moving forward with the original proposal.

I know that some of you believe that saint Teresa site presented the best solution.

So it's important for me to be open, because many of you feel that there's some Mack veilian reasons for what we do and there aren't.

I want to say what's going to happen in that facility it's always been our plan to take this building and do a top-to-bottom renovation, to make it state-of-the-art modern building for district students.

That is work that we'll be starting this summer, because that renovation will eventually lead to the public school seats available in district 24 which will relieve overcrowding by

doing short-term construction, the district will benefit in the long run with a brand new facility.

It's important to be clear and transparent so it will be available for future use.

Of course, the eventual use of that space will be open through public discussion through your local CEC.

When I started nearly 100 days ago I promised we would listen and engage with parents school communities and elected officials.

We've done that.

I also learned that no decision will have absolute community support one hundred percent of 100 percent of the time.

To the PS six community here tonight I want you to know that we've been listening hard and we want to thank you for being thoughtful advocates for your children.

While some may agree on this single issue we're difference makers for our students to everyone here tonight I want to thank you for being partners in the first one hundred days.

100 days.

We've made enormous progress, progress that's going to continue and I look forward to partnering for the next days ahead.

Thank you.

>> Thank you very much chancellor.

Before we get underway for the voting portion of this meeting I'd like to say a few words about public comment and rules of decorum at this meeting.

During the public comment period speakers will be permitted up to two minutes to comment.

I will ask the secretary to call the speakers up from the signup sheets and to ensure that the speakers finish their comments in the lot time.

he allotted time.

I ask you respect your fellow speakers keep to your two minutes.

We'll call speakers up in groups of five.

If you have a green ticket, please proceed to the aisle to my far right once your number is called if you have a yellow ticket proceed to the aisle to my left once your number is called.

The clock will indicate the amount of time remaining for each speaker and a light will indicate when there is one minute left in the allotted time so speakers will know when their time is up.

At the conclusion of each speaker's time we'll move on to the next speaker.

If a speaker is not here when his or her name is called, we will move on to the next speaker.

Once we move on to the next speaker you cannot redeem your place in the queue.

The next item on the agenda is the consideration of the approval of proposals for significant changes in school utilization.

Madam Secretary, could you please present the resolution.

>> The first resolution is entitled resolution regarding the proposed temporary re-sighting and co-location of a portion of PS 11 Kathryn Fallon 30 Q 011 with PS 171, Peter G van always, K 31 and BQ 71 for the 201415 school year and the proposed temporary re-site-d--ing co-location of a portion of the Kathryn fay lon with 30 Q to be determined for the building for 20156016 15-16 and 16-17.

>> Is there a motion to adopt the first consideration being considered tonight?

Is there a motion.

>> Adopt the motion.

>> I move --

>> Thank you very much.

Is there a second?

>> I'll second.

>> Thank you.

The panel will now allow time for public comment on the proposal.

Madam Secretary.

>> First we're going to call the elected officials and then we will move to the people who signed up for the school proposals.

We will do all of the public comment now so that folks don't have to wait around.

But I want to draw one distinction.

Again we're going to do the elected officials first then we'll do those of you who signed up to speak about the school proposal and then we'll do those who signed up for general public comment.

We'll do it in that order but do that section now.

Can we please have VJ chowdri representing Joe Crowley come to the microphone.

>> Representing Congressman Joe Crowley, first we want to thank all the parents who have come out today because your advocacy on behalf of your children really should be applauded and it really shows how much you care your community.

And again I'm reading a statement on behalf of Congressman Joe Crowley.

PS 11 is an outstanding school, whose administrators, teachers and parent coordinators care deeply about the well-being of their children.

That is why a great number of parents of incoming kindergarten children at PS 11 have expressed deep concerns about the current proposal to bus their children to a school almost three miles away.

Rest assured the woodside and sunnyside communities applaud the Department of Education and the school construction authority for their commitment to alleviating the overcrowding that exists in our school.

To be clear, from the very beginning of this process, we have opposed any delay in the planned construction of PS 11's expansion.

Instead, we've asked the Department of Education to find a better solution to bussing our children to a school outside of their home community.

We as elected officials have suggested closer alternatives that we believe would be suitable as temporary locations.

We've asked the DOE to work with us to provide these resources to make those alternative locations work.

Sadly it doesn't look like this is a reality.

I'm disappointed that in the face of opposition from the affected parents of incoming kindergarten students the DOE hasn't found a better alternative to their plan.

If the current proposal is adopted the poor planning and judgment will place a significant burden on 250 of our youngest students and their families.

Thanks very much.

>> Thank you representative from assembly woman Kathy Nolan's office.

>> Hello.

>> Hello.

>> I'm here tonight on behalf of assembly woman Kathy Nolan to oppose the bussing of the kindergarten to Astoria, our office along with Crowley's office and other elected representatives have received numerous complaints of parents kindergartens about this plan bussing kindergartens through three miles of the worst traffic in New York City.

We've provided alternatives including but not space at PS 13 and 339 and former Catholic school called saint Teresas.

We have other places like hunters point if the DOE finds these unacceptable.

We ask you to work in good faith for most kindergarten in a long time and that traffic is not a good idea we need the DOE to seriously consider alternative solutions.

>> Thank you.

Carmine.

Is there someone from CEC.

Could we have those who signed up to speak about the school proposals green and yellow tickets go to the respective sides of the auditorium so we can call you after.

Yes, sir,.

>> Hi.

Thank you.

First off, I would like to thank the DOE, the SEA, the PEP, chancellor Forina, all of you to look at addressing the concerns surrounding the PS proposal and trying very hard to find work able solutions.

It was not long ago that we were talking about the need to have educators in charge of the department Department of Education.

For our chancellor to be an educator.

So in all of this, and I speak here personally as a council we have been in support like Congressman Crowley moving forward and not delaying construction.

We have always felt as a council that we would like to see some alternative to bussing if possible and maybe even a way to see funds held harmless for a year.

But falling short of that, not being able to do that, where do we go?

So I'm also speaking personally.

And personally I look to indicators bus they are the experts.

So going forward we have the fiscal piece I mentioned several options have been raised and chancellor you said several have been discussed parochial schools and PS 13 was brought up by the CEC.

One has been as was mentioned the parochial in district 24 saint ter resas.

Since it's closer to PS 11 than 171 when it comes to the educational environment, and for me it's about the education, PS 171 has much in its favor and has been a comparison chart that's been sent around that shows that.

And as that chart shows one of the many concerns is that saint Teresa's will likely necessitate a change in curriculum because of the lack of Wi-Fi connectivity and smart boards at saint ter resas.

Now go math ready gen require daily use of the Internet and smart boards.

Now the school community which elects us as a CEC and therefore I support chose these because they belief both curricula best meets the needs of the students and changing these in my opinion is not optimal.

Bussing kindergarten students to PS 171 was a concern of some parents.

However you need a bus for saint ter resa as.

I'm watching the clock.

Let me say two things.

When we did bless said sacrament in 280 there were construction concerns about noise and dust.

Would these come up at saint Teresa's has the community been consulted in the ends we not decisions that are emotional ones but best for our children even if they impact the parents.

Thank you.

>> Green ticket number one.

>> Good evening.

My name is Anna and I'm the principal of PS 11.

I'd like to thank all of you for sitting here and listening to us, because I know your goal is to really support our children and our parents.

