

>> Hi, good evening, everybody.

Good evening.

Hi.

We'll actually now begin the public portion of the meeting.

For those now in attendance, we did briefly adjourn for our executive session.

Roll has been called and one member Robert atson is absent.

All other members are present.

As a reminder please note that panel meetings are now being live streamed over the Internet for the convenience of those unable to attend.

And they're recorded and transcript will be posted to the panel website for the panel meeting.

If you did sign up for public comment regarding an issue pertaining to school's personnel we'll ask you to speak to one of the staff members in the audience they'll discuss the matter with you and take down specific information so they can follow up.

So thank you for that.

We'll do roll call again, Madam Secretary.

>> Fred Baptiste.

>> Present.

>> Isaac Carmanani present.

>> Alzora Cleveland.

>> Present.

-DELETE- sneechlt Deborah dimming ham.

dilling ham present.

Kamillah Hanks.

>> Present.

>> Robert Powell.

>> Here.

>> As noted, Mr.

SotoCarron is absent.

>> Amigla.

>> Present.

>> If everyone on the stage could introduce themselves we'll start over on the right.

>> Al freed Lander CIO for Department of Education.

>> David Ross, executive director, contracts and purchasing.

>> My name is Noel Curtis cruise, student panel member.

>> President appointee to the panel.

>> ELzora Cleveland, mayoral appointee.

>> Ruben Diaz appointee to the panel.

>> Deborah dilling ham queen's appointee to the panel.

>> Laura and Vanessa appointee.

>> Carmen chancellor.

>> Chief of staff to the chancellor.

>> Norm, mayorial appointee.

>> Fred Baptiste.
Camillela Hanks appointee.

>> Elizabeth rose acting deputy chancellor for operations.

>> Thank you.
The first order of business this evening will be approving the minutes from the January 29th panel meeting.
Is there a motion to approve the minutes from the January 29th panel meeting.
Thank you panel member Fructer.
Is there a second?

>> Second.

>> Thank you panel member Powell.
~~-DELETE-~~ Please raise your hand if you vote to approve the minutes.

>> It's 11 in favor.
Unanimous.
~~-DELETE-~~

>> Thank you, Madam Secretary.
Chancellor, would you like to share any thoughts with us this evening?

>> Yes.
Every once in a while there's a great public servant that goes above and beyond the call of duty.

Someone that sets an example for all of us, someone that is a model for everything we should emulate.
And this is one of the first PEP meetings in many, many years where that public servant will no longer be present.
Deputy chancellor Kathleen Grim passed away last week, and her funeral was on Saturday.
And this is a woman who did above and beyond public service to every student in New York City regardless of what school they sat in, what seat they sat in and who their parents might be.
And I think for all of us on the panel, because she was an integral part of the decisions that were made all the time, that this is just something that I felt had to go on public record and be said on behalf of us, because she was one of a kind, and we will never see her like again.
So that's my public comment.
Thank you.

>> Thank you, chancellor.
Before we get underway with the voting portion of the meeting I will say a few words about public comment.
And rules of decorum in 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 allotted time.
I do ask in respect to your fellow speakers to really stick to your two minutes.
We will call speakers up in groups of five.
So if you have a green ticket, please proceed to the aisle on my far right.
Once your number is called and if you have a yellow ticket please proceed to the aisle to my far left once your number is called.
And there is a clock.
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 that speakers will know when their time is up.
And at the conclusion of each speaker's time we will move on to the next speaker.
And 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.
So the first voting item on the agenda is consideration of the CSA agreement with the city.
Madam Secretary, could you please present the resolution.

>> The resolution is entitled resolution regarding agreement made and entered between the city of New York and the council of supervisors

and administrators local 1 ASPFAA fchlt lchlt krchlt AFL-CIO.

>> Thank you, Madam Secretary.

Is there a motion to adopt this resolution?

Thank you panel member Fructer.

Thank you panel member Cleveland.

The panel will now hear public comment.

from any CC members and elected officials present regarding any items for vote this evening.

Following CEC members and elected officials, comment period we will then call public comment for the CSA agreement and public comment for all other agenda items will be done during the appropriate periods throughout the meeting according to the order in which items are listed on the agenda.

So Madam Secretary.

>> Yes, we will hear from the elected officials first person is Pamela Johnson here from CE C 11.

>> I'm not an elected official politician.

I'm with the CEC.

Hi, my name is Pamela Johnson I'm from the Bronx CEC 11.

And I'm here in reference to the proposal to co-locate in X 144.

I want to get clear some housekeeping.

There are some legal issues that you need to address.

SUNY posted on their website that the hearing was cancelled.

I sent to each and every member on the panel today everything that I have in my packet and some of you have it on the dais as well.

If you're next to another neighbor that has it you can take a look.

They cancelled the hearing on the 9th.

And also on your DOE website it states that the hearing location is in Queens.

When the hearing location was in the Bronx.

So no hearing, there's no reason why there should be a PEP vote.

Having said that, if you look in the packet on the side, there are some information of e-mailing back and forth with the department of planning.

We tried to come up with a date.

There were dates that we submitted, there was dates that they submitted.

There was only one date that was common to both lists and that was on February 11th.

On February 11th, on February 9th they decided to have a hearing.

There were no CEC members.

There were no parents from one 44.

144.

-DELETE- I asked for the sheet.

They said that we would have to foil it.

So the reason why I'm here is basically because of the trailers in the school.

So in our school district.

We are the second highest New York City district that has the most trailers in it.

Now, for us, and with chancellor Forena you have also made it clear you wanted to get rid of those trailers in five years.

However, in the list that just came out district 11 is not listed on that list for removal.

One of the biggest things is the D 75.

trailer, which is 11 X seven 23.

723.

-DELETE- They are -- I've sent you pictures that structure built in 1969 they've had water leaks.

They've had electrical fires.

The kids have to go outside their unit to go around to another building for lunch every day.

It has been record cold temperatures this year.

So I just want to let you see that and then my condolences to Kathryn Grim and her passing.

>> Thank you.

Councilmember Helen Rosenthal.

I'm sorry.

Elizabeth, did you want to respond briefly?

>> I'd just like to clarify some information of both for Ms.

Johnson and the members of the panel.

When we hold a joint public hearing for the site-d--ing of a charter school.

Frequently the authorizer also schedules its hearing for facility approval.

at the same time.

So in this case, it appears that SUNY originally planned to hold its hearing simultaneously with our hearing and chose to cancel theirs.

The joint public hearing is set by the Department of Education.

It is not.

SUNies to cancel or not cancel we accordingly never sent out any notice of cancellation of the hearing.

As it relates to the page on the DOE website that noted the location in Queens, I've been assured that in fact this update that incorrectly placed the hearing in Queens was made after the hearing had in fact taken place and that the information of the hearing was correct in all of the notices that were sent to families, shared with schools, CECs and was correct on the panel for education al policy website.

>> As far as the TCU issue, Elizabeth.

>> So the building thatMs.

Johnson is referring to is not what we refer to as a TCU.

TCUs are two classroom buildings.

They're typically raised up on cinderblock.

You walk up a few steps and they truly look like sort of the buildings that are modular homes.

The building that this district 75 program is housed in is what we refer to as a mini building.

It is a much larger structure.

It is on grade.

Built on a slab.

It has ten classrooms.

Administrative space.

Bathrooms and so forth.

And we in fact have found in our colleagues in the division for specialized instruction have found that these are very conducive environments for district 75 students and sometimes for other schools as well.

And that work very effectively in creating a small home environment for these kids.

>> I want to say also that we have already eliminated 41 TCUs and anticipate to have up to 87 TCUs removed by June of this year. So we're working as fast as we can, obviously, one of the conditions for for TCUs, which are the trailers is when we have swing space as we build new schools.

But it's certainly something in the capital plan.

Something that we're moving to do as quickly as possible.

>> And the mini building that this program is in is not included in our plans for removal of all TCUs.

These mini buildings will stay.

>> Now we'll hear from councilmember Rosenthal.

>> Thank you so much.

This is actually the first PEP meeting I've been to as a councilmember.

So I'm so glad to see you here, chancellor.

Always a pleasure to meet with you and chat with you.

I always appreciate it.

So thank you for the work that you're doing.

But I'm here tonight as chair of the contracts committee, with grave concerns about the five-year contract that could extend to nine years with the custom computer specialists that you'll be voting on tonight. And while I certainly don't want to jeopardize any federal funding and certainly would not ask you to do anything that would put that federal money in jeopardy.

I would wonder if it's possible to hit the pause button on this one just for a week or two, if that's possible, given your time constraints.

There's so many questions about this contract from the surface.

I mean, I don't have the information that you have.

I know some information was posted online last night or this morning.

But from the outside, it looks like a over five-year period, one point one billion dollar contract \$1.1 billion contract that was initially let that then was negotiated down to have that size, 600 some million dollars.

I just can't for the life of me understand what would result in such a drop without reducing the scope of the contract at which point I think there were vendors that originally bid on the contract that would want an opportunity to bid again it's such a big nugget that -- and it sort of one in what's looking like several contracts that seem to have changes in the 11th hour.

It raises concerns.

And while it was reported that I was calling for an emergency hearing by the council, we won't be doing that, but we will be having a hearing jointly with the education committee -- sorry -- about the nature of, about opportunities for more transparency with these contracts.

So I don't know if you want to say anything now.

I know you're set to vote tonight.

I just would ask you to either give more transparency, give out a little more information about the nature of the reduction and the size or some additional information.

>> I'm happy to answer and then I would ask either Hal or David to respond.

We had an open meeting yesterday.

Actually there were many people with your concerns.

Gail Brewer president being one of them we fully acknowledged the issues and she was totally satisfied with the questions that were raised and how they were answered.

I want to say I'm going forward to have any kind of these contract conversations with anyone from the city council.

But in this particular case, because of the issues we did a lot of due diligence, went back two and three times, I and really feel very confident we're in a good place to go forward.

But again like I said when Gail called and other people called we invited them to the contracts meeting and we discussed a lot of these things with them.

David.

>> I'll gladly chime in and I think after I'm done speaking to some of the points that you raised, councilmember, I think I'll ask our CIO to he about the specific programs and benefits of what we're doing, which I think is very important here.

So the contract in question it would be enormously problematic for us to delay.

We're trying to make sure, we spent a lot of time in the past year to make sure that people touching this procurement knows how to do an E rate procurement which leverages federal funds.

125 million of the 600 million odd dollars spent on this program will be federal dollars.

And we would look at least the first year's about 25 million of that if we don't get this contract in place by it's around the third week of March.

So we really are up against terrible deadlines on this one.

And a couple of other key things, and I'll answer all questions that you'd like in private or in this meeting if you want to go further.

But we did do a competitive bid.

We did it by Burrough giving smaller businesses to bid on this.

Since it was a bid, the committee, the people who evaluated the bids had to do it based on the bids that were submitted.

And they actually selected the firm that we're going with for all five boroughs.

Because they have the strongest bid in each one of those boroughs individually and collectively.

We were not thrilled with the pricing even have made that selection among the choices and spent a lot of effort trying to get the prices down.

We were successful.

We have a cost price unit in my office that negotiates contracts and actually we did not give away anything in terms of what the expectations and requirements are of custom.

That drop in pricing is very real and well documented based on what they bid, when they responded to the public bid and what the actual contract is going to be.

So we really didn't give anything away at the table.

As the chancellor said, we need to do better in terms of getting notice out to everybody in advance of these procurements, but this is a contract that needs to happen so we don't lose the ability to leverage these federal funds.

>> We should take this off line.

And so you don't need to explain to me why it's an important substantive project and that's not my question nor to impede the loss of federal funding.

I chaired a hearing jointly with councilmember Crowley and gentilly about the 911 contract which doubled in size over the period of a couple of years due to mismanagement and that was really commissioner Peters final conclusion was it was a complex project that had multiple agencies involved, with complex technology, and that's why the whole budget ended up doubling from one 1 billion to two billion dollars. \$2 billion.

You know, to hear in the 11th hour.

2000000000.

~~—DELETE—~~ You know, to hear in the 11th hour.

And I understand that president Burrough was at the hearing.

This doesn't pass the smell test.

I'd like to work with you about it specifically because I can feel this budget doubling by the end of the five years.

There's just -- we need to have a clear roadmap between the 1.1 million drop to six hundred 600,000 and be able to monitor those

changes and the implementation of this project over time to verify that it's not going to creep right back up. And I'll tell you, the mayor has put into place a steering committee that meets monthly to go over the 911 contract. I'd love to hear assurances from DOE about this contract and other ones so we don't land in the same boat. It's very disconcerting.

>> We'll be happy to follow up with you and any members of the council who want more information. We'll get back to you.

>> Thank you very much.

>>

>> CEC member Sheryl Smith from CEC 11.

>> Hi, good evening, I'm Sheryl Smith. I'm from CEC 11.