What I have done is I have created a folder for each member so that way I don't have to repeat what will probably be said by many of the parents and staff that are here and it will also give you information from people that could not make it tonight for many reasons.

I just want to say that before we started looking at 171, our superintendent said to us: I want you and your parents and your staff to go look at different options around your building that are close to you that will be able to serve your children.

And we did.

We went to parochial schools called the archdiocese and looked at different public schools that are close to us, and none of them were available for different reasons.

Therefore, I then called Dr.

Compostu, we can't find anything help us.

And he did.

The one school that had the most space was PS one 71.

171.

Now parents did bring up the option of saint ter resas we revisited it looked at both schools and wanted to see what both schools had to offer.

And everyone agreed even the one that did not like the bus ride that 171 would provide the environment that can give our children the best education.

With the most resources that they deserve.

And I'm just going to end with one thing.

I saw my kindergartners coming in from a trip today.

When I asked them: What kind of, did you enjoy the trip, the only thing said was it was like a wonderful ride.

We were on an add ver.

adventure.

We as parents are concerned but they think riding on the bus is an adventure.

And it's not about parents as much.

It's not about politics.

It's about our children.

And I've been in that school for 30 years.

My heart is with the children.

So I hope that you vote for 171, thank you.

>> Spoken like a real educator, thank you.

>> Yellow ticket one Rachel Thompson.

Good evening, my name is Rachel Thompson, is there an echo I'm here as a parent of my second grade daughter who goes to PS 11.

And I just want to start sort of with a comment to what chancellor the for reinna said about listening to us.

I definitely do feel like I have been listened to.

I've had a chance to send letters to the panel.

I've spoken extensively with them and I know they have listened to me.

And I know they know that my concern with this plan is aligned with the class sizes.

And along with this plan what's going to happen is that the second grade that's left thinned at PS 11 is going to be increased to 40 to 46 students per class.

It will happen to one grade each as well, one class each as well, I'm sorry, in third, fourth and fifth grade.

grade.

I understand that she's been trying to get that number down as close as possible and to promise that there would be two teachers in the classroom.

I just don't see how that is going to be viable for the one, two, even three years, when we know how short money is in the Department of Ed.

And even with -- even if funding for two teachers like for those classes could be guaranteed, I don't see how we can expect children who are six, seven, eight years old, to focus their attention on one-half of the room every single day for 180 days for two or three years in a row when there's so many distractions going on around them. I think as educators we know one of the goals in New York City is to decrease class size.

And to put this plan as is where class sizes are increasing, doesn't really seem to make any educational common sense.

Place of business the solution is to take both sites as an annex send the youngest ones to Saint Teresa the others to 71.

And keep the class size to what the limit is.

It might be illegal, the largest classrooms at P 11 are currently seven hundred 70 square feet.

Which allows only 38 children per class.

>> Thank you.

Thank you very much.

>> Green ticket two Mitch letterman.

>> To respond to her comment I'm a parent and parent of school spirit team we would not be breaking by any way as far as the cap size.

It would be if there are 40 students in a classroom there would be two teachers, there is no way it would be with one teacher to clarify that as part of the plan.

As a membership of the school team and who has been asking for this for many years going into third and fourth, we're still great that we're actually we don't want to see anything that would stand in the way of getting it.

We've asked for alternatives.

We met with Laura Fay and Cathy Grim, even that there's no other viable alternatives at this point I feel I have to support the plan for 171 because I think it's a great educational facility.

I think the children will drooif there.

I realize the bussing is an issue and that parents are concerned about it.

But because there is no other option and 171 is the only option it's the option I support.

THE MODERATOR: Thank you.

>> Yellow ticket No.

2, Deborah Mcbegan.

>> I want to thank you for the board listening to us last month and also this month.

And this process for me as bempb emotional because my kit?

kid in?

A classroom with 36.

Because I got frustrated I jumped right ahead to middle schools gave you a list last month saying please build up the middle school.

I'm still concerned about class sizes.

That's because she's in a classroom of tricks.

36.

Maybe by third grade she'll be in a legal classroom of 32.

But between now and then she'll be in like 44 to 46.

That's what I've seen written down.

As an architect it still doesn't meet building codes.

36 kids in a classroom, this classroom is not big are or the wall stretch, luckily we haven't had anything like the catastrophes that happened in Connecticut but what if we did have an emergency, you don't have the evacuation space.

It's against building codes.

So really like to have the board go forward with the proposals to show the populous their proposals.

You don't have it written down, it's not trans parents.

It's detrimental to our kids.

With all that said I do want the project to go forward we need it.

It's been an oversited, they've been struggling for not having space for the wonderful multi cultural families in a most peace full part of the world and they deserve it.

>> Green ticket No.

3 Kimberly DeoT.

>> My name is Kimberly parent of two 11.

211.

I would like to recite my story.

I've visited both facilities, hands down PS one sfwun is the clear choice.

I've had several concerns and reservations both academically and safety wise if Teresa would be the ultimate decision to be made about our children.

It's a fully functioning school environment where Teresa ais a nice looking building with empty classrooms.

I waive the pros and cons of each and have had many hours of discussion based on what is in the best interests of the children after listening to the parents who are pushing for saint Teresa I hope you realize in the end they're choosing this facility not school because of the location.

It breaks my heart that the children's needs aren't put in place.

I recognize the decision of having to put a four, five-year-old on a bus.

Being from Long Island I rode a bus and I loved it.

As I read from some of the posts from the parents, through such a traumatic experience as riding a bus it's not just the occasion.

They put students on a school bus, I don't know why they feel any different.

It's not the children who will have anxiety riding the bus it's the parents.

Once again their decision turns back to what is good for the children not the children.

Biggest is academic and safety not that PS 171 is a mile further than saint Teresa.

Many parents are forgetting it's only one year of his career not a lifetime of inconvenience.

The parents have had a loud voice for what a small minority and it's not for them.

I find it unfair and selfish to ask the DOE to dump a lot of money into saint Teresa.

I put my full support one 71.

171.

Thank you.

>> Thank you.

Yellow ticket No.

3.

First name Jose.

>> I'm Jose I'm a parent of a student that goes to PS 11.

He's in kindergarten, his name is Brandon.

I wanted him up here with me because I think that with all due respect people are forgetting about it and they're worrying about the politics and other things involved in this issue they're not worrying about the children.

In my Ben I feel it would affect these kids.

It will affect these kids.

And just to be direct with the PTA of PS 11.

Shame on you for supporting this going to one 71.

171.

If I'm not mistaken only one parent on the PTA has a child directly affected by this.

So for them to speak for the parents, absolutely not.

They're not speaking for me.

Absolutely not.

I'm not happy about it.

This young child is the one being affected by it with all due respect not anybody on the panel nobody on that side of the room.

Thank you very much.

[Applause].

>> Green ticket al ba Santiago.

>> Good evening ladies and gentlemen of the panel thank you for hearing us.

In response briefly to the gentleman's commentary about our thoughtfulness when it comes to decision-making at PS 11.

As an SLT member who has been on the board for four years now, we've had, before this issue, very little feedback to our decision-making.

And we've begged for it.

We've sent notices.

We've arranged meetings.

We've arranged them in the evening.

We've arranged them in the morning.

But to get to the actual agenda for this evening, as an SLT member, as a community board 2 member, and as a board member of the woodside neighborhood association.

It is my belief that 171 is the appropriate choice for our children.