I'm the recording secretary and just happen to be in the building right next door to that D 75, not a trailer that you mentioned, I want to know when was the last time you visited or actually took a walk in that building.

Actually, we did that with the principal, and the classrooms that you mention, they're not warm enough to even have a student in, especially in the weather that we've been having.

This has been a concern for the parents of the general ed who shares the cafeteria with the students from next door because they come over for lunch and breakfast in the rain and in the snow.

Through the ice and they walk all the way around the building to an entrance because of how the building was built to get inside to get to that place.

, which is really, really something that upsets my parents and upsets the parents of the D 75 students.

We've been in conversation with Gloria Persino from the D 75 council and we're all in agreement that this structure either needs to be removed or improved.

We're owed seats in our district.

That's an ideal location for a building to be erected so they'll be able to go back to their building in a comfortable situation and be happy.

Right now, we're not suggesting that you not put the charter in one 44.

144.

We're suggesting that you put our kids there first we have 18 trailers none scheduled for removal, 2014-15 plan none are rescheduled.

Where do we put our kids after we do this.

Do we move these trailers because there's no place to put our kids.

You have to put us first while the charter school now has a present location they can use in interim and then be moved afterwards.

We have to start thinking about our kids first.
If we can't do that here, then the next step will be to each parent in that building will file a lawsuit in support of the kids in the building next door because the kids in the building next door are asking why do they have to go outside in the cold and I have nothing to tell them other than Ashley didn't do her due diligence she didn't engage the parents.

There was no conversation.

There was no meeting set up.

Any edge gaugement we had with Ashley Davis at the CEC office was regarding zoning activity of the two new schools coming on online. Nothing to do with one 44.

144.

-DELETE- [Applause].

>> Thank you.

-DELETE- CEC member Marilyn Sepada from CEC 9.

Good evening I'm the president for CE C9.

This letter was addressed from a self-contained class that my son attends and addressed to the policy member we want to support equitable funding of community school by voting no on the proposal grade expansion of the young women's leadership school of the Bronx 12s and school building one 17.

117.

-DELETE- The community participation at the panel for education policy meeting on January 29th, 2015 at Taft camp has inspired us, especially the spirited debate around charter schools, co-locations and building usage.

Although we hope that you would have voted no to expand 12's charter, chancellor Fiori flchld na suggestion to postpone the decision until March gave us time to be organized.

Instead of being held in March we have learned that the decision will be made here tonight in your February meeting.

This disappointing news was worse send by learning that it would be held at the high school of fashion industry so far downtown from our community that it would be so nearly impossible for the parents and families of our district to attend.

In response to this adversity we have it has created problem solving skills by sharing our concerns which have detailed in our letter of January 21st, 2015 with community leaders.

Also we have read in public comment analysis of January 28th, 2015, and have written a few questions that we'd like to consider before voting.

The panel has a copy of the letters and the questions are here.

Please read the questions before voting.

>> Thank you.

CE C9 member Charles Lee.

>> Good morning Charles Lee I'm not speaking as a CEC member I'm

speaking for a parent I'm for expansion of it wills in one 17.
117.

-DELETE- That's what I'm here for.
Get closer?

To me, I think expansion is a good idea.
Our girls work hard to get where they are today.
We don't want to take over -- we don't want to take over 117 we want
to share one 17.
117.

My daughter, we started twills three years ago.
My daughter came from a public school, one 67.
167.

-DELETE- And we came to twills.
On the leadership of Ms.
Marota and Eisenberg it's survived and strived forward.
And our girls work hard to get to where they are today.
And I would like to see twills be expanded to the ninth grade.
Like I said, we don't want to take over 117, we want to share it.
And that's all I really have to say.
I thank you.

-DELETE-
>> Thank you.
[Applause].

>> CEC member Cilya green.
She's coming.

>> Good evening.
My name is Cilya green.
First vice president.
I'm here to talk on behalf of our organizations.
The first one is in, is going into district 17, our school is P three
96.
396.
And there's a proposal before you to site two sections of classes in a
school in D 17 at PS one 81.
181.

-DELETE- Hopefully PS 181 will be able to be joined by the D 75
program in September and we're looking forward to this.
I'm particularly fond of this idea because I live in this region.
And in our region, in the 20 years of my children going to school and
all four of them are D 75, I've never had a placement that is within
walking distance of my house.
And most of the D 75 parents have not.
That's why bussing is crazy for us.
I am hoping that you consider the fact that they're currently 173
students receiving services in district 17 through D 75 programs.
However, there are 672 children currently wait listed for placement
for D 75 services that live in that same district.
So these seats are sorely needed.

And it's been a long time coming.

So I'm really hoping that you consider the circumstances of the children in the community.

And our D 75 children live in this community.

So thank you for the consideration on that.

The other school I'll speak about is a school my children attend, which is at K zero three three 033 in the building in Brooklyn at Tompkins avenue.

I'm both the PTA president for P 368 Star Academy and on the SLT.

Our building has three schools that share, well, four schools actually that share the building.

P 368 K, urban environment, which is a middle school, and foundations academy, along with success academy.

Let me preface this by saying that no one is opposed in this particular proposal to having success have a fifth grade.

So we welcome that idea.

What is in question is that when the proposal is set for expansion to a middle school, someone would have to move from the building.

Because they propose for 27 rooms.

They're not even ten rooms available right now, let alone 27 rooms.

And I do feel it would be a crime for the only zoned middle school, there is one singular zoned middle school in the whole of district 14 and that's the urban environment.

It would really be a crime for these kids to feel like they don't have a space.

It's wonderful kids are cute.

They're five, six, seven, eight, nine, but they all grow up and we have to still educate them.

We have to not decide that they can't be educated any further.

The children in that building have had to move every single year.

They've not been on the same floor for two years yet.

And if this proposal goes through, maybe not them, but one of our schools would definitely have to move out of the building.

-DELETE- Either consolidating the D 75 program into another site and unfortunately we are one of the few D 75 programs that actually serves kids that live in the community.

Some of our kids live across the street.

So they're not bussed.

And that's one of the great things about our program.

So I'm hoping that when you look at these proposals you consider all parents.

Because there is a right to choice.

But it doesn't necessarily mean one person's choice can affect another person's.

Thank you.

>> We're going to ask the panel now if there are any questions or concerns regarding the CSA agreement.

No questions.

Thank you.

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

>> There are no recusals for this resolution.

>> Thank you.

Panel members please raise your hand if you vote to approve the resolution regarding agreement made and entered between the city of New York and the council of supervision and administrators local 1 AFSA, AFL-CIO.

>> 11 in favor it's autisms.

unanimous.

~~-DELETE-~~

>> Next chancellor regulation A-four 13.
413.

~~-DELETE-~~ Could you present the resolution.

>> Resolution entitled resolution regarding chancellor's resolution A 14 use of cell phones and other devices in schools.

>> Thank you Madam Secretary.

Is there a motion to move?

>> Yes.

>> Is there a second.

>> Thank you panel member hairngs.

Hanks.

~~-DELETE-~~ No one signed up for public comment on the chancellor's recommendation, we'll now move to vote.

For questions.

Are there any questions right now from panel members regarding chancellor's regulation A four 413 from panel members?

~~-DELETE-~~ We'll now vote on the resolution please raise your hand if you vote to approve the chancellor resolution A 413 use of cell phones and other electronic devices in schools.

11 in favor.

It's unanimous.

Next item on agenda DA is consideration of the proposals for significant changes in school utilization.

Madam Secretary, could you please present the eight resolutions.

>> First resolution is entitled the proposed grade expansion of the young women's leadership school of the Bronx, 09 X 568 with existing school IS one 17.

117.

Joseph H wade academies 09 X one 17.

117.

-DELETE- In school building X 117 beginning in the 2015/2016 school year.

The second resolution is entitled the proposed temporary partial reciting and co-location of PS 46, Edgar Allan Poe ten X 046 with Thomas Girada 10 X 045 and building 0 X 45 for four years beginning in the 201516 school year.

The third resolution is entitled the proposed opening and co-location of the Bronx charter school for better learning, too, 84 X to be determined with junior high school 144, Michael Angelo.

11 X one 44.

144.

-DELETE- And Palo gardens middle school 11 X 566 and building X 144 beginning in the 20152016 school year.

The fourth resolution is entitled the proposed expansion of success academy charter school bed sti 184 K 367 and building K 03 three for the school for urban environment.

14 K 300 foundations academy and the district five program 75 K three six eight beginning in 368 beginning in the 20152016 school year.

The fifth resolution is entitled the proposed opening and co-location of a new site of an existing district 75 school P 395, 75 K 936 PS 181 Brooklyn and K-181, building K-181 beginning in 20 1516.

The sixth resolution is proposed location of the high school grades of achievement 85 K five 538 and high school grades of achievement first east New York 84 K 358.

A With existing schools IS 347 school of humanities, 32 K 347 and IS 349 math science and tech 32, K three 49.

349.

-DELETE- In building K-111, beginning in 2015-16.

The second resolution is entitled proposed reciting and location of the global school with P S 96.

Joseph Lenzetta 04 M 96.

And building 0 M 96 beginning in the 201516 school year and eighth is entitled proposed grade expansion of the school for technology.

And 25 Q 60 from seven to 12 to a six to 12 school and building Q eight nine one beginning in 891 beginning in the 20156016 school year.

>> Is there a motion to adopt the eight resolutions being considered tonight.

>> Thank you panel member Sigman.

>> Is there a second.

>> Panel member Powell.

The panel will allow time for public comment on these proposals.

Madam Secretary.

>> Can we have speakers with green tickets, we'll do numbers one through ten, please proceed to my right, your left and speakers with yellow tickets one through ten to my left and your right, if you could

start to line up, we'll begin public comment on this section.
And DOE officials will be present to collect your tickets.
Green ticket one, please.

>> Good evening, my name is Monica Langman parent of a wonderful young lady Michelle scholar at academy 1 I want to tell you about my experience few years ago when she was pre-K aged I filled out a number of applications and participated in a number of meetings trying to get her into a public school.

What I was told was that only 80 percent of the kids at that time were going to actually make it into pre-K.

And my daughter wasn't one of them.

And so I chose a private school option.

And it was not a great option.

I encountered many challenges with the administration.

My daughter was having challenges in the classroom.

I was getting calls, multiple times a week, and I began to wonder if my child was a problem.

I had a friend who had a child in the success academy system in cobble hill every time I talked about the issues I had she talked about all the wonderful things happening with her son.

So I applied and ultimately she was accepted at 1 and I was concerned and I talked to the principal when she initially entered I said my child might be asked out, didn't know if she would be successful I wanted her to try.

I found out she's not being challenged enough she's in a classroom with a group of teachers who care.

They're active.

They are engaging, they are communicative, they're professional.

They talk to me about strategies.

She's Excelling and everyone that I encounter in the administration with success academy is amazing.

They are professional, they seek out solutions.

My daughter is doing extremely well and she loves school and she's in the first grade.

So maybe some might think that this isn't really my issue now about the fifth grade actually having space but this is a home for her.

And it's a home for me.

And I want her to stay and I want her to be able to grow and blossom and become a productive citizen in this city.

And she needs that space.

The people who are the children, the scholars who are in the third grade need the opportunity to continue.

And so I ask that you vote in favor of.

Thank you.

>> Thank you.

>> Yellow ticket one.

Shhh.

Please.

>> Good evening my name is Leah Perez I'm the proud parent of a fourth grade bedside one student and I'm here to support my daughter because I'm very concerned she might not have the opportunity to attend fifth grade in my district 14.

We live in district 14.

We talk about kids that are not being served district 14 in public schools what about my child my child's also part of this city and my child deserves an opportunity to continue to blossom in 1.

I want you tonight to consider not only her but all the other kids in the same class with her.

Not to deny the children the opportunity to continue to grow and don't take their dreams away from them.

My daughter is dreaming from now attending Lehigh University because that's the first school she visited.

She has this in mind and I will feel very sorry if you guys deny this to her.

Please tonight consider giving those kids the opportunity because they are the same city kids as the ones in public school.

I had to make the choice to take her out of public school because by the time she was six years old she had attended two different public schools that had failed my daughter's education.

My daughter got to 1 without knowing how to read or write within three months while she was there she was reading and writing at school level.

Taking this opportunity from them just because of politics or whatever people's ideas have I don't think it's fair to the children.

Don't think of the children being anybody's enemies support them to fight for them and consider them.

Don't take their dreams away from them.

Thank you.

>> Shhh.

>> Green ticket number two.

>> Good night panel.

My name is Melissa Livingstone, I'm a parent at academy 1.

Where do I start.

I'd like to start by saying I'm a little hurt when I hear our children and our schools.

As a New Yorker, as someone who has lived here all my life, am I not a New Yorker, am I not part of our schools, our children, because I choose to put my son in a charter school?

Are we different?

I feel like I have leprosy.