I have visited saint Teresa'ses and I find it lacking on many levels.

The educational, the security issues the health issues, quite frankly, what I would want to comment on, mayor deBlazo has won this campaign and has earned his respect for taking into consideration people from all socioeconomic backgrounds.

It is my fear that the people who have had the loudest voice and have had the ears of the politicians are more concerned with the location of the school as far as its socioeconomic challenges.

It's my sincere hope that by voting for 171 as an extension, you are all voting on the side of mayor deBlazo.

Because he's taken a stance.

Now it's our turn to take a stance for all members of our society thank you.

>> Yellow ticket No.

4, Sean MCGou want.

>> Thanks.

I think the number one priority to me is that the overcrowding gets solved and to do that we have to go forward with this project.

It would have been nice to have saint Teresa's but even the people who are really forcing saint Teresa, the best thing they can say is it needs work.

I do wish that had been thought of sooner because kindergartners get sick it's what they do they throw up, the parents get called.

They sit on a bench until the parents show up to get them.

And then the parents go home with them and we've just added a half hour to that process on either side and I wish that had been thought of two years ago.

But here we are today and what I really want to see is the overcrowding taken care of.

And then to build on what my wife was saying a few minutes ago there's 339, 313, the new addition to PS 11.

So we really don't want to be standing here six years ago talking about an overcrowding issue in middle schools.

The SEA has been receptive to us but please let's learn from this and let's get a middle school.

And it's a tricky thing to do in that neighborhood.

Popular neighborhood that's growing it's going to take some creative thinking, it's going to take some approaching business owners to see if they want to give the land up but let's have a place for all these students to go in six years.

>> Thank you green ticket five, aminea Rodriguez.

>> I'm Amina Rodriguez.

I'm in fifth grade and my younger brother will soon be in kindergarten at PS 11.

And I would love for him to go to PS 171 so he can have his -- so he can stay there while the school's having the extension.

>> Maybe some day you'd like to be a panel member.

You speak so beautifully, thank you.

>> Thanks.

>> Next speaker.

>> Thank you.

Yes, next speaker, the green.

>> Hello.

My name is Asama Rodriguez I'm in third grade and I like my baby brother, and I like the PS 11 school's new building to be built and in the meantime, while it's constructed I'd love my younger brother to go to one 71.

171.

>> Thank you.

>> Do we have is it ram ma inhouse.

>> Ticket No.

7.

>> Good evening.

My name is Rama Elmhouse.

I'm in grade four, I'm in fourth grade and I would like PS 11 to build the new building and while it's being built I'd like for my little brother to go to PS one 71.

171.

>> One of the things that audience may not realize these children have just participated in a common core experience.

They've taken an opinion, they have presented it before an audience and they have shown evidence as to why it works.

So anyone who thinks that common core doesn't have a practical application, is not really sure what common core is.

So thank you guys.

>> Thank you.

>> Yellow ticket No.

5 Jenna brannice.

>> My daughter Sonja will start kindergarten in the fall PS 11 is our zoned school.

I'm here to represent the parents of the 250 incoming kindergartners who have still received no official information from the DOE about the plan to bus, the principal of PS 11 said she sent letters to pre-K programs and sent letters home to students at P 11.

But the only parents who I've encountered who got the notification are already connected to PS 11 I've spent two days collecting signatures posted two times to our local mommy listserv and meetings very few incoming kindergartners were there and I'm sure you've not heard of us those who ranked PS 11 on our kindergarten information without this information still have no idea where our kids will go to school.

I know the DOE is not out to get me but it does feel Mack veilian how can the people most impacted don't have the information.

The DOE has the names and e-mail addresses for all parents who applied to PS 11 for two months and has not reached out.

This is inexcusable and I'm shocked and upset this vote is going forward one week before we will get official notification from the DOE about where our kids rank in terms of our school choices, which is a perfect opportunity to inform parents about this bussing proposal.

To be clear I support the PS 11 expansion.

I visited PS one 71.

171.

It seems like a lovely school.

I've told plans to bus other grades were considered and dismissed.

If the choice was made to bus a grade of kids who were already at PS 11 the school could have been working with them this whole time to come up with a plan that worked to inform the parents in advance.

Instead, it's the parents who don't know where our kids are going to school we may not know where our kids are going to school until August.

Maybe September, who still have yet another situation where we don't know what's happening.

Do not have the information, we're not able to make our voices heard, and are going to have to continue to be in the dark about this as well as the other kindergarten process for who knows how many months.

I think it's really unfair.

This vote should not have happened until all the parents who applied to PS 11 have the information about the proposal and were able to make their voices heard.

Thank you.

>> Thank you.

>> You'll be getting that information that you request.

I'll make sure of that.

>> Green ticket No.

8 David Rosaska.

>> Good evening.

I'm the chairman of the woodside neighborhood association.

I'm here to speak on behalf of the community at large.

I involve myself often in the revitalization of the zip code.

One thing we have to keep in mind is that revitalization is not just removing graffiti and cleaning the streets and planting trees, the issue with the school itself exists for quite some time.

The proposed relocation, co-location in PS 171 in comparison to all other known plans, known to us in the panel, I do believe that the PS 171 plan is the only viable plan.

I do believe that in the beginning the political class had shown more muscle saying yes, rather than yes and no and maybe so and floating an idea like saint Teresas which I think was going to go nowhere in the first place which is my own view because it would have required another outlay of money where unlike saint Teresa PS 171 was already fully capable of handling the number of students.

So I think it was a great fishing expedition that led to this day.

Incidentally, the annex itself will provide seats for hundreds of new students and that should alleviate overcrowding over the longer term.

I think there's a key question.

In the 21st century in a growing and great community tlik wood side fim proud to be a member to help support it to proper order which choice has to be made and inevitably I come down to the long-term benefits of the community.

Parents often put their children on buses for all kinds of things.

I think with the teachers on the bus benefit parents as well.

The trip to 171 will shall inevitably less than a mile to saint Teresa.

PS 171 is the only logical choice given the current situation.

>> Green ticket nine, Christine Ashton.

>> Hi.

I'm a teacher at PS 11.

I'm currently a kindergarten teacher so this issue concerns the students, of course, as well as myself.

First of all, I'm very proud of the PS 11 community, regardless of what side of this issue they are on because this is indicative to me of how wonderful the PS 11 community is.

They're extremely involved.

And I know that, I've been a teacher at the school for 14 years.

And as I said I'm very proud to be there.

I am currently in a combined classroom.

So to address the issue of the combined classroom, I have found it actually to be a wonderful experience -- I am able to depart meantlies in the classroom to reach my students and my co-teach er uses her strengths to reach her students too.

We found that we're able to connect to our children in ways that I had not imagined.

Also, we have 34 children and I feel that we are doing a wonderful job because as I said we work together very well.

That's on that issue.

I would also like to address the issue of the co-location.

First of all, I looked at the two schools.

I have not visited them but I did look at the chart preparing the two.

One thing I'm very concerned about is the lack of a PA system.

As a teacher my first concern is the safety of my children.

If I were not able to be informed of a situation in emergency, such as an intruder or a fire that would compromise, let alone the teaching the safety of my students.

So that is paramount for me.

Second is the educational opportunities.

PS 171 offers many more options as an educator I can see.

Smart boards.

When I was in one classroom at PS 11, and I had a smart board, I was able to expand my cribbing urriculum so much so I was able to bring in things and help the children to become much more passionate and expand their education in certain areas.