It's just mindboggling to me how there's this separation and there shouldn't be.

This morning on our way to school, my son says to me: He goes mommy

when you come home I know it's going to be late because you have a meeting to go to can we go online and look up universities because I want to study, I want to be a scientist.

I said Godwind what field of science do you want to go into I don't know yet mommy but that's what I want to do I want to start looking for now.

For Christmas my son's only gift on his list was a chess board so he can join the chess club.

he chess club.

This is what it means to me to be a success academy parent.

I don't have to worry about Jordans, I don't of to worry about Xboxes, I don't have to worry about these things.

I have to worry about books.

I have to worry about chess boards.

He's teaching me how to play chess I'm teaching him how to play checkers.

I can't tell you -- I really can't -- the only thing I can really do is say come and see what it's like in our schools.

That's all I can say.

The proof is in the pudding.

Forget the numbers.

Just take a day, take an hour, look into any one of those classrooms, speak to any one of those children, see what really goes on and you get a clear view of why we're all here tonight.

You get a clear view.

I'm not scared anymore when I worry about our future.

Because when I'm sitting on the train in the buses and hear the children and the conversations that they're carrying on, I'm nervous.

I'm like where are our future doctors and leaders, where are they.

I know for me and my family they're in success academy schools.

And I am proud to be unwf those parents and I beg you to please, please do the right thing.

>> Thank you.

>> Yellow number two.

>> Shh please.

We need to listen to the next speaker.

>> Good evening panel.

My name is Vanessa va less.

less proud parent of this young boy here named Johnny Ri vechld ro.

We attend and we're part of a great family at 1.

We're here today to take a stand for our school to continue and not only that but to expand.

We must continue great education.

Yes, you know, there are other children in the school, but you know what, they're a little old er, they're independent, where if they have to travel and if my son in the future must travel to success high

school, he will.

Because that's where I want him to stay.

That's why I'm here taking a stand today.

We must acknowledge that this is a great school, a great network, and not only that, these are great kids with great passing scores.

It's sad to say, my son is not a part of 143,000 failing children.

And I emphasize this at every hearing, at every part I can, because I'm going to keep continue to take that stand, and as much as it takes I will stand up here and please and beg as much pleading as I must do is to please take note that let's look at the facts here.

These children are passing, these children are great.

The teachers are great.

We have great families.

And we need to expand and try to loosen our ties and kick off our heels and realize the truth here that we must take, do what's right for the kids, which are our future.

A lot of these children here in this city, they're not doing well and we're all debating and we're all going at each other's throat for great schools.

And it's sad.

It's very sad that we're being limited as parents we shouldn't have to be forced to go to a failing school.

We also have parents that travel from a different borough because we're in a great school.

So, please, think about that.

We must continue to expand.

We must continue to stay in our great family and our great school, not only that, but in our great community where we're at so that we can expand and I will emphasis and continue to say that.

>> Thank you.

>> Thank you.

>> Green ticket number three.

>> Hello everybody.

My name is Camora Banks from 2.

I want to say we should have a fourth grade because there's enough space.

And if there's space, we should get it.

>> Next speaker on the yellow side.

>> Hi, my name is Allen Boyen I'm here with my son at greater success academy 2.

I'll give him the mic, see what he has to say.

>> Success academy is important to me because you get a lot of information so you can go to college and get a job.

And this is what we need more space.
For example, we have reading, writing, SR and CRM, dance parties,
recess.
And chess and I'm one of the chess members.

>> Next speaker, green ticket.

>> Hi, good evening everyone.

My name is collar rah Rodriguez and I'm the proud parent of a
kindergarten scholar at 2.

All I want to say I could stand here all night and speak about how
blessing it's been for my son to go to 2.

My son loves reading.

When I first took my son to that school, he didn't know how to read.
Even though as much as I try to teach him how to read, he didn't know
anything.

Now, my son can read five and six books at night.

Sometimes he goes, mom, can we read one more, can we read one more,
I'm like no baby we've got to go to school the next day.

So for me as a parent to see that my son is loving to read, it's a
blessing.

I think it's a blessing in disguise, and I encourage you to think
about that, to give the child an opportunity to grow, and to move
forward.

So when I hear that my child might not have the opportunity to
continue into success academy, I get really sad and sometimes I want
to cry.

Please, guys, I urge you all you guys tonight to give the opportunity
for them to give them the space that they deserve so they can continue
moving and growing.

I thank all the success academy teachers for the wonderful job they've
been doing, because learning has become not just a learning process,
but also a fun process.

They do all these beads in the morning so they can encourage them to
come early and to come in time.

The golden tickets that they give them so that they can, they make it
fun for them.

So please keep that in mind tonight and let's have a future for the
kids to grow thank you so much.

>> Yellow ticket next speaker.

>> Hi, everybody, my name is Mia Heath.

I'm from bedside 2.

And I just want to say we need space for our middle schools because
people want to stay in charter school because they're the best school.
Because when I was in kindergarten, I was on a level B.

I was on a level A.

And then I just moved up to a level B.

And then when I took my reading test I skipped five levels.

So we should keep my school and please give us the space.

>> Thank you.

Next speaker on the green side.

>> Hi, good evening.

My name is miss Lear.

I'm a proud parent and February member of success member.

When I say family member because we're all one family regardless if we're bestsighed 1 or 2 Harlem success we're all one family.

When I speak for me I'm speaking for every child.

I live in Carnesi bookman we get at 5:00 in the morning to make it to school at 7:15.

One first time when we started it was overwhelming, yeah, but as I saw my child learning and the teacher eager to learn and I'm up at 5:00

I'm ready because I know this is what my child needs and this is what we need in general.

My son I have a son in a failing, he was in a failing public school.

One of the 140,000 kids who were in the third grade not reading only on the first grade level.

I had to pull him out and put him in the charter school and now he is excelling.

Even my daughter was teaching him she's in the first grade teaching him how to read.

It's so sad that he slipped through the cracks.

And now that I put him in a charter school he's excelling in the fifth grade skipped two grades.

So you have no idea how successful, God, I can't talk I'm so emotional.

Success academy is such a blessing, I don't even remember going to school where I even met teachers who were just so smart and they're just on it and they catch the problem when they see a problem here, they fix it.

And I'm like okay you need to get on top this and they push your kids from the beginning to the end, and please, please, please do not take this opportunity away from all of these kids.

Thank you and have a good evening.

>> Next speaker, yellow.

>> Good evening, panel.

My name is Melissa Brooks.

I'm a founding parent at success academy 1.

Two children, first grader and fourth grader a little bit about them.

Ma Kayla my oldest has been at success academy since the first grade. She was skipped.

She's been pushed to excel at every single level.

My daughter, Malia came in as a kindergarten and within the first two weeks they realized that she was at a high enough level that she could move into first grade.

I remember when she started pre-K at a local traditional public school.
We had to fight to even to get her FMPed because she was already reading.
She was there for a month by that point.
And it's so distressing that these are things that we have to fight for.
We don't have to do that at success academy.
They take a proactive approach to your student child's learning.
They evaluate them at every level.
I don't worry about that kind of stuff.
I don't fight for that kind of stuff.
What I'm fighting for is space.
That's why I'm here.
See all the orange T-shirts, we love this school.
All these parents, we love this school.
Our children love this school.
And we will come after work when we would rather be at home with our children to fight for their education.
I don't want to be here.
I shouldn't have to be here.
Success academy has performed on such a high level that this should not be a question of space.
It should be given to schools that are performing at the very highest level always.
You're here as an educational panel to evaluate the pros and cons of each school, how they are doing, how they're serving the community.
There's not a question that success academy is serving this community.
They are providing excellent education and an environment that is fun and exciting for kids.
And they look forward to it.

>> Thank you.

>> Thank you.

>> Next speaker, green side.
Shhh so we can hear the next speaker.

>> Good evening, panel.
To the chancellor, to all those that are here, forgive me if I'm reading I'm fighting my daughter for the mic a little bit because she wants to say something, too.
I want to say I truly believe the discussion here tonight should not be around whether or not we should co-locate but it should be how we collaborate to make the best use of our space in the schools.
I think that we all understand we don't have a bunch of excess space anywhere but we do have space that's identified and I think that it would make the best interests for all of our kids if we figure out how to use it today, not some day we plan to use it one day but every day

of the year and so that our kids can continue to learn and grow. The last thing that I want to worry about as a parent is whether or not, when I send my child to school she's going to be educated. When Zoie was getting ready to go into kindergarten that was my concern.

And I prayed and prayed when I put the application into success when she was wait listed I was devastated I had to leave work I was so upset on May 22nd, 2013, I got the approval notice, and I went around the office telling everybody and they were just like, okay, she got into kindergarten.

But I felt like she got into college.

You understand.

And I just want to say like just want to touch base as far as reading is concerned, I had to learn my daughter can read and she's always been able to read.

But at success it's not just about whether or not she can read but does she understand what she reads.

It's not just about the fact she can do 24 problems in a minute but does she understand what she's doing whether she does them.

Can is they show her work can she present her work.

It's not about whether or not she does science projects and knows them but can she participate in an convention and show forth her knowledge and understanding.

Tonight as you go and think about this, think about these children that are making efforts and great strides and give us the opportunity to let our children grow.

Don't do anything else that would hinder us and let us grow.

Don't steal our possible.

And don't steal her possible.

And I'll give her the last ten seconds.

>> Don't take away my school.

>> Thank you.

Next speaker on the yellow side.

>> My name is Adori Likua you should let success academy have this space because, because success academy really helps a lot of children read and write and be successful.

>> Thank you.

Next speaker, green side.

>> Good evening, madam chancellor, members of the panel my name is la toy a fields I'm the proud parent of a kindergarten scholar who attends 1.

However, I'm not here to speak on behalf of my child and how well he's doing at success academy, because I believe I spoke on that at the first meeting.

I'm here to speak on behalf of our fourth graders what I call our

Trailblazers.

They're the reason why our school has stayed open for five years. The hard work, sacrifice and dedication of the students and teachers have paved the way for the grades behind them, to make bigger and better strides.

in our school community.

I ask you please do not stop the children from dreaming.

Please propose in the favor of expanding the fifth grade at success academy 1, I guarantee you with the turnout tonight and at the previous meetings, this proposal you will not regret.

in your decision.

Thank you.

Thank you.

>> Sir, were you the parent of the child that spoke previously?

>> Yes.

>> Go ahead, sorry about that.

>> My name is Lasrus I'm the father of Dria.

And she likes the school and charter success don't charge us no fee we don't pay school fee but we pay tax like public school students we shouldn't be begging for space you guys should just give it to us because we are like public schools.

>> Jose Santiago.

I'm not a parent of one of the kids in bedside 1 but I'm here because 40 years ago I was one of those kids.

I was marginally intelligent and articulate because of a couple of lucky breaks.

I don't want these kids to depend on lucky breaks.

I speak -- [no audio] .

at success academy 1.

And I think everybody has the same agenda which is to provide quality education to our children.

And so success academy has done their part.

I don't know about the public school system, because in my district every school is failing.

So I have no choices.

And because of that, I get on a bus in the morning.

I'm like the other lady, 5:00 in the morning I'm up with my kids traveling across town to take my kids so that school because in my district everything is failing.

And I just ask that if you don't want to give us that space at least provide us with quality schools.

Until you can do that, give us the space.

It's only right.

Because our children, after -- who are in fourth grade, next year if

we don't have the space have to go to a school is where you don't lose we have to stay in a zone because we can't choose which school to go to we're stuck in a failing school and it's not fair for our children who have been in a school who has definitely proved that they are helping these children because they have passed -- they have helped my child so so much.

And I just can't think where she would be at next year, because again every school in my district is a failing school.

And I really don't have no choices but success academy.

So when you're thinking about the making your vote and the choices please think about those kids who have no choices but failing schools. Thank you.

>> Green side.

>> I'm Jacqueline Pane proud parent of a third grader at success academy bed-Stuy 1.

I spoke in the last panel I'm like other parents I don't want to go over everything that was already said.

But one thing to keep in mind is the happiness that my daughter have attending her school.

Today this evening when I went to the school to pick her up, she ran out to me and she was so excited, excited because why, because she got a gift for passing a test that she took today.

And every day she comes home there's something exciting to talk about. These are things that you guys need to take into consideration, when making a decision to expand the school.

These kids, you know, we talk about this all the time.

A lot of the parents I've never seen a bunch of kids who are happy to take a state test.

Last year was the first year they took the state test at bed-Stuy 1 and the accomplishment these kids had is amazing.

We all know that you guys on the panel know how well that school did. When those kids, the first day of taking a test they were just running into the, running into the school so excited, I mean I wasn't excited to go to take a test I know a lot of us are not excited to take a test, but my thing is but I'm part of that district and that district has been a struggling community.

And putting that school there has done so much for the area.

The kids within the projects around there within the housing community, they are all there and you've seen a change, a change in terms of the parents, a change in terms of the people.

We've had a lot of incidents and we've overcome all of those incidents that location is prime it's ideal for these kids.

Please, please consider the decision tonight and vote to expand the school.

Thank you.

>> Next speaker on the green side.

>> Hello my name is Israel Jones.
I'm the guardian foundation academy and success academy bed-Stuy 1,
and I just got to the school last year.
And I found out I didn't know they had a charter school inside there.
And now that I found out that they're trying to expand everything, I
feel that there is no more, ain't going to be no more space for us to
have our extracurricular activities.
So how would you feel if our extracurricular activities as your kids
got taken away ours is getting taken away as well.
We just -- I want to learn just as well as them.
I'm trying to make it to college.
My favorite college I want to go to is Kansas State University and I
want to go to Kansas.
That's my big accomplishment I want to make.
So I need to have space to learn as well, like you taking away from
other kids.
I understand you're all trying to make, you have fourth graders to
fifth graders but we're trying to make our kids go to college.
And that's our main topic about this.
I'm thinking about going to college as well.
I'm not trying to sit around and sit around so my mother's house all
my life.
I'm trying to go to college.
And we all have morals.
We all have morals.
And that's all I'm trying to say.
Maybe some of our freshman want to come in next year we may be getting
a lot of freshman maybe they want to be the next chancellor the next
president.
Now, I know you call it success academy you all want success, I want
justice, that's all I want.
I want to be able to go somewhere that's all I want.
Thank you.
You all want success, I want justice.

>> Thank you.
Next speaker on the yellow side.

>> My name is Winston.
I'm a parent of a child that goes to bed-Stuy 1 success academy I'm
here to advocate for my child and the rest of the children that goes
to bed-Stuy success academy school.
I feel it's an amazing school and I feel like it would be dire to give
them the space because it's definitely well needed.
The children that go to the school, the demographics that we are, that
the children go to any other place, it would be failing children.
They will be in the same 143,000 kids that's not doing well with
themselves in school.
Success academy gives them the chance to be better and gives them the
chance to be, to excel to a level that I'm just surprised each and

every day for.

It's challenging every day to see that my daughter is doing well in school and the homework she has.

and fifth grade, if she gets that far in fifth grade I'm feeling like there's trouble me helping her do her homework because the homework they're giving to me is mind blowing that a child is being taught this at such a young age.

So I'm feeling like why not give it to a school that's really pushing your child as hard as they are pushing on my child.

I'm excited every day to bring my daughter to success academy.

So please, if you can, just give them the space for fifth grade.

I would love it because definitely helping out not just myself but every other parent in here who goes to success academy.

That's it.

>> Next speaker on the green side.

>> Good evening everyone.

My name is Isabel.

I'm a proud parent of Amari from bed-Stuy success academy.

1.

A lot of people are talking about how well they're doing they're amazing students.

Let me touch on every staff member in the school it's such a fresh breath of air to come into the school and see how every single adult cares so deeply for every single child.

When my son went to kindergarten in the public school around the corner from my house there there was a day where I was sick, having gallbladder surgery I sent my son to school that day what my teacher told me because there was a week after school why did you send him to school today, why, we're not doing anything today.

I mean, I understand that it's the last week of school.

But in success academy, every single minute, every single second, every single day, every single week is being used to educate.

No matter if it's the first day or the last day.

And you have to give us space to continue this kind of work.

These students are amazing because the staff is amazing, the organization is amazing, the network is amazing.

We need the space for fifth grade not only for my fourth grader but for my pre-K child that goes to school and her teacher told her that her school around the corner from my house is not good enough for her because she's so smart and they will not help her do anything.

So please, please give us the space that we need and deserve.

Thank you.

>> Next speaker on the yellow side.

>> Hi, good evening.

I won't say where my allegiance lies but I will say that your allegiance doesn't lie with an orange shirt or a pink shirt or a blue

shirt, your allegiance lies with our children.
You need to not make this an adversarial argument but make the equitable decision that needs to be made for succeeding schools.
If you need to put a test, a litmus, whatever battery you would like, check the numbers.
We succeed.
We are doing well.
We are excelling.
It's not just a mere anecdotal stories that you hear tonight on this evening or whatever other panel meeting.
This is a school that is continuing to succeed and produce excellence.
Do not cut off our children when they are just starting to grow.
They need the space to continue.
Their success is not going to stop or end at fourth grade or fifth grade.
You need to continue that.
Thank you.

>> Thank you.

>> Next speaker on the green side.

>> Good evening.

My name is Cynthia Cummings proud parent of two success academy parents first in first grade after being two weeks in school and third grader.

I'm here to plead with you to allow success academy to have space in the school.

Every day we hear, every time we come to these meetings we hear parents and other people tell us oh go and find your own space, we don't have enough space.

Well, our neighborhood, this is our neighborhood.

This is our district.

Well, this is my district.

I live next door to you.

We live on the same block.

We're not coming from outer space asking for space.

We are here, your neighbors.

This city is crowded and so we have to make use of this space that is here.

We can't take our children to another country can't take them to another state.

We want them to stay in here in our neighborhood.

We want to share this space that we have here.

We don't want to go anywhere else.

So, please give bed-Stuy success academy space so they can continue to do the great work that they have been doing with my children and other people's children and any child that will walk into success academy's building.

We're not saying -- we don't pick and choose children.

We educate all children.

We are asking, please, give us this space so we can continue to educate our children.

My daughter came home today.

Although she was skipped from kindergarten, she says to me mommy every day she comes home every day my son comes home, they are raving about the kind of stuff that they're doing.

They're questioning me, trying to see if I know what they know.

Please, please, please allow them to continue to grow and thrive in this school.

Thank you very much.

[Applause].

>> My name is Anna Ronic former zoned public school parent from the upper west side.

My two children are scholars now at upper west side success academy, and I am here to show my solidarity for the parents of bed-Stuy, because last year, when our middle school was in jeopardy, they came to support our scholars.

And that's the kind of community spirit that you find across the success academies.

We know that our scholars, our children are receiving an excellent education, a top-notch education, beyond our expectations my children like I said we're zoned upper west side school by all accounts a very good school.

It was not working for my children.

And we needed another option we needed a choice.

Success academy gave us that choice I've met students scholars from other schools, middle schools and the other high school and they are some of the most articulate, most poised and most well rounded and educated children I have met in my life.

I would like to take a moment to thank the teachers and those who do so much for the students without them my children wouldn't be flourishing like they do.

And I feel, please implore you to give the space to the kids who are working so hard to make it happen in a model, in a charter model that is being successful.

I'm Evan Eisenberg.

We're twills of the Bronx campus 117 with other co-director Lee Lorano and the principal of one 17 Jones.

117 Jones.

A month ago we did this the vote was postponed however both schools twills and 117 had the opportunity to speak.

We share that we believe our schools can work collaboratively as we have a shared vision.

And that is that all students in the Bronx deserve a quality education.

Since that meeting we've been so impressed with the responsiveness of the DOE.

Members from downtown have come in and done walk throughs they saw

some of the space challenges we had.

We were heard and solutions have been offered.

We believe now more than ever that twills can grow to a full six to 12 and share the building with 117 with the proposed capital improvements to enhance the campus.

We thankfully.

>> I'm the principal of 117 I've initially decided I was not going to speak this evening because I thought that there was nothing that there was nothing that was going to be said that was profound that the fabric of this would be changed.

But then I remembered I'm the voice of my students no matter how many times, how long, it is my responsibility to always speak for them.

When I think of a child in the birth of a child, I think that every child is birthed out of hope and every parent's hope would be that they succeed them in any capacity period and whoever that child is, when they come across the thresholds of my learning community as the school leader, it is my responsibility to develop the whole child.

This is not about 117 going against the young women's leadership school, it's never been about that.

We are both, or the three of us, we are all school leaders.

We take our roles very seriously and we believe that what we're doing in this season of our lives is our assignment.

I take the assignment very seriously.

If this is something that is going to happen and the young women's leadership school is going to expand, then support me, help me do what I need to do.

To support all of my students.

Not let this be one against the other but equal process where there is justice for all children so that when parents say my child was birthed out of hope I represent hope in my building.

I'd like to respond.

As you know at the last meeting I was very impressed by the fact that you spoke together.

We sent you not even a team we sent you the best person we have to walk through your buildings and he came back and stood on the front row I don't want to embarrass him.

Tom Taroko is the best and he came back he said he was taken by the way you approached the visit and by the things that you are willing to do and I commit my personal conviction that you will both get what you need to make this collaboration successful because this is the spirit of public education, all the kids in the building deserve an opportunity to share and if anything you're going to get more than what you would have gotten had you not collaborated in the first place.

So thank you very much.

>> I don't think I need to say anything.

>> But you can.

>> I think it's important because what we're doing is it is important.
I'm sorry I'm stuck for a moment.
You threw me off for a little bit.
But we need to make sure that we address the issues that we had
concerns about.
No one wants to ever share a building.
Clearly that's evident.
Everybody wants to have their own space.
But that's not the real world.
So we don't mind sharing.
We'll do what we need to do.
We have been sharing for three years and we've been doing pretty good
with it.
And we can make it happen.
And we're positive we can make it happen.
We can do a damn good job at it.
We just need to make sure that we have the support that we need to
make it happen, we will be an overcrowded campus.
And we can work things out with your promise and your support and I'm
sorry because I'm very skeptical of politicians.

>> We're not politicians.

>> Then I'm happy.

Thank you.

Thank you.

Thank you.

High school being pushed out but every school being pushed out we're a
high school small high school at that everybody is talk about
equitiability and they want success for the success academy children,
which is perfectly fine because I commend all the teachers and all the
students who go to that school because half of them probably smarter
than me, who knows.

I don't know.

But I feel as if we don't mind us sharing space just like the other
woman spoke.

We don't mind sharing space.

It's just how we share the space.

Because more of the students a whole fifth grade class would mean
lesser time for us to do things.

We already have close times of gym periods close time of anything
because success academy because we have to arrange times we can
intertwine with others in the hallways.

During the experience during my four years of being in high school
I've been pushed out every year.

Every year we lose space, last year we got a new lab we lost it to
success academy.

And now that they're trying to push for more students, we are getting
pushed out.

And next year we are pushing to have a lot more freshmen than we actually thought we could have.
Now that we're getting that it's like where are they all going to go.
That's just my main concern and thank you for listening to me speak.

>> I'm from foundations academy.

I would like to address a topic because I think it's about time that somebody put their feet down about the charter school growing larger.
So to begin with, we have 80 new freshman coming to our school in September.

And I think it's unfair that the fact that charter school gets to expand and yet we have to move out of our space just for them to learn.

Public school has not been that bad.

From the age of six through 12 I was always in as set class you could consider the honors program they would ask my father to skip me to skip a grade but he denied it.

But my whole point of this is we deserve equality.

We deserve to have the same amount of space they do.

We don't have that many gym time.

We were supposed to have a drama club but because charter school wants to use the auditorium that idea was shut down.

It's not fair that we owe the foundations academy students have to suffer just because y'all want to expand your all school.

There's always another place I'm not trying to be selfish but we need to learn too.

We need to prepare for our future.

Going to college going to medical school it's time for somebody to put their feet down.

Thank you for listening to me.

>> I'm Rhonda Lewis.

Bed-Stuy 2 my scholar is sitting in the back here I brought him today because I think it's really important that he sees and he hears and he learns from this experience.

I'm a parent of four.

I have a college graduate, one who is attending college right now and then I have my son Shane and a little one who will be entering school coming September.

We want quality education, great education.

[Indiscernible] what's being displayed here without a long-term resolution to the staying power of our children advancing under the flag of their choosing, mine is charter school.

Mine is success academy.

I went through the district school.

I went to kindergarten with my first daughter.

She was zoned into that school.

I dragged her from that school to another district.

Middle school.

So she can have that opportunity.

And then I dragged her to another high school.
It is daunting as a parent to open that high school bible that they give you and find schools that are failing, that has a 60 percent graduation rate.
Why do you think the district schools are not getting students.
Come on let's be serious here.
Why am I and so many other parents rushing to charter schools?
You know why?
It's because of the opportunity.
It's what Martin Luther King marched for it's what Rosa Parks stood for.
They didn't want to settle.
And I am not going to settle.
I am angry today because I have to come and beg for my son who is a New York state resident and entitled to a quality education.
So I am angry, and I am passionate about this.
But you know what, I am asking you, with everything in me, to please consider the fact that we have proven ourselves.
We have the numbers.
Why are we growing, because we are doing what is right and it is working.

>> Thank you.

>> Next speaker on the green side.