So that would be one thing at 171 that I think would be extremely valuable.

And also the computers which I understand saint Teresa's does not have and I think in today's society they should be exposed to.

Thank you.

>> A good teacher trumps all.

Thank you.

>> No.

10 Jessica al ver rad Doe.

al dvarado.

>> I'm here as both a parent and a staff member tonight.

I had written this letter a while ago my son Eric is currently in first grade as a parent I could no have the asked for a better start to his education.

Last year he was in a doubled up kindergarten class with two teachers.

Most parents hesitate at the thought of putting their child in a class with almost 40 children.

For me, this hesitation never even happened.

I believed in the quality of teachers at PS 11 knew no matter what the class size his teachers would work hard to provide an excellent education.

His teachers went above and beyond what I expected to ensure the class learned.

They worked together and an amazing year occurred.

Eric would come home from school each day full of excitement about the lessons he had learned and what was going on was amazing.

He was excited to learn sight words and adding and subtraction.

Each night we would read for his reading log.

I could tell Eric was learning strategies to tap out word and look at picture clues.

One night he said mommy I can read by myself and so he did.

He wound up reading the entire book as I sat there with tears of joy he learned to read I credit this to his two amazing teachers they taught my baby to read I couldn't have imagined a better year for Eric.

The current plan put forth puts Eric in a large class again for second grade.

I have no doubt that he'll be in another successful school year I would rather 40 kids with two teachers than one teacher with at least 32 children.

This year I have 31 the third graders in my classroom and it's a struggle some days to reach all of them.

And I do the best I can.

And as a teacher I would support 171 as our choice.

>> Thank you.

>> Ticket 11, Linda Schuler.

>> Green ticket 11.

Green ticket 12.

Amy U.

>> Good evening.

My name is Amy U.

I'm a mom of three children in PS 11.

Currently my youngest is in kindergarten and she is in a classroom of 40 children, with two teachers and also a para.

I never hesitated in knowing that my child is going to be in the classroom with many children.

I was all for it, because again PS 11 has wonderful teachers.

I love the staff.

I'm an alumni of PS 11 mites.

The reason why I'm here tonight is to support woodside community and to know that visiting the two schools of our annex saint Teresa and 171, when I did the weighing and I went and saw it hands down 171 is my choice.

For the community and for my nephew who is coming in in kindergarten and if my daughter has to go there for first grade, if we don't fulfill the kindergarten needs I'm all for it.

Knowing that PS 11 staff will be on the school bus with them gives me the comfort.

I tell my sister every day my nephew Matthew will be fine.

So I hope that everyone has it in their heart and if you can visit the school season to hear us as parents PS 171 is the way to go and to give our children the education and the abbing cademics they need with all the amenities given.

Thank you.

>> Thank you.

>> Green ticket 13.

>> Good evening.

I'm a parent.

of PS 11.

And I think PS 171 is the best choice for our school.

And as a parent I support PS one 71.

171.

Thank you.

>> Thank you.

>> Green ticket 14.

>> Good afternoon my name is [indiscernible] I'm a parent at PS 11 students.

We are here to support PS 171 and I will tell you how great the teacher in PS 11.

I have 14 years old who is going to high school.

And I have nine years old who is in third grader.

And they both have very good teachers and we have this step very good we receive every time, what I want to know about the school we receive it ahead of the time.

We have the meeting and everything.

We appreciate our principal and our staff and I appreciate it and we support the PS one 71.

171.

I hope you vote for it.

Thank you.

>> Thank you.

>> Green ticket 15.

>> My name is Janice Cavanaugh, mother of two children, one in fifth grade in PS 11 and one who will be attending kindergarten next year the expansion is critical for PS 11 no one denies that but bussing the four and five-year-olds from PS 11 to 171 more than 30 minutes away every day is not the solution.

With the help of our elected officials, Joe Crowley, Melinda cats, Jimmy van Brenna and Daniel broon have suggested alternative sites at saint Teresa and woodside.

Saint ter resa works for the children and families as it's much closer to where the children live it's in woodside and walking distance of most of all the families not a 30-minute bus ride away in Astoria.

I urge you, please, when you vote this please remember you're voting for four and five-year-olds, most of them cannot put their shoes on.

>> Thank you.

>> Glean ticket number 16.

>> Hi.

My name is Julie, am I husband and I have three children first thank you to the members who responded I know I wrote to you and the chancellor many times.

About this issue, just trying to get someone to listen because as a parent I have children at PS 11 but also incoming kindergarten and I don't believe as Janice said that the parents of the incoming kindergartners have been engaged.

We're not crazy we have not been engaged our concerns have not been heard.

The SLT and the PTA, everybody you may be forgiven tonight to think that this is to build the addition we all want the addition they're scared they'll lose this money if the proposal doesn't pass as is.

The proposal is a two step proposal T we all love step two QQ 392 box away, it will alleviate the crowding no doubled up second graders or first graders room for everyone.

But you want to go a year early that's fine so find another place for the kids.

One that doesn't involve almost six miles round trip every day for four and five-year-olds.

Proximity is important.

If you look on your own site and look at all the proposals that are out there, first of all, you won't find a two step one we'll put that aside any of the ones up there that are temporary, re-sighting and co-location, they involve things like 10, 20 blocks.

There's a reason why you look for a school that's within blocks and not miles.

And also I would say that I feel that the priority here is being given to district concerns instead of community and neighborhood concerns.

If you cared about keeping the kids in the neighborhood then 313 would have been more given more serious consideration when it was raised by our elected officials on our behalf since we weren't engaged and also saint Teresas or 777 as it is now, it's not a beauty contest tonight.

You're not voting for saint Teresa's tonight what you're being asked to vote for is to say that step one is not good and to go back to the drawing board.

The DOE will not put our children through the doors of a school that's not adequate, that does not have safety.

That does not work well.

PS 199 kindergartners have been there for five years.

Do any of you think they're in danger.

I don't think so.

Any issues they have with smart boards or Wi-Fi whatever it can be you should at least take the time to seriously consider them.

I do not believe, I may be a crazy person, but I do not believe they were given serious consideration.

We were taken for a tour of the school the same time that our kids back packs at PS 11 were being stuffed with papers asking people to choose between the two, when that's not what you're being asked to choose tonight.

What you're being asked to choose tonight is this proposal good, both parts of it, step one and step two.

Step two is great.

Step one could use some work.

Thank you.

>> Green side ticket 17.

>> I'm Jennifer and my child will be a kindergarten next year.

We love our community.

I think everyone here cares about the children and making sure they're in a good educational environment.

What's most frustrating to me is how this issue has divided us.

I'm concerned about the accusations I've heard that the neighborhood that 171 is in somehow affects how we feel about the bussing issue.

And I'm also concerned about the communication as Jenna stated earlier there was no transparency in this issue.

I have yet to receive information directly from DOE or PS 11 about the bussing issue.

My child is in the UPK program, and we were not sent home with any sort of sheet of paper.

So I hope this sort of feels like a done deal to me but I hope at least we can learn in the future on those things and that that doesn't fall through the cracks next time.

I also don't understand why older children who have more experience in the public school system couldn't be the ones bus d to PS 171 the children will be out of their homes for an all day school experience and closer to home obviously the better we will feel as parents.

So I would still encourage you to consider that as another option.