>> Good evening, everyone.
My name is Ann Steele on behalf of bed-Stuy success academy bed-Stuy 1.
I'm the parent of two scholars that attend bed-Stuy 1.
1 is a fourth grader and the other is a third.
I'm here to ask that you guys please give us the space allowed for next year, my fourth grader won't have a school to go to.
He'd have to go to his district school, which is a failing school.
I could sit here and I could brag about all the numbers and how great success academy is like every other parent before me did.
You guys have heard that time and time again.
I just want to say it doesn't feel right to sit here and to have to fight other young people for space in a building.
The young man said he wanted to go to college.
I pass young people in the street all day who don't even think of doing like that.
I commend him for that.
It's just not right.
It's 2015, like why are we fighting for space.
Why can't we get the space for anyone.
I know I'm living in a fantasy land.
I have to choose a side.
Tonight I choose a side for my scholar for bed-Stuy 1.
We need the space.

If I have to come out next week to rally, I will.

I will go to Albany.

I will go home tonight and check homework and do dinner and get to bed at midnight and do it again if I have to, because this is what we do.

>> I'm a math teacher I want to speak about what's happening in our school recently I'm amazed every day when I come to school with the smiles on their face today was a great day as our network the young women's leadership network had cool women hot jobs.

And so that brought in professional women to our school and sat with groups of five girls at a time the girls got to understand how did those women get there.

And we really tried to set up those role models for them.

When they choose high schools 75 percent of our girls put us for their first choice that means they want to stay with us and be with us as their family ask that they do that for us.

>> Next speaker.

>> Mindy rowsher speaking as a teacher in district 75 in a co-located school with success academy for over eight years, I have learned many things about success academy.

They have never enriched our school which was part of the original purpose of charters in the first place.

Public schools will probably do better with proper funding if our schools were not strangled by an entity that takes double dipping of public funds and private funds.

And they also know very well how to bully schools by taking room after room after room away from my special needs school.

The block room, the karate room the dance room that you all heard about from Harlem 1 is courtesy of my special needs school.

Last year, their plan could have evicted my special needs students out from my building and families for excellence schools spent over \$6 million in ads that deceived the public.

They said there was room.

They said they were being kicked out.

They were lies.

There was no space in our building.

They didn't care we won that battle despite being the have-nots when they are the haves.

I ask all of you please do the right thing and protect the true public schools of New York City.

>> My name is Nancy Beck seventh grade math teacher at the leadership school of the Bronx.

I just wanted to speak quickly tonight about the fact that the reason it's so important for us to expand at a high school in the same building is because while our girls are wonderful, they are teenagers, and teenagers don't always want to listen to their parents.

They don't always want to listen to their teachers, but what I have

seen in previous schools where I taught, what I've already seen in our school, is my eighth graders from last year coming to me with their seventh grade little sister saying is she doing her homework. Is she doing what she's supposed to be doing.

Talking to your other sister gets more gain than talking to other people.

I try to convince them what they're learning in seventh grade is necessary for them to be successful in the high school math classes that they will take, and I can't wait until my students get to the 11th grade and realize that I was right and tell their seventh grade little sisters yes your life will be better if you do what you need to do right now.

Thank you.

>> Next speaker on the green side.

>> Hi.

Good evening.

My name is Fatima Wilson, my son Aaron Wilson, Jr.

I'm here to support success academy bed-Stuy 1 fifth grade.

I'm very upset that we're arguing about how we should move.

The argument is not about space because the space is there.

We should be able to move across the third floor, one because we have small children who need to be together.

If you're 14, 15, 16 older you should not have a problem with walking around or up the steps to get to a classroom.

Second of all, we are doing great.

We have the numbers to prove it.

And the teachers and staff are dedicated to our children.

My son is excelling and we need it and I want him to be in the same building so he's with his community I ask you let my president be the next president by having the same teachers in the same building.

>> Next teacher on the left side can we ask folks who have tickets from 21 to 30 on green and yellow sides come down.

>> My name is Raven Moran parent of a kindergartner right there.

He attends bed-Stuy 1.

Let me start off by saying I am a very young parent.

So it wasn't that long ago that I was in school.

And I had him while I was still in school.

It's still fresh in my memory what it was like when I had him.

It was being tables thrown.

I'm talking teachers coming in for 15, 30 minutes sitting down not doing anything.

That was my public school life.

That's what I had to deal with.

My son is not going to deal with it.

I'll tell you we'll pack up disappear with out of the city state because he's going to do great.

Number one this school is so much better than what I expected when my son first entered the school first months ago that August he knew he about five letters of his alphabet.

Only could count up to ten.

Now he's above level.

He's above level that I expected him to be at.

He's at the same level of his seven-year-old God teacher, they should not object the same level.

She's in a public school they should not be on the same reading level that's what I need to say about that.

a lot of things, the school issic making better choices for my son that's why I'm here.

And I hope you guys work with us and do better for our children because they deserve it.

Thank you.

>> Next speaker on the green side.

>> Good evening.

My name is Linda Beckly.

I'm a proud parent of success academy bed-Stuy 1.

My daughter started in kindergarten and on that day she did not know how to read, nothing.

Her teachers will call and so you have to get involved to help you.

They really, really help my daughter.

Today she's in second grade and I can tell you her reading level is beyond.

I have a child who goes to public school.

And when I look at my son and compared to my daughter, sometimes I tell myself, God, I wish I knew success academy before, because what Brianna do my older son don't even do that.

Please, I have a little boy who enter please give us the space to continue their education.

I don't want my public to go to a public school.

I have a public school right in front of my house but the improvement my daughter do every day come home, telling they go to field trip, she will tell me mommy we learned about bridges.

She will tell me the names of those who build the bridges.

Sometimes when we are going to she say mommy do you know this these are cables this are this I go wow Brianna I'm very proud of you, please, this is a good school.

And we need this space for our children, thank you.

>> Thank you.

>> Next speaker, yellow.

>> I'd like to say something.

Please she say something?

>> I would like to get more space because I'm getting better and everything I do in school.

So my name is Vanessa Paula teacher at twills Bronx school originally I had a big speech, I spoke at the last PEP hearing.

But hearing chancellor Fiorina saying we're going to work together I want to say thank you for giving us the opportunity to be able to collaborate with 117 because our intention was never to divide and conquer it was always to work together.

So thank you for creating that opportunity for our girls to be able to expand and grow into the successful women that they can be, because every day working with my girls, I can see the potential that they have and it's inspiring to see them work very hard.

Thank you chancellor.

>> A child of bed-Stuy 1.

I used to be in public school I used to get exceeding expectations but when I moved to a charter school, I always got below expectations because they knew my other school weren't telling the truth.

And then my teachers suggested that I get tutored every day after school.

And then I started to get blues and greens and then that's why I'm in third grade now.

>> Thank you.

>> Are you the parent of -- go ahead you can speak.

>> I wanted to take over of what she was saying.

I would like the success academy to expand for this young lady to continue doing what she's doing, right now she's being a teacher to my community.

What she does is go around and help, I mean not just third grade, first, second, third graders and even fourth graders.

I didn't even expect that.

Only last Sunday I went to church and then my little friends called me can you help me with the homework, little sister with a fourth grader called me and said can you help me also.

I said, wait, I called Leah.

I said Leah please help your little friend and you should have seen the look on that fourth grader's face.

She said I'm a fourth grader.

I said I know.

I know.

And Leah's going to help you.

And she didn't even know for myself I would have to sit first and relax, take a big breath because it's math.

She just look over her shoulder at this and said okay give me your pen give me your paper.

Within a second before I even finished reading my two lines I was helping that little friend, she said here's the answer.

And that's what she does around the whole community.

She helps her little friends.

And do you want to know something, if we do not get space for success academy bed-Stuy to expand, my daughter is going right back to that same school that failed her two years ago.

And Leah is helping her fourth grader, brother, with everything, whether you name it.

It's happening because success academy challenges them to the point where she's able to help orders please consider these children.

Please.

>> We're a member of achievement first excellence team.

Prep staff wanted to be here this evening to support the co-location of our school.

However, a black history month celebration at the school tonight means that families and scholars are not able to be here this evening.

Thank you us for allowing to speak we appreciate the Chan lore's commitment for a thoughtful collegial co-location process that's been fair to everyone involved.

She and her staff set up a meeting with all the principles including university prep principal Claire shen and all stakeholders were able to be a part of the co-location process.

We're committed to being good neighbors and partners with IS 347 and 349 and we're stronger when we work together.

There's a lot we can learn from each other and partner.

At the end of the day everyone is focused on the same thing, making sure all of our kids get a first rate education.

Achievement first has successfully co-located schools across Brooklyn and we're committed to doing everything we can to partner with IS 347 and three 49.

349.

And the community of bushwick to ensure it's a positive experience for staff and communities we're proud of our community.

And we look forward to building even stronger relationships within bushwick.

Thank you for your time this evening.

>> Thank you.

>> Next speaker.

>> I just -- I want to say that the meeting that we had with the achievement first and the two middle schools also typifies what I think co-locations are all about.

Because the conversation was what tmpb could bring to the table and share and work together in and that's certainly the spirit of co-location that I would like to see in more places.

So thank you.

>> Next speaker green.

>> Hi good evening.

My name is Laura Ravelle Gross director of girls education at the young women's leadership.

And I want to remind everybody in the room because there's been a lot of talk tonight about real public schools versus other kinds of schools.

And every single school that we're talking about is a public school.

[Applause] our network is made up of district schools.

We have affiliate schools even in this state that are charter, but whether they're charter, they're public, they're district they're single gender they're public schools, urban schools serving our kids and they're important and I really want to also thank you chancellor for the spirit of everything that you said about our co-location.

I'm only here to thank you and also to remind everybody that we need schools that work.

The young women's leadership school model is a model that we know works.

It works because of strong leadership.

It works because of the focus on the whole girl and it works because of the teachers that we have in our schools.

So we're really proud of our growing school in the Bronx and an essential part of that is the 612 model as you heard our teacher speak about is having our older students there to mentor younger students so we know we can continue to achieve a 98 percent graduation rate and one 100 percent going to college rate.

So I think so much.

Networks speaker yellow I'm Libby Ashley I teach at bed-Stuy 1 I teach in an inclusion special ed classroom 30 percent active my students have IEPs and 70 percent of my students do not.

My kids have already shown remarkable growth this year, all of my students are reading on grade level and 11 of my students are reading beyond the first grade level.

At success academy we hold all of our students to the same very high academic standards.

Whether they have an IEP or not.

And when you look at their work, at their results you're able to see that.

My classroom is filled with students who learn so differently from one another.

And the onus is placed on us as their teachers to learn how they learn.

At success academy this team of teachers in the back, we've done that. We teach them really well.

We've taught them really well, year after year after year.

And if we're given the space, that will continue to happen.

I love these kids.

I believe in them so much.

I want the whole world for them but at the very least I want classrooms.

So that I can keep learning, they can keep learning.
We can keep working, we can keep succeeding.
Thank you so much.

>> I teach in Long Island Queens I fully support the expansion to a 12 school.

It will complete our secondary school and there's no doubt in my mind that ever child will be provided with a safe and quality educational experience.

There's a need in a growing district like ours to provide top-notch schools for our kids to attend.

With this growth, Wagner is able and ready to absorb the addition of a new grade.

As we look at our school's data our middle school remains at the top as well as strong graduation figures in our high school.

We want to be the school families choose to send their kids for seven years.

Over the last several months I've had thoughtful meetings and conversations with the office of space planning school construction authority and our superintendent Juan Mendez and the vision for new public schools our school community, the community at large and prospective Wagner families there's a want as well as a need for access to quality schools in district 24.

I am positive that by having the support of these constituencies we will continue to provide the kids of this district with access to a quality education.

To close, I would like to reiterate that as a principal of RF Wagner, I fully support this grade expansion.

Thank you.

>> I'm a third grade teacher at bed-Stuy 2 I'm here to talk about teacher choice the reasons why I chose to teach here I taught at another school previously and one of the things that I feel make me happy to come to work every day is the fact that we're pushed to think creatively and find creative solutions to problem and really think outside the box and teachers recommend powered to do just that.

The same way that I'm really proud to see and inspired to see scholars here and empowered to speak out their mind as to what they want to do and what they need.

When it comes to shared space, for me I'm really thinking about not the if but the how.

And how can we work together, how can we collaborate and think outside the box and rethink what it means to share space, and make best use of the space, not just in the short term as in next year for the fifth graders who need immediate space for their middle schools but also in the long term for third and fourth graders who will need middle school space.

In pushing to think about how next year is going to pan out, how can we collaborate to work together so we have a strong long-term plan for all the scholars in this room that have already shown that they're

passionate about their future and their dreams and their desires.
And I think we owe it to them to be the role models as to how to think
creatively and differently about what shared space means in the
building so they can best serve the bed-Stuy community.

>> Next speaker, green.

>> Hi.

Good evening.

My name is Teslina Jones.

I have three scholars at success academy.

I have a fourth grader whose name is Kyle Swift.

I have a third grader, her name is Kayla Swift and I have a first
grader named Colby Swift.

They wanted to make sure I mentioned their name.

You know, I don't have an option.