As far as children enjoying being on buses and that not being an issue I agree my son loves to ride a bus for a field trip this is New York City not Dallas where we went to one school.

And there's many, many choices, this is taking our choice away as a community school.

My time's up but thank you very much.

>> Thank you.

>> Green ticket 18.

>> Green ticket 19.

>> Good evening.

Hi my name is Martin Connelly I'm the father of three children.

Two in PS 11 at the moment.

Second grader, kindergarten and I have one child arriving next September to go somewhere.

Again, sounds to me so many people made decisions already made here.

The I would just plead with you all just to think of the children.

Like my son will still be four years of age when he gets on this bus.

For him and for other kids, I don't know if it's a fairytale, maybe as a parent it's a nightmare for me.

But we've got to think about the children.

This can't be about games.

This is about real babies.

And I find it interesting to stand here tonight with so many people speaking on behalf of one 171 who don't have skin, the skin of their own children in the game maybe it's the fact they arrived on a free bus organized by PS 11 maybe they did signs staff at PS 11.

I don't understand the fervent focus that so many people have on getting our kids to one 71.

171.

Maybe there's politics at play here.

I'm not aware of them.

I'm just here because of 250 children, many of whose parents still don't know this is going to happen.

And I would ask all those people sitting up here that have a choice that they can make tonight to think, to please put the children forward.

There are other options, there are other schools.

There is PS three one three.

313.

I believe and a wonderful scheme by the mayor there are 36 full-time UPK classes there's room.

There's always room to look after our kids first.

I would ask you all to think about the -- would ask people to sit back and put our children first.

So thank you.

I appreciate it.

>> Thank you.

>> That concludes the comment on the school proposals.

Now we're going to move to the people who signed up for general public comment.

So I'm going to start over again with the numbering of the tickets.

Green ticket one, is it Lydia Halrika.

>> Good evening chancellor and panel members.

My name is Lydia Hilrika I was a teacher for the New York City Department of Education.

Do I believe some of you know me because my frequent correspondence with the DOE school unit, division of human resources and talent and other departments were copied to a number of you.

Before I begin my statement I would like to pass out a few copies of my statement in case I run out of time.

I worked at the academy for language and technology in the Bronx.

From September 2012 to July 2013.

I was hired by principal [indiscernible] I faithfully served my school and my students.

My time at ALT was very pleasant.

However, when I raised concerns with my mentor leader regarding improper mentoring according to the contract as well as DOE policy, my relationship with the principal declined.

On June 17th, 2013, I received a letter from our school's children first network leader stating that I had been reassigned from my position.

I spent the final eight days of the academic year sitting in a reassignment center located at one Fordham plaza in the Bronx no staff member of the network an investigator from the special special investigations or staff lawyer from the Office of General Counsel told me why I was reassigned I did not speak with an investigator or lawyer upon my stay there on July 15th I was discontinued from probation service due to my principal's false allegations about my job performance.

The HR manager was unable to attach me to a job.

And informed me I had been red flagged in the system.

Well, it appears that I am out of time but I am requesting a meeting with you chancellor and other relevant personnel regarding my investigation.

[Indiscernible] accused of warranted my removal from the school on June 17th.

In the middle of [indiscernible] exam.

Thank you for your attention.

>> Green ticket two, Ellen McHugh.

>>

>> I'm here to ask a favor.

I don't know.

It's not to judge me but the career and tech Ed committee is requesting that the chancellor attend a meeting on May 9th if possible.

And the second favor is going to sound silly, but I attended a meeting last month and put in my reimbursements as a CCSE member and was told by the fiscal arm of the New York City department Department of Education that they wouldn't pay for my reimbursement because I didn't bring back a letter.

So I'm asking for a letter that I was here last month and this month so I can get my reimbursements.

But the more important issue is the career and tech Ed request on May ninth.

9th.

Thanks.

>> Ellen, the last thing I would expect you to do to come here to ask that.

All you had to do was send me an e-mail and you know I would respond.

>> I know but it was too good to pass up.

>> I got it.

>> Thank you.

>> Next speaker, Valerie Thompson.

>> Hello.

A little lower.

I'm Valerie Thompson.

The principal at the Bard high school early high school college in Queens as principal at an early college I think a lot about the transition that takes place between high school and college, because for us that takes place right in our school every year.

Students leave the tenth grade and then they enter their first year of college under our roof.

So we think about that transition that everybody else makes as they go from 12th grade to college all the time.

And I wanted to comment tonight on the proposal for changing the chancellor's regulation C 30.

I think it's an interesting thing to have additional experience put forward.

And I wanted to make sure under qualifying pedagogical positions, which currently include classroom teachers, deans and instructional coaches, guidance counselors, social workers, pedestrian agological supervisors, teacher assigned and education administrators, that we also include individuals who have worked at the college level in those same positions.

I think that that's a good addition to the proposal and it backs something that was written in by somebody from our SLT.

So this was discussed at our last SLT meeting.

We think it would benefit people in all high schools, and also in the early college movement.

Thank you.

>> Thank you, good idea.

>> Thank you.

>> Peter malBeck.

Green ticket five.

>> How are you doing my name is Peter MalBeck, teacher at Long Island city high school for 20 years.

We'd like to thank you for stopping the co-location for the past couple of years they've been trying to co-locate within our school the whole community was against the co-location but on September 12, 2013, an educational impact statement was proposed to reduce our high school by about 400 students over the next four years.

And that means our projection for 2014 and 15 is now two thousand 108 students.

2,108 students.

Right now our students are almost 2600 in our school.

Okay.

If this happens, if we don't get the 400 to 500 students back in the Long Island city high school, this would -- we'd have to access another 12 to 16 teachers and about another four or five advanced placement classes.

As you know everything is now supposed to be about college-ready.

We offer almost 20, 22 advanced placement classes during the year.

We want to keep that up.

Last year, before the planned co-location, our staff had 33 teachers and almost six hundred 600 kids accessed out of our building.

So we've lost since the last couple of years from 3,000 students now they want to make us two thousand one hundred students.

2,100 students.

We ask you, Ms.

Fiorina to come see our school and help us get our students back and quality excellent review today.

>> You're actually on my radar screen so you'll be hearing from me.

>> Thank you.

Green ticket six, Matthew Zdrosny.

>> Good evening.

I'm with the committee to save the New York City public library.

Chancellor Fiorina and members of the panel thank you for the opportunity to speak this evening.

I want to speak about that other educational institution, the public library.

Libraries are important because they're places of opportunity and initiative and I would say to the parents in this room that libraries are important because in Manhattan the Bronx and Staten Island alone, they serve over 20,000 young people providing them with a safe haven after school.

As well as offering dozens of after school programs and classes in literacy and English as a second language.

And, of course, libraries serve the life long learners in this room who are all around me.

Now the New York public library administration wants to close the mid Manhattan library which is busiest circulating library in the whole country and the place where President Obama got his start.

The administration wants to close the science industry and business library and furthermore it wants to rip out the seven floors of stacks of books in the 42nd library thereby diminishing one of the greatest research libraries in the entire world and certainly the most open and accessible.

This plan would involve spending 150 million in New York City taxpayer money, money which could be better allocated towards under funded branch libraries.

By one measure, the renovation of the Washington heights library, that money could renovate as many as a dozen branch libraries.

Mayor de Blasio so came out against this as public advocate as mayor he has yet to say something I would ask you to speak with him and I would ask everyone in the room and everyone listening to please e-mail the mayor at saveNYPL.org.