If I don't have a fifth grade for my kids, my option is to put my kids
in a failing school.

And no parents should be faced with that option.

Our children's education matters but their lives matter as well.

And I don't think people understand how quality of education or lack
thereof of quality of education would affect the child's future.

Immediate future, future of them being in college my kids know the
year they should be graduating they should be graduating in 2030 and
29 and 2032 I'll be spending a lot of money but they know they're
graduating.

My son he loves LeBron James he wants to be a basketball player but he
also wants to be a veterinarian or a lawyer or a doctor and this is
what success has afforded our children with a structured environment
cultured experience.

My son was ballroom dancing.

He wanted to ballroom dance he's going to kill me instead of playing
basketball.

This is the opportunities that our kids have been provided with.

I believe that we can co-locate with the other schools.

I don't think that any child or any parent should be faced with the
decision of not placing their kids in great schools.

And I believe we would be doing a disservice to the community the bed-
Stuy community if we wouldn't allow the success academy to continue to
grow because I don't want any parent to have to face the option for
not placing their kids in a great school.

>> Next speaker, yellow.

>> Good evening.

Panel.

-DELETE- Thank you for letting all of us speak.

so passionately about education tonight.

My name is Miss Redford a third grade teacher at bed-Stuy 2.

I come from public education.

I am the granddaughter of a high school public principal.
I am the daughter of a public elementary school secretary.
And now I get the opportunity to be a third grade teacher at a public charter school.
But I am only one person.
And not a community does one person make.
We all gather at our school.
We are a community at bed-Stuy both bed-Stuy 2 bed-Stuy 1 and the schools we're co-located with.
Our mission is to educate the children of Bed-Stuy.
I live in Bed-Stuy and I walk to school every day.
This is my community.
This is my neighborhood.
This is not just someplace that I commute to.
It's where I go on the weekends.
It's where I go after work.
These are not just the kids I see.
in my classroom every day.
I see them on the streets.
I know their families.
I know where they come from.
And I come from there too.
Co-location is not about dividing lines but about building communities.
It's about the communities that we can build every scholar every day by instilling in them the values of what it means to reach out to those around them, to use their voice to connect to others, to use their voice to share their ideas with the world.
If I expect them to do it then I expect them myself tonight to speak on their behalf that we need expansion, we need co-location.
We need a great community of education and we need great schools now.
Thank you.

>> Thank you.
Next on the green ticket.

>> Hi my name is grace McCarty.
I'm an ICT teacher success academy Bed-Stuy I serve both general and special education students.
While I think our school is incredibly valuable for all students tonight I want to speak specifically about the special education students.
Our special ed students have been in our schools for years.
We know the way they learn really well.
We know the strategies that work for them, that help them get to grade level.
I think for those students it's particularly important that they're able to stay a part of the Bed-Stuy 1 community because the teachers at our school really know them.
They really know what they need in order to help them succeed.

If they were to go to another school, they could be left in a position where they're sort of reinventing the wheel, trying to learn strategies that would teach these kids in ways we already know how to do.

So for those students, I think it's really important for them to stay here at Bed-Stuy 1 with the teachers who know and love them. And I have one student who is here with me also wants to say something quickly.

>> I love -- my name is alexa and I love success academy. I love success academy Bed-Stuy 1 and I want to be a doctor and we need to get the space because if we don't get the space I can't learn how to be a doctor.

>> Thank you.
Yellow side.

>> Good night.

My name is maSean Harde hall 12th grader at foundations academy the last time I came to the meeting I spoke of quality I want to speak about my experience in foundations academy for the last four years, for the last four years in foundations academy not only have we moved twice but we have moved approximately three times.

Every year when I've had not only foundations academy I had one gym period itself we've been sharing gym we've always been sharing after school programs with other schools in our gym period.

I'm currently a basketball player for the team.

My season is over but during the seasons I can remember sometimes we don't even have space to practice in our own gym.

We get kicked out of our gym and we have to go down in the cafeteria where people eat and we have to practice there before a game.

That's what I want to say about my experience.

But I've heard that one of the speakers said 14, 15, 16 years old kids should not have a problem of climbing upstairs or going up the stairs. We don't have a problem about that.

We have a problem about expansion.

For the last three, four years I've been there not only have the lab been taken away from us, smart boards have been taken away from us, not computers but we have computers, but smart boards.

We have lost a lot of smart boards.

People are lives, libraries, in my tenth grade I had a library lost it.

Lab, lost it.

Now we've got a new one, expansion we're going to lose it.

Another thing I want to address is that to me as a student and as a 12th grader I'm not going to be here next year but for my future classmates that's going to be 12th graders, it's going to be real difficult for them to go into bathrooms with UE students, urban environment students that's eight, nine, ten, 11, 12-year-olds that's going to be in the bathroom you have to share bathrooms with such

little kids that's what I want to speak organization thank you for your on.
Thank you for your time.

>> Next on the green ticket.

>> My name is Rebecca Mckill lip and I was here last time.
I feel caught up in two things grew up in Texas and came to New York, you all have a different meaning of space.
I started teaching at Bed-Stuy 1 and I was excited to see my kids here tonight then I moved across the street and I'm teaching at Bed-Stuy 2 I feel doubly invested.
My first group of kids are now fourth graders at Bed-Stuy 1 needing space for fourth grade and kids at bed-Stuy 2 they'll be part of that group in two years I teach a 12 and one classroom all my students have special ed and with that, with what Ms. McCarty just spoke about where there's such an advantage having the connection, I know that personally because I've called Ms. McCarty quite a few times this year as a lot of my students used to be hers.

And with co-location and space, I think Ms. Sia grade team lead brought up a good point it's no about the if it's about the how we have to think carefully making sure we're using the space to its best advantage.
There's not enough space in New York, and we've got to be so careful, but Bed-Stuy 1 needs to expand and it needs to be in Bed-Stuy at this location, and I think we can work out ways to where it is beneficial for everyone.
So I want to say thank you all for -- I want to thank my students really who are here and I keep looking back and I see Andrea keep smiling at me.
And I know I'm proud of her and the work she's done she works so hard and I want her and all the kids back there to get the chance to keep growing at the same level.
They deserve it.

>> Yellow ticket.

>> I'm Andrea Scouting I'm guessing by the color of the shirt you can tell why I'm here tonight.
But I'm not a parent of a scholar at success academy Bed-Stuy.
I'm a parent of two scholars at success academy Cobble Hill.
It's an incredible place.
I know panel member has been able to take a tour of success academy every day I hope the rest of you have a chance to do the same.
I don't envy your job.
I appreciate so much the work that you guys do.
I think New York City has the potential to once again have benchmark schools for this country, and I am just here to really, really ask you to please consider giving space to one of the schools that is working

so incredibly well.

Obviously there's so much passion, so many people are here tonight.

It's such a sea of orange, because we care so much.

So please come check out the success academy.

See why we care.

See why we're madly in love with our schools and our teachers and our community.

Thank you.

>> Green ticket please.

>> Hi.

My name is Vanessa Maldonado, assistant principal and social studies teacher at foundation academy.

I joined in August of 2014, formerly a teacher in district 15.

I joined foundations because I saw the potential in the school and most importantly in what our students can achieve.

We want to acknowledge the need for all students to succeed in a manner that is reasonable and equitable.

We, too, are a growing school that is looking to service not only the students in the beginning but the community at large.

The space that is currently being used and is in question is also the space that would be the heart of our newly founded community school.

Becoming a community school allows us to provide wraparound services to students and their families.

These services can range from medical, dental, mental health, counseling and social services.

This space is needed for these services to be accessible and confidential.

These are the spaces in question.

What is currently being proposed would create a situation that may cause unnecessary instability and potentially harmful situations for our students.

The current plan would involve our students bathrooms young as 10 years old or having students travel from the fourth floor to bathrooms on first floor which we would all agree is a waste of instructional time.

Over the past year we have invested and modernized many of the rooms that are now in the proposed plan.

We have installed air conditioning and instructional support such as smart boards to provide a comfortable learning and testing environment for our students.

The current plan places our students in rooms that do not have the basic electrical infrastructure needed to support air conditioning.

As part of the instructional and initiative our results are improving next year we'll be doubling the enrollment yet we stand to lose six classrooms including a lab and library.

In the end all students deserve a space a school that is safe, nurturing and appropriate.

This is not about space.

No one is leaving and no one is suggesting that anyone leave it's however about having a plan that works for all of our students, creates a learning environment when all students can achieve success and feel worthy.

Thank you.

we do not discriminate.

We've had a positive impact on our community our parents are here to say that.

We've had overwhelming positive community support at our public hearing.

BBL is doing positive things in the community.

We've been open for 11 years and ten of those years we've been co-located with PS one 11.

111.

My office is actually in that building and I have a positive relationship with the principal and the administration at that school. We had joint professional development programs, joint after school programs, joint mentorship programs for the students and the staff members.

We believe that this positive impact that we've had at PS 111 we can continue that with JHS 144 in Pellam gardens we've been in communication with the principal and we've already started to discuss how we can bring some of those programs we're currently using at BBL, to BBL 2 I'm in favor of this co-location process.

Thank you for your time.

>> Next speaker on the green side and can we have everyone with tickets from 31 through the 40s.

Everyone else tickets 31 through the 40s.

Go to the green or the yellow side depending on the color ticket you have.

Next speaker on the green side.

>> Hello I'm a proud satisfied parent of a Bronx charter school for better learning student.

My daughter is in the second grade.

She is doing extracurricular activities that include speaking in Korean learning Korean at the Bronx charter school for better learning.

As Ms.

Simms just mentioned I support everything that she just said.

The Bronx charter school for better learning is an excellent environment.

It's an excellent community school.

I know for a fact I've participated in the parent association and they are currently working on community events and this is not the first time they've been doing that.

So I know that this sort of creativity that has been fostered at BBL would only continue and we'd like to continue to work with 144 to continue with that sort of creativity.

I do hear what a lot of the parents and staff are saying.
But I think that what it comes down to is the creativity that we need to work together with in order to make it work.
Because as someone said New York has a different sorts of space issues as other places and we know that it is one of the largest public school systems in the country.
So I just think it's more about how we can make it work than a matter of fighting each other about co-location.
So I'm really excited about BBL 2 and I will continue to do what I can as a parent to support this effort and I think that this shows something that could be very fruitful.
in the future.
Thank you.

>> Thank you.

I'm a parent grandparent of 368 I was given this note to read also to state SuNY charter which is authorized body of the charter school, the operator state of New York has shown a complete utter indifference to the hearing process which have the purpose of gathering community input and the extent they have neither chose to either just, chose to or just not interested in the community.

What it has said, they never send a representation to our joint hearing.

I also as a grandparent of district 75368 would like to say that I first heard the words, when I first brought my grand taught to these schools shared space that sounds really nice.

But now I hear a lot of give me more.

Give me more.

And something about keep giving and people keep taking, it leaves somebody short.

And it leaves my grandchild short of her space, who is nonverbal, who needs the activity of a gym, who does not need to be rushed through lunch because she has to eat in a certain amount of minutes and they're teaching her how to chew food and without choking but their concern is how to get the kids out of the lunchroom before the other charters come down and it's just not fair.

It's not fair for the kids, talk about bathrooms.

Basketball taking away from them.

Libraries.

It's beginning to squeeze somebody out.

And it looks like we are the ones that are leaving and that's not fair.

My granddaughter needs the space as well.

>> Thank you.

>> Next speaker green side.

>> Hello panel my name is Isaiah WilsonT.

I'm the son of Alvina Dustin and I would like to say throughout my

experience of my public school that I have been to, I don't think we should have to eliminate charter schools because all the public, all the, everything that my public school has done was fight, talk about iPhones and Jordans they want to be rappers now and now I'm in a charter school and my, wait, and my public school, they haven't been giving us books, because the library there was just to make the school look pretty.

And now the charter school I'm in, they're giving me books and I was below expectations.

Then my teacher has been tutoring me and then all of a sudden I was constantly getting 4s in school and now she has a prediction that I do have a chance to pass the ELA exam.

So please do not take away charter schools for public schools.
Thank you.

>> I'm Sylvia Heinz winter.

My son attends the Bronx charter school I'm here to speak in favor of the proposal of the Bronx charter school and one 44.

144.

-DELETE- I just want to say this evening that I'm not here even to talk about the reputation of the school, because that speaks for itself.

And I was excelling but I was very alarmed to hear in one of the last meetings that there were about 2,300 parents on the waiting list waiting to get their children into school.

It tells me then that Bronx charter schools 2 is a necessity for our community.

As you heard from our assistant principal, Bronx charter school, I know that this will work because Bronx charter school does not -- does not possess the spirit of invasion or intrusion but certainly the spirit of collaboration.

And that is already being exemplified by their great work with one 11.
111.

I am confident that BBL 2 will make a positive impact on this on district 11 so I'm here to beg you to beseech you, to ask you, to vote in favor of school one 44.