SAVENYPL.org.

Please stand up for this very important institution.

Thank you.

>> Thank you.

[Applause] .

>> So that concludes public comment.

As is customary right now we will hear questions and comments borough by borough and then panel members.

Panel member dillingham, any questions or concerns?

>> Yes.

>> Please share.

>> First, on behalf of the Queensborough president I have to thank the many Queens families and public officials, DOE and SEA for seeking out the best possible school placement for their youngest school-goers next year.

I am a parent.

And I still remember dropping off my kindergartners for their first day of school.

It was both exciting and scary for me at the same time.

Ultimately, when I left them at the door, I wanted to ensure that my children were safe and happy and provided with the tools needed for learning.

The decision we are faced with tonight is not an easy one, because I think in a perfect world we would all agree that the best placement for our youngest students is in their home school.

However, that is not an option as we begin building a well-needed addition to PS 11 this year.

Your public officials have tried to come up with solutions.

Scouring the areas surrounding PS 11 with roads eventually leading to saint Teresa's.

In an effort to seek that solution, many of us traveled the halls of both saint Teresas and PS 171 in the last several days.

I have to say I myself went to both schools, 171 is a fine school.

No complaints.

It's an old school.

Has plenty of room.

Fine school.

Today I went to saint Teresa's also.

I have to say it was a bright day.

I feel like car min Fiorina on the day of the snowstorm but it was a beautiful day.

Sun was streaming through the windows and I thought oh what an incredible building this is.

Not so different from where my own kids went to school.

Have beautiful wooden floors, high ceilings.

Classrooms like I've seen in many schools.

There are issues as we know with saint Teresa's.

So I spent my time looking at comparison charts that were delivered to me this morning and I asked a lot of questions.

My pain concern as a parent is always safety.

Will my children be safe.

And I would say my guess is yours would be the same.

So I asked about safety.

As there are children in that school, there are children attending classes in that building currently.

And the superintendent expressed to me that yes, saint Teresa's is deemed a safe school.

Does it have the benefits of one 71?

171?

I can honestly say it doesn't.

However, there are classrooms like any other classrooms.

I asked about smart boards.

I asked about laptops.

Laptops could be used in the classroom.

Projectors could be placed in the classrooms electrical upgrades, very likely could take place by September.

We talked to the school construction authority, we spoke about con Edison, getting them in the door, would that be possible to rev up the schedule.

They said it very likely could be.

Another concern I had, great concern, is fires.

There's no PA system in this school.

Could that be rectified by September?

Very likely the answer was yes.

No promises.

Of course, I didn't have the president of the school construction authority standing with me.

But we did have representatives with us.

Would all of the renovations be ready?

The auditorium and the cafeteria, that's on a 12-month plan.

So the cafeteria and the basement would not be accessible to the kids.

But there was indeed a playground for kids to go outside, kids would have to eat in their classrooms.

So I took that home and, of course, spoke with other officials in Queens.

I think that when we have to assess this situation, we have to assess the kids who can't talk for themselves, the parents who have come to all these meetings.

We've heard both stories.

But bill deblazo just said that grass root efforts can pay off and things aren't always the way they seem.

So there are people out there who I believe haven't had a voice.

They deserve a voice in this process because it's their kids who are being affected by the change.

Is there an easy solution here for any of us tonight?

I don't think so.

I think there may be two potential choices.

But not a best solution here.

There may be an optimal solution if the DOE can indeed come up with solutions for saint Teresa.

The commute on paper isn't so different.

The commute when you get in your car or in a bus is quite different.

I drove both of them myself.

I live in Queens.

It was much more direct I have to say to get to saint Teresa's.

Again, I'm not saying that PS 171 is better or worse than saint Teresa's.

Just looking at what is right for our community.

With regard to the Queens response, I think Queens wants more discussion.

I think Queens thinks that there is an answer here that they just haven't been presented with it as yet.

They'd like to see more coordination.

They'd like to see some compromise in this issue, and, of course, they want to see this project start on time and continue.

Everyone in Queens wants this addition to be built.

Just think that similar discussion with the SEA might prove that saint Teresa's is indeed the right choice for Queens for now.

Thank you.

>> Thank you.

Any other panel members have questions or comments regarding Queens?

Panel member Beyez.

>> I visited saint Teresa's and public school 171 with deputy chancellor grim.

We were joined by Pamela member Vanessa Lee-onning and principals from PS 11 and one 71.

171.

I personally wanted to visit both sites in order to cast a vote that is fair and that is in the best interests of children in PS 11, I think as a former school principal, I faced a very similar situation I was appointed the principal of PS 149 in district 30 and that was about more than 10 years ago.

I had to bus children to other sites, not just one.

I understand the fear that comes from the parents, the concerns.

But I would like to share with you that in my school community, when I met with the parents there were many discussions, many concerns.

We were able to address each one of them as the children were bus d to the other sites we started to feel more at ease.

The children got very comfortable with daily routines of getting in the buses and we had teach ers waiting and the school aides at the main building for the children at the end of the day.

When the time came for the children to return to the main building we did not perceive any emotional trauma because now they had to return to the main building it was something that need be done and do it as best we could.

I would like to applaud the teachers of PS 11 who have indicated to us that they're willing to ride with the children.

That is something that my children PS 149 did not have.

And that is very wonderful, very courageous of the staff of PS 11 to do so.

As an educator, let's take a look at what it is that we want for our children.

When I visited saint Teresa, I was there and I took a good look at everything that I know works to provide a nurturing environment for children.

I did not see much evidence.

When I went to PS 171, that school was fully equipped to give the children the instruction and a year of the beginning of their studies and I felt that it would be the best scenario for the children of PS 11.

Let us not forget that the principal of the school is responsible for every single child.

The principal has also to be in a place where she needs to approve as to where the children should be having their instruction in which site.

When I spoke to the principal of PS 11, she is very willing to have the children housed at P S one 71.

171.

And the principal of PS 171 is more than welcoming of the children of PS 11.

So if I have to choose for my own child who was a former public school student, I will choose PS 171 because I want what is best for the children.

I want a school library and an auditorium.

I want a kitchen that can serve hot food to the children, and I want them to have the best year of their life.

This is the first time that they're starting in their school.

So ending with that, to me as an educator, as a former principal, I am going to say to the parents, do not worry so much, the children will not be traumatized.

They will do a good year at PS 171 and next year you can come back and let us know how well they have done at PS one 71.

171.

Thank you.

>> Thank you.

Is there another comment?

Yes panel member Laurie Pebescer.

>> I'm a little nervous.

Bear with me.

I just want to say that the majority of us, the panel members, either have kids in the system now or our kids have gone through the system.

So we know what it's like sending our children to and from school and commuting, yet we don't know what it's like to be in your shoes.

And I don't know how I would feel if I was you because I'm not.

And I think it's important to share with you guys that as panel members, I know all of us have been reading the barrage of e-mails you've been sending to us and also going out and visiting the schools, attending the community meeting, which is a great addition to this process.

And doing our homework both individually and collectively to get as much information as possible to make an informed decision.

And there is no right or wrong for me personally because again I'm not you.

Yet I know as a parent of a kid with a disability who has been riding a bus since he's been 18 months old, this is a part of our life.

And so I think about other students who have to take buses to go to and from different programs including city wide gifted and talented, including folks in Staten Island who many have to take the bus, that for a lot of us the quality of the program trumps the commute and that it all stinks.

And it's emotional and scary and I think that happens no matter who your kid is and at different ages we experience different things.

I just wanted to talk a little bit about that, because we're human and I want you guys to know that we're human, because in the past I feel that a lot of these processes got dehumanized because there wasn't a dialogue, and I think that with this administration, there really is a dialogue going on.

And some of it is public a lot more of it now.

I think it will continue to be more public in the future.

I think I've said enough.

>> Thank you.

Panel member Fred Baptiste.

>> First of all, I would like to thank the chancellor and your team.

Because I think it is unprecedented where I think we're used to the idea where these ideas were rammed forward and I applaud the fact that you took an extra month to really look at that and try and engage more people.

Understanding that it's hard to ever get this perfect.

But I appreciate the efforts for that, and we know that we're going to grow and develop as we go along.

A lot of what I've heard tonight is something that's critical as well in terms of this particular district, this school district.

Overcrowding is a serious issue.

And I wanted to know if you or your staff would be able to give some context in terms of what other kinds of activities are being done in this district in terms of might even disqualified some of these other schools that were not being considered or why were we weren't able to look at other schools that parents and members are saying were closer but they preferred one 71.

171.

>> There were actually reasons for all of them.

>> Deputy chancellor.

>> Thank you.

We actually considered many, many locations, any place that we thought there might be a chance that would be more pleasing, more acceptable to the community.

One of the schools, of course -- and the major one that's been addressed tonight is saint Teresa's and I think we've all been clear on what we think the differences are between that and one 71.

171.

Also mentioned tonight is PS three one three.

313.

Which is a new building that will open next September.

Another school is scheduled to go in there and once -- not a new school -- but 199, and once that happens, there won't be enough room -- there would not be enough room for the overflow from PS 11.

>> And I think also to be very clear, that we looked at optimum space for the age and one 71 171 being welcoming was a particular concern for us.

They would be enough to move the entire kindergarten not just divide it in half.

That was a really important piece of this as well.

>> Panel member Ethan Marcus.

First of all, I want to say congratulations to the chancellor 100 days major milestone we know it's been hard.

Just a question in regards to the co-location, if the relocation to the school to PS 171, there was concern mentioned about having 40 students in a classroom that would be left behind at PS 11.

My concern is how is the DOE, the department trying to alleviate the pressure from these 40, like 40 kids even with two teachers is a lot especially with kindergartners alone high schools a lot to deal with.

Is the DOE working to.

>> Some of it we'll be working with the principal if you take the number cut it in half that's the allocation there's two teachers and a para in some of the classrooms I wrote myself a note to talk to the principal to see how else we might help that's something else on our radar screen, yes.

>> Thank you.

>> Any other?

>> Panel member Deborah.

>> I just wanted to address a couple of other issues.

When we talked about safety, I did ask today about fires, because of the PA system.

The kids, if they were to go to saint Teresa's in the end, if that were the ultimate choice, there would be fire marshals positioned on every floor, if the renovation couldn't occur before September.

But, again, there was discussion about pushing that schedule up so that they could complete the necessities, the electrical upgrade and the Internet, increasing bandwidth in the building.

Again, that is what we heard.

I can't confirm or promise.

I can only say what was discussed.

>> I will follow up on what was discussed tomorrow morning.

But we have reviewed this thoroughly.

And there is no way to redo the wiring in this building.

So I mean that's one of the difficulties that we see there, is that it will not have, the children would not have access to computers and to smart boards, and as the principal explained to us, that would require really changing curriculum for these kindergarten kids.

I think my lady can speak to that more in terms of her professional view of that.

>> Thank you.

>> We want the children to be fully prepared when they go into first grade.

So changing the curriculum, they're not going to be able to keep up with the rest of the students.

We need to be very much conscience about what are the requirements for mathematics and language arts and it is part of the curriculum that they need to have those smart boards and they need to use computers.

Especially for the math.

>> Okay.

Thank you.

>> Tonight is not a discussion about curriculum.

But I would say that there are teachers in the room and I'm sure you don't need a smart board or a computer to actually do your best teaching that a smart board or a computer is a tool to help you do your job.

We were told today that those tools may be not a smart board but projectors are definitely in the rooms now.

Again, saint Teresa's is functioning right now.

As a school.

So it has been deemed by the DOE as suitable and functional.

So I don't want to get into curriculum.

We love our principals.

We respect our principals.

Certainly respect our principal on the panel and.

>> Former principal.

Superintendent.

>> Once a principal always a principal.

Thank you.

>> Panel member norm.

>> I would like to make my comments when I vote, if that's okay.

>> Sure.

>> Yes.

>> Are there any additional comments from -- okay.

Since we do not have any proposals from the remaining boroughs we'd like to move to take the vote.

Madam Secretary could you please note any recuse sales.

>> No recusals for this proposal.

>> Thank you.

Please raise your hand if you vote to approve the resolution regarding the proposed temporary re-sighting and co-location of a portion of PS 11 Kathryn Fallon 30 Q 11 with PS one 71 Peter 171 Peter G van else 30 Q 171 and building Q 171 for the 20142015 school year and proposed temporary re-siting location of a portion of Fallon Q 11 with 30 QDB new building Q three three nine 339 for the 2015-16 and 16-17 school years.

Raise your hand all those in favor.

In favor.

>> Seven.

>> Seven.

>> Seven yes, yeah,.

>> Those opposed?

>> Two.

>> Abstain?

>> One.

>> The measure passes.

Panel member Norm Fructer.

>> I want to say two things.

One is that I took this position because of my enormous respect not only for the mayor but for our chancellor.

And there's a certain amount of trust that you have to put in the people who are running the school system if you actually agree to serve to support them.

And my respect for Carmine Fiorina knows no bounds, and if she says that they have, that under her the DOE has done everything they can to come up with the best possible decision, that influences my vote.

enormously.

But the other thing that I think is something that Lori said I think you said stinks or something like this.

I was a school board president in district 15 in Brooklyn for 10 years, and we met situations like this all the time, and they are the direct result of this school system being starved for resources, especially for capital resources to build schools and to repair schools and we should not be having discussions like this in New York City, one.

Richest cities in the world.

We should not be pitting communities against each other.

We should not bus kids three miles even if the teachers are going to ride on the bus with them.

We've inherited a situation that makes us constantly make Solomon's choices about which is the best possible solution.

And Lori's right, it stinks.

>> Thank you.

>> I'd also like to say that all decisions are difficult.

But the one commitment I make, and thanks Norm for the endorsement, is that we will do everything we can possible and beyond to ensure this is done smoothly, carefully and in consideration for the entire community.

So any assistance you need from us you will have.

>> Thank you, everyone.

There is the next voting item on the agenda is the consideration of the proposed amendments to chancellor's regulation C 30.

Madam secretary could you please present the resolution.

>> The resolution is entitled resolution regarding approval of proposed amendments to chancellor regulation C 30 regulation governing the selection assignment and appointment of principals and assistant principals.

>> Thank you, Madam Secretary.

Is there a motion to adopt this resolution?

>> So moved.

>> Thank you.

Is there a second?

>> Second.

>> Thank you.

We did public comments we'll now hear comments from any panel members, are there any questions or concerns regarding the proposed amendments to chancellor regulation C 30?

Yes panel member Aezora Cleveland.