144.

>> Next speaker, green.

>> Hello.

I am a proud eighth grader at the E lchl ms leadership at the Bronx I today we had a cool hot job women come in talk about their job it's great my school can provide this.

Without this we as kids would not even know what jobs there are out there.

Please don't take this away from our school.

We need this school to continue.

Going to all girls school I love it.

I'm proud to be part of this school.

I want to thank you for letting the two school 117 and my school get enough space to continue serving us kids and letting us have the opportunity of education.
Thank you for your time.

>> Next speaker, yellow.

>> Good evening.

And thank you for this opportunity to advocate for the future of our school.

My name is Julisvolar proud teacher of tools of the Bronx I'm a child of Dominican imBrants.

immigrants.

New York was my teacher during the crack epidemic.

My mom made the choice to move to Newark, schools were overcrowded teachers were overwhelmed and the streets were too dangerous, giving their daughters their best chance meant taking them out of New York City.

20 years laterty stand before you with a masters from Columbia University.

My sisters are also college graduates.

Underprivileged children should not have to leave New York to get a better education.

This is the reason I decided to become a New York City teacher.

I wanted to understand the problem and be part of the solution.

I believe that tools Bronx is a solution.

And I thank you for your commitment to support our expansion and collaboration with one 17.

117.

Because twills Bronx, keeping twills Bronx together is not just about supporting the six to 12 model, it's about keeping these girls in their communities, serving as examples of leadership and social mobility.

It's about empowering women to make success a reality and the community that's broken down by failure and hopelessness.

Thank you.

>> Good evening.

My name is lonna Birchle I'm standing here a proud parent of Jay Barrett a student of it wills Bronx.

A year and a half ago I was faced with the decision of middle school for my daughter.

Until I received a postcard in the mail and invitation to attend an open house.

While there, the presentation I received gave me no choice but to place her there.

My daughter was reluctant, because she had to travel.

She had to get up early to go to school but I knew this was the right choice for her.

She have to get up at 5:00 in the morning, which doesn't bother her

anymore, because at the end of the day, coming from school, she have so much that she has achieved in one day.

And I must say thanks for the opportunity from twills school of the Bronx.

My daughter has a grade average of 92.

And because of this opportunity, my daughter was given the opportunity to take the prep 9 test.

My daughter served as the student ambassador for twills of the Bronx.

So hats off to the teachers of twills of the Bronx.

I'm grateful for the job that you have done with my daughter.

Thanks.

Have a good evening.

>> Thank you.

Next speaker, yellow.

>> Hello.

My name is Courtney Boyd the principal of the school for the urban environment.

I stand here with Neil monheight principal of K 22 and Joyce Lynnette principal of three 68 368 and Joy from success academy because we're all building council members who for the 10 years I've been in the building have worked collegially and collaboratively together in the interests of serving the students in our schools.

Far from this being a fair fight, it just doesn't seem like a righteous fight.

The argument for space in a school can't be what we want, what we feel we deserve, or so be any means necessary we're going to take it.

The argument should be that as a teaching and learning community we live the idea that all children deserve the opportunity to receive an educational experience that will allow them to grow and develop to their highest potential.

The fight for a quality education should be for every student in every school in every neighborhood.

So what's best for the students in district 14 in the 33 building is that we are able to adequately and flexibly schedule to provide varied and quality programming for our students.

I'm not opposed to charter schools or co-locations.

I am opposed to inequitable practices that pit one educational community against another for political, financial and/or physical space-related issues because children pay the price.

In the spirit of equity for all students, the expansion of success academy's fifth grade will perpetuate the inadequate access to shared space that already exists in our building.

Currently we face compliance issues.

And that we cannot effectively schedule to meet the needs of our students in the building as well as programming issues where we cannot effectively meet the extracurricular demands of our students due to scheduling constraints for shared space.

space.

Lunch begin at 10:30 in the morning we're forced to have 7:00 a.m. activities because we cannot schedule after gym space for after school sports and activities.

High schoolers leave the building at dismissal return an hour later to meet their physical education requirement and this proposal does not take that into consideration.

The proposal also doesn't take into consideration the issues that we currently face around scheduling and compliance for the two middle and high school in the building that will ultimately be the issue of the elementary school when it expands.

So all I'm asking is that we make this a righteous fight, where we don't create a situation where we have four schools in a building that will have inadequate space to effectively schedule and meet the needs of all the students we serve.

>> Thank you.

Next speaker, green.

>> Good evening.

My name is Jayla Barrett second year twill student I'm here to state that it is crucial for twills to stay in the community.

The school is in the south Bronx community.

The poorest district in the nation.

This causes students to lose opportunities.

Student twills gives students once-in-a-lifetime opportunities.

Some of these opportunities aren't even awarded to students in prestige private schools.

Students from the south Bronx often get accepted to college but here's the dilemma.

They weren't exposed to college work in high school.

Then they go to college with no experience to the work expected.

This leads to dropouts.

Here at twills it's embedded in the mission statement to prepare students for college and the workforce.

It started in the sixth grade with the syllabi and level of work I received from my student your zip code does improve who you are or your destiny, twills is making the statement true every day thank you for 117 for allowing us to share space, thank you panel and thank you all.

>> Thank you.

Next speaker yellow.

>> Good evening.

I'm Neil monheight principles of foundations academy I want to thank you for inviting my students and I to speak with you participate in this democratic process tonight.

I want to speak to you tonight about success.

But I don't want to talk to you about Bed-Stuy 1.

I want to talk about the success that we're seeing at foundations

academy.

Foundations is growing, and we're growing because we've improved our instruction, improved our community outreach, improved our staff capacity to teach our students and improve college and career opportunities for our students.

We heard tonight the pride and the passion that success academy parents take in their school.

Taking public transportation for the first month of this year, I witnessed parents waking up their youngsters after a long train ride to sleepily trudge from the station to the school.

While the parents commitment to Bed-Stuy is laudable is it serving the needs of the Bed-Stuy community?

Foundations in servicing local students with high needs while we're affecting a successful turnaround our enrollment is up 15 percent over projections for this year and poised to double for next year.

As renewal school, supported by the mayors and the chancellor's commitment to improving community schools and developing community outreach we're also transforming into a community school for next year.

A community school that will provide various services to all members of our community, medical, dental, counseling and career development. Our services will also be offered to support our co-located schools in our community at large.

My concern this evening is the limits on space available in our building to support the programs we're developing.

Every school needs a heartbeat.

So school can be a home for youngsters and our families.

We've added boys basketball, badminton, girls basketball and we're developing our soccer team.

We have a new dance club that meets every day one hour before school.

Chess and singing and voice club and those all started this year.

My first was seeing the communities as a social worker to support the social needs of our students supporting the arts and social and emotional wellness of our students in line with the chancellor's vision.

So what's my ask for tonight, I ask for your support to enable us to continue to grow our dreams and enable us to strengthen our heartbeat. I'm proud of my students' request for equity tonight and I want to reinforce their statements.

To continue our success, we need contiguous spaces.

We need equitable access to shared spaces to the gym, to basic infrastructure, like the air conditioning spaces we invested in this year, the bathrooms we invested in this year and the library that we created because our school hadn't had a library in three years after we were moved out.

We need space for social workers guidance counselors and healthcare workers to meet with students in crisis.

Thank you.

>> Next speaker green.

Good evening everyone my name is Amy Nelson sixth grade science teacher at twills of the Bronx.

So much can be said this evening as you so eloquently heard one of my former students speak about the academic rigor and community atmosphere we provide for our students.

This evening the request that we have is that you allow us to work in tandem with our school that we've co-located to continue to grow our community that we have in the south Bronx in district nine.

We thank you for the time we thank you so much for hearing us advocate to work in tandem with our schools as we have for the last three years.

Thank you.

>> Next speaker, yellow.

Good evening chancellor and panel.

My name is Joyce Lynnette, principal of P 368 K located in K zero 33. 033.

All students must receive equitable educational programs.

Equity of access for all students is paramount.

Shared space programming in the K 033 building is a major concern when considering expanding success academy Bed-Stuy.

We share gymnasium, cafeteria, auditorium, playground and dance room. Annually programming these spaces for all the schools in the building is becoming increasingly difficult.

Additionally, after school programming is affected.

For part 100 of the commissioners regulations all schools must meet programming mandates for all subjects.

As success academy expands other schools in the building are faced with an ongoing challenge in meeting programming mandates.

For example, in the K 33 building there no longer is a library.

The library was demolished to provide space for success academy in their first year please consider how expanding success academy will affect equity of access to shared spaces in the K zero 33 building. 033 building.

-DELETE-

>> Thank you.

>> Next speaker, green.

>> I'm Tom Nigar teacher at the Bronx.

I've spoken at the last couple of hearings.

Thanks for having us and for listening to all of us only my school and our girls will get me to wear a Barney dinosaur colored and bow tie, thank you all for that we took our seventh graders to see sell ma today actually and it had me thinking about the struggles for civil rights and equality and voting and an in education those struggles are still very real for boys and girls around the world but particularly girls.

And that's why I'm proud to be a part of a single sex school, helping with girls education.

Or pushing girls education forward.

But I do also have the privilege of actually having worked with students at 117 as well as a basketball coach with the boys.

And so there's no question that boys and girls need opportunity and need education and our goal as you've heard from all our staff and students and parents is to provide that opportunity for all our students in the building.

And in order to do that, we need all of your help, which has been also eloquently said by most people in here.

I've worked in two different schools, both co-located with other schools.

One in a brand new building and one in a very old building, and it doesn't matter what the building's like.

It really matters how it is designed if you're going to co-locate.

So that requires funding.

That requires planning and that requires a commitment that goes well beyond probably all of our terms in our schools and your terms on this board, but it's something that you have to take the steps to do.

So that's really what I want to say.

I want to support my school 117 and all the other schools here so that we can all move forward.

15 seconds left.

Okay.

I wanted to that point I wanted to commend the young man from foundations academy the student there.

He spoke very eloquently for his needs as a student and I think that's what all of our comments reflect.

And finally I think that's it.

Thank you very much.

Have a good night.

>> Next speaker yellow.

>> Good evening everyone.

My name is Fatu proud parent of a student at twills Bronx.

As a mother of several children, that have attended and still attend in public school, I am here to testify that the outcome of public schools are endless.

With the right leadership and parental involvement, like we have at twills, success is achieve able.

There are two questions we should all ask ourselves tonight.

Is success found in the best tools of our best interests of our children and is it worth it if we answer these two questions correctly the answer is yes.

I have had children in similar environments like twills and they have gone on to great high schools colleges and graduate schools.

Expanding twills into a high school will help our children be more than statistics.

It is rare to walk into a middle school and the message is clear, college is the message.

We should be a part of making that a reality for our children.
Thank you so much for having me and listening.

>> Thank you.

>> Next speaker, green.

>> Good evening my name is Guy Forest I'm in fourth grade and I'm from success academy Bed-Stuy 1.
I've been in the school since first grade and everyone in the school is like family to me.
Can you give us the space we need to learn, please?
I love my school.
Thank you.

>> Next speaker, yellow.

>> My name is Ethan Eteyene The currently at Bed-Stuy 1 taught by ashla Marion.
I want to support my school and the others compared.
And as my fellow colleague Sky Forest said school is family to me and her.
Please give us the fifth grade space we need.
Thank you.

>> Thank you.

>> Next speaker, yellow.

>> Good evening chancellor, good evening panel members.
My name is Nura Nyetray.
Principal district 75 school.
I'm here to speak to the proposal to co-locate eight sections of 396 in district 17 at PSIS one 81.
181.
-DELETE- I'm really happy to say I think this is a much simpler and more straightforward proposal than a number of the other ones.
One '81 is currently underutilized.
When we had a public hearing on February 10th, the district 17 superintendent as well as the P 181 principal were very much in favor of the proposal.
It's really, really important to note in district 17 there are over 650 students who receive their instruction in district 75.
But only approximately 175 actually attend program in district 17.
Which means over 500 students are being transported out of their home district.
Oftentimes these are fragile students riding for long periods of time of time on yellow buses to reach a location where they can have the services they need.
So the proposal to open sections at 181 will serve those students

well.

They'll be able to return to their home district and it won't have a negative impact on the current students and staff of one '81.

81.

-DELETE- -DELETE- 181.

-DELETE- So hopefully this is an easy yes for everyone on the panel. Thank you so much.

>> Thank you everybody.

So now as is customary, we will hear questions from the panel on the -- the chancellor wanted to say a few words first.

I want to stress that collaboration is not a word, that it's a reality.

And the one thing that we heard here today, and again continue to be impressed with, when principles are co-located in a building and come forward and say we're willing to share, but share has to be a reality. Share means again not everybody gets what they want but everybody puts something at the table.

so if there's a library in the building, we would incorporate that into the shared spaces of the building allocation.