>> I would only ask that we not wait until the last minute to make sure that parents are informed as the stages for progression for the children are taken into consideration.

Waiting until June is too late to tell a parent that oh, well, over time the child was not succeeding.

Parent teacher conferences that are taking place for two minutes currently is not enough time to prepare a parent to get their child in better shape.

>> I appreciate what you're saying.

But this chancellor's reg that we're voting on today is not social promotion.

This is the one where you need to have seven years as a pedagog in order to be a principal.

I appreciate your comments but this one is important because I feel that not everyone can be a principal we need to have had some experience before we take on that very, very high functioning job.

So this to me is a special pet of mine and I'm thrilled to see how everybody's going to vote.

>> Excellent.

>> Any other comments?

>> Panel member Fred Baptiste.

>> Thank you Madam Chair.

Chancellor, I think one of the comments we did receive during public commentary that was interesting was regarding so is the experience strictly with regards to teaching or pedagogy.

>> It's just that right now there are actually there's a movement in this country to put like someone who is in business as a principal without any educational experience.

And my major concern is that if a principal's going to turn a school around people have to feel you're credible in what you're asking them to do.

So some experience in the classroom, be it as a guidance counselor, anything that takes place in a school I see as pedagogical experience.

And I do take what she said about college experience and will put it in there.

>> Okay.

>> Okay.

>> Panel member Deborah Dillingham.

>> I think this is a wonderful step in the C 30.

We are constantly reviewing the C 30.

I guess one comment that I would have, having been in a school building for many years and listening to teachers is that teachers do value teachers.

And perhaps as a second step you may eventually evaluate the number of years of teaching.

But this is a wonderful first step.

There are other areas as we go forward with the C 30 that were discussed prior to your getting your appointment.

And there are discussions where we're revisiting that with CPAC and creating a panel to go back and look at some of those.

>> Thank you.

>> Panel member Fred Baptiste.

No.

Are there any panel member Laura SIGman.

>> Want to be clear maybe more for the record that this minimum pedagogical requirement is just to get sort of in the pool and to get your resum seen and read.

That in reality anybody who is up for principal may very well have seven or eight years and somebody felt it was not the right seven or eight years.

I prefer somebody with 10 years who was a teacher --

>> This is minimum to get into the pool.

I think it's what's being referred to here who makes that selection and how that selection is made is for a whole other day.

>> Panel member.

>> I wanted to make a comment this is a great proposal.

I really am very happy to hear the DOE is taking into this consideration, how much a principal , they know how to treat their teachers and students and have the experience for an environment that promotes education.

So thank you.

>> Thank you.

So before we vote Madam Secretary please note recusals on the resolution.

>> No recusals.

>> Panel members raise your hand if you approve chancellor C 30 regulation governing the selection assignment and appointment of principals and assistant principals.

>> It's unanimous in favor.

>> Thank you.

So the final voting item on tonight's agenda requiring a vote is the consideration of contracts.

I will now ask that contracts committee chair Fred Baptiste summarize for the panel if contract committee's recommendations regarding the contracts listed on tonight's agenda.

>> Thank you Madam Chair.

The contracts committee met on the evening of Monday April 7th and reviewed the contracts being considered by the panel tonight I met with contracts committee members.

At the meeting the committee unanimously recommended approval of contract items 1 through 10 and 12 through 22 to be considered for approval.

The contract committee recommends that contract items 1 through 10 and 12 through 22 be considered in four resolutions.

Resolution one will consider contract items 1 through 3.

Resolution 2 will consider contract items 4 through seven.

Resolution 3 will consider contract Item No.

8 and resolution 4, contract items 9 through 10 and 12 through 22.

>> Thank you, panel member Baptiste.

Madam Secretary, please present the resolution set forth by the contracts committee.

>> The resolutions are entitled resolution regarding approval of contracts and as indicated by panel member Baptiste.

The first resolution contains contract items 1 through 3.

The second resolution contains contract items 4 through 7.

The third resolution contains contract item eight.

The fourth resolution contains contracts items 9 through 10 and 12 through 22.

Panel members please note if you wish to vote differently for a specific contract item within a single resolution, you may do so.

Simply signal to me when the vote is called for the relevant resolution and indicate the item number within that resolution and your corresponding vote.

>> Thank you, Madam Secretary.

Is there a motion to adopt the four resolutions being considered tonight?

>> So moved.

>> Is there a second.

>> Second.

>> Thank you.

Do panel members have questions or concerns regarding resolution one containing contract items one through three?

No, we'll now vote on the resolution.

But first Madam Secretary could you please note any recuse sales related to these contract items.

>> No recusal for this resolution.

>> Thank you Madam Secretary.

Raise your hand if you approve of resolution contract item one through three.

>> Eight in favor.

>> All those opposed?

>> No members in opposition.

>> Abstain?

>> There's one abstention.

I'm missing a vote.

Did everyone vote?

Did everybody vote?

>> One more time all in favor, raise your hands high.

>> All opposed?

>> Number of abstentions, just one more time.

>> Thank you.

It's nine in favor, one abstention.

>> Do panel members have questions or concerns regarding resolution two, containing contract items four through seven?

If not we'll now vote on the resolution.

Madam Secretary, could you please note any recusals related to these contract items.

>>

>> Hold on one second.

Panel member singman has recused on contract item seven.

>> Please raise your hand if you vote to approve resolution regarding approval of contract items four through seven.

>> Nine in favor.

>> All those opposed?

>> No opposed.

I should note there's one recusal.

Is there anyone abstaining?

Thank you.

I've recorded the vote.

>> Do panel members have questions or concerns regarding resolution 3?

Containing contract item eight we'll now vote on the resolution, Madam Secretary could you please note any recusals related to these contract items.

>> No recusals for this resolution.

>> Thank you Madam Secretary.

Please raise your hand if you vote to approve resolution regarding approval of contract item eight.

>> It's unanimous ten in favor.

>> Thank you.

>> Now do panel members have questions or concerns relating to resolution four contracts nine through ten and 12 through 22?

We'll now vote on the resolution.

Madam Secretary, could you please note any recusals related to these contract items.

>> There are no recusals for this resolution.

I wish to note that panel member norm Fructer would like the abstain from 22.

>> Haze your hand regarding approval of contract items nine through ten and 12 through 22.

>> It's eight in favor, excuse me.

Nine in favor on all matters, eight in favor noting the recusal on contract item 22.

Are there any in opposition?

>> And abstentions?

>> Abstentions.

>> Abstention.

You did vote.

Okay.

>> No, we're not because I'm still missing a vote.

Forgive me everyone.

We're going to do this one more time.

Can I see all in favor on the resolution regarding approval of contract items 9 through ten and 12 through 22.

Noting the resolution on 22 for Mr.

Fructer.

>> We have ten in favor with one recusal on item 22.

No oppositions and no abstentions.

Thank you.

>> Okay.

So that concludes the voting portion.

And our meeting for tonight.

The next regular meeting for the panel for educational policy will be held on Thursday May 29th , 2014, at Murray BerkStrom high school any comments.

>> I'd like to thank the panels I think one of the things here tonight is that this is a new day.

People are being very thoughtful about their decisions and to the degree possible we can inform you ahead of time of all the options and choices we'll continue to do so.

So I want to thank you.

It's not easy to come in the evenings but it's even harder to do your homework during the day.

So thank you.

>> Thank you.

>> Thank you.

[Meeting adjourned] .