We consider libraries to be shared across available to all the schools in the building, if there is one we'll ensure that there continues to be one.

If there are no other questions we'll move on to the Manhattan proposals.

Panel members si gman any questions on the Manhattan proposal.

>> I had the easiest or contentious ones I'm sure I won't get away with that at all times.

The school that's moving and they're currently, they're a small middle school, they're spread out over three floors in a building that houses two other schools, one still growing, one of them is tag.

The city wide gifted and talented program that's K to 8 I believe and they're moving to the Manhattan, is it 96, PS 96 building.

Where there are apparently is space.

Since we had dedicated space middle school kids aren't that big I think middle school should be as nurturing as possible.

I like that.

My concern is actually with the space that is being abandoned by the middle school.

My hope is that it will not be used to squeeze in another school and that perhaps expanding TAG because there's such a demand for the GNT the city wide GNT they're an incredibly successful and well-run school and there is certainly demand for more city wide GNT seats and if there are spaces there, I hope that that is used for the benefit of the schools currently in the building.

>> I concur we're not planning on placing an additional school in that building and we'll work with the three schools remain at M 117 to do an equitable allocation of the space in the building.

>> Any other questions regarding the Manhattan proposals?

Moving on to the queen's proposal, panel member Dillingham any questions or concerns.

>> No questions, just comments that the school is high performing. This model is again about transitioning students and it makes sense for the continuity of this program and it's a six to 12 duration which seems to make sense for the school community and it's supported. So I think it's a good proposal.

>> Great.

So do any panel members have questions or concerns regarding the Queens proposals?

Okay.

As we do not have any proposals for the borough of Staten Island, we'll move to take the vote.

So Madam Secretary, could you please note any recusals.

>> No recusals on the proposals.

>> Thank you, Madam Secretary.

Please raise your hand if you vote to approve the resolution regarding the proposed grade expansion of the young women's leadership school of the Bronx 09 X 568 with existing school IS one 17 117 Joseph H. Wade academies 09 X 117 in school building X 117 beginning in the 2015-2016 school year.

>> 11 in favor.

Motion passes.

>> Thank you.

>> So next proposal.

Please raise your hand if you vote to approve resolution regarding the proposed temporary partial resighting and co-location of PS 46 Edgar el lan Poe ten X 46 with Thomas C.

Giordano in building X 045 for four years beginning in if 2015-2016 school year.

>> 11 in favor.

Motion carries.

>> Thank you.

Next proposal, please raise your hand if you vote to approve the resolution regarding the proposed opening and co-location of the Bronx charter school for better learning to X 84 BDT to junior school Michael Angelo 11 X 145 and Pellam gardens middle school 11 five 66. 566.

Building X 44 in the 2015-2016 school year.

>> I count nine votes.
Motion carries.

>> Thank you.

>> You have to do abstain.

>> Okay.
So are there, all those opposed?
And then all those abstained.

>> So it's nine in favor.
One in opposition and one abstention.

>> Okay.
Next proposal, raise your hand if you vote to approve the resolution regarding the proposed expansion of success academy charter school Bed-Stuy 184 K 367 in building K 033 with the school for the urban environment 14 K 330 foundations academy 14 K 322 and district 75 program 75 K three 68.
368.
-DELETE- Beginning in the 2015-2016 school year.

>> It's nine in favor.

>> All those opposed?

>> Two opposed.
No abstentions.

>> Next proposal, raise your hand if you vote to approve the resolution regarding the proposed opening and co-location of a new site of an existing district 75 school P 396 K, 75 K three 396 with PS 181 Brooklyn, 17 K-181 in building K-181 beginning in 2015-2016.

>> 11 in favor.
Motion carries.

>> Now please raise your hand if you vote to approve the resolution regarding the proposed co-location of the high school grades of achievement first bushwick 84 K 538 and the high school grades of achievement first east New York 84 K 358 with existing schools IS 347 school of humanities 32 K 347 and IS 349 math science and tech 32 K three 49.
349.
In building K-111 beginning in 2015-2016.

>> 11 in favor.
Motion carries.

>> Now, please raise your hand if you vote to approve the resolution regarding the proposed resiting global location of neighborhood school 04 M 381 with P 96 Joseph Lanseta 096 in building M 096 beginning in the 2015-2016 school year.

>> 11 in favor.
Motion carries.

>> And last please raise your hand if you vote to approve the resolution regarding the proposed grade expansion of the Robert F. Wagner, Jr. secondary school for arts and technology 204Q 560 from a seven to 12 to a six to 12 school in building Q 891 beginning in the 2015-2016 school year.

>> 11 in favor, motion carries.

>> Thank you.
So now contracts.
So the final voting item on tonight's agenda item requiring a vote is consideration of contracts.
And I will now ask that contracts committee chair Robert Powell summarize for the panel if contracts committee's recommendations regarding the contracts listed on tonight's agenda.

>> The contracts committee met on Monday February 23rd to review the contracts being considered by the panel tonight.
I met with contracts committee members Deb dilling ham.
ham.

>> Shhh.

>> Shhh.

>> I'll start from the top.
Contracts committee met on Monday, February 23rd, to review the contracts being considered by the panel tonight.
I met with contracts committee members Deb Dillingham Isaac Carmagnani, I messed it up, but I'm sorry.
Panel members Vanessa Leong and Lori Pabesca also present.
At the meeting the committee unanimously recommended the approval of items one through 26 and 28 for approval.
Please note item 13 has been removed from the list.
The contracts committee recommends the contract items 1 through 12, 14 through 26 and 28 be considered in two resolutions.
Resolution one, contract items 1 through 10, 14 through 26 and contract 28.
Item 28.
I'm sorry.

Resolution 2 contains contracts 11 and 13.

>> 12.

>> 11 and 12.

Sorry about that.

>> Thank you panel member PowerShell.

Do you have any text do you want to read any amendments into the record.

>> I know I've provided panel members with technical changes to universal pre-kindergarten contracts approved by previous meetings changes have been posted on the Web at its meeting on October 29th, 2014, the panel approved a contract with sa S musical corporation to repair musical instruments thereafter and prior to the signing of the contract they provided a revised budget reflecting the actual numbers of instruments that were inventoried assessed and repaired.

Due to the conditions of the collected instruments, only 2,065 were salvaged vis-a-vis the three 3,065 indicated in the request for authorization, accordingly the following changes have been made. The estimated total contract amount has been reduced from \$190,770 to 152 thousand 976 dollars.

\$152,976.

We also needed to extend the contract term from originally 7114 to 22815 to go instead to to June 30th 2015.
, 2015.

Finally the contract type was changed from full value to requirements to allow for the adjustments based on the conditions of the musical instruments themselves, unit pricing however has not been changed. Finally, at its meeting on October 30, 2013, the panel approved a contract with Equifax workforce solutions incorporated formally TAKS corporation for unemployment service processing the vendors legal name is talks corporation a provider of eek fax workforce solutions.
Thank you.

>> Thank you, Mr.

Ross.

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

>> The resolution is entitled resolution regarding approval of contracts and as indicated by the panel member Powell, first resolution contains contract items 1 through 10, 13 through 26 and 28. The second resolution contains contract items 11 and 12. Panel members please note that 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 resolutions being considered tonight?

Thank you panel member Dillingham, a second.

>> Thank you panel member Fructer.

>> Okay.

We will now move to general public comment for contracts and since we also have a few speakers who signed up for general public comment we'll call everyone now.

We'll do those who signed up for the contracts public comment first speaker Jeff concern can you please go to the mic and then again if you have a ticket number for contracts, Miriam Aristia and laneny hamson if you're here make your way to either microphone, that's fine. And then we will hear, I think there are maybe four or five people who signed up for general public comment and if you hold those tickets you can go to either microphone.

>> Thank you my name is Jeff Kern I live in park slope.

I don't have any official fill I can't gos but I am vitally interested in the contract involving customer computer specialist which I think is item number 12.

I applaud the councilwoman who spoke here earlier and her focus on this issue and I share her concerns.

And lastly I echo her call to hit the pause button.

I think voting on this issue is not wise, is not good government. There's a couple different reasons, and I'll try to summarize them quickly.

But I think obviously the threat of losing federal funding is important and it shouldn't be counted slightly.

But I don't think that excuses or justifies the apparent irregularities present in this process, and I think I also don't think certainly it justifies a rush into the arms of an entity computer specialist that just four years ago was found to be a significant participant in a costly and embarrassing fraud.

There's a reason why people like Scott stringer and la Tisha James and some of the private sector watchdogs and even the media have been so 0ive rouse in their criticism of the collection of customer computer specialist.

This is not saving us money in the short term but we could end up losing money in the long term.

They're just not a reliable partner and they're not worthy of the business of this great city.

This is I think a case respectfully of being penny wise and pound foolish.

The other aspect I'll point out is the part of the process where y'all went back and you negotiated to get the price down.

And I think that was a laudable effort.

But there was only three eligible bidders if you went to that much

effort why not include those other bidders.
I think the possibility that in using, in including these other bidders may have resulted in even a better, a better result.
I think it's just unfair to the other bidders in the process not to have done that.

>> Thank you.

>> Next speaker Ms.
Arist Far.

>> My name is Mindy rowsher I'm reading testimony for Miriam.
I cannot be here so a representative is speaking on behalf of CEC 6 myself and many outraged parents in northern Manhattan.
As our DOE struggles to regain trust, transparency and more funding from our governor, how can we approve such a proposal with custom computer specialists when we know they have cheated our children before.
How can we continue to give them our business and excessive amounts of money when we know they did us wrong before?
If you truly embrace the chancellors new pillar and community engagement, you will listen to the people tonight.
The bodies in this room are not as many as those on social media.
Outrage at this company for even being considered again.
Again I urge you to vote against the proposal and give custom computer specialists our money it would be the right thing to do to send a strong message about who the DOE is today not who they were.
By approving this, you will approve that all the naysayers are right that nothing has changed and nothing ever will.
Not to mention you're giving fuel to the opposition to critique the DOE and rightfully so.
Again, do the right thing, stop corrupt past practices, vote no for custom computer special ist.
No place for that in our and Carmen's DOE.
Thank you Miriam CEC 6 president representing 41 Washington heights and inwood elementary and middle schools.

>> Miss hAmson.

>> I'm Leanne na haimson I'm had head of class size matters I wanted to speak to the chancellor members of the panel I urge you to withdraw this five-year contract to custom computer special ists due to be voted on tonight.
There is no possible justification for awarding such a huge contract to a company that was already implicated in a corrupt kickback scheme in 2011.
If it is true that in the last few days the Department of Education has renegotiated the price of this contract from \$225 million per year down to 127 million per year, that is only further evidence that either the price was significantly inflated in the first place, or the

scope of the contract has radically changed, which legally requires rebidding.

In the meantime, I urge you to release all the documentation concerning the contracts bidding, what the DOE's current status is regarding the rate program and whether the city's federal funding from the program has now been reinstated since it was suspended in 2011 due to the very scandal in which this company was involved.

Please also reveal whether the CCS ever repaid the funds they overcharged DOE and why so many millions of dollars must still be spent on Internet connectivity given that nearly two years ago in nofr 2013 DOE capital plan claimed the quote all of DOE's school buildings and classrooms have broadband connectivity and wireless access.

For your information nearly 125 million per year of city spending less than the amount proposed to be given to this vendor, the DOE could actually double the numbers of seats in the capital plan according to the independent budget office and significantly alleviate school overcrowding Tonight you've heard from parents throughout the city who have legitimate concerns about how overcrowded their schools are.

About 50 percent of our kids are in seriously overcrowded buildings. That's over 400,000 children and that means their class sizes are too low.

They lack art science and rooms or kids that are getting their services in hallways or in closets.

This highly questionable contract should not go forward until parents elected officials and the concerned citizens can be reassured in a fully transparent manner that it is absolutely necessary and has been awarded properly to the right vendor.

Thank you.

>> Thank you.

>> Next speaker.

>> Hi, my name is Jill Gutman I'm an educator and a role model.

As role models we have a unique responsibility to do the right thing. When we see injustice, specifically when we learn of how probationary teachers are treated by the DOE, we have a responsibility to stand up, speak out and take corrective action.

I am one of hundreds of probationary teachers have that have been unjustly discontinued by an abusive principal the DOE does not play well.

Not all principals are fit to have power to destroy lives and careers. For many of us, out of nowhere, we receive a letter from the superintendent stating that our probationary status is being reviewed and a final determination of discontinuans will be made in 30 days.

When you give a principal this type of power with no checks and balances you create a system where abuse is rampant.

I ask you, where else in America are ones rights so callously denied than by the DOE.

Why is it that you would rather stand behind corrupt administrators

than do the right thing and have policies in place that give probationary teachers a fair and unbiased appeal process. When a probationary teacher is E rated we receive a hearing in a kangaroo court where 99.9 percent of the ratings are upheld regardless if we have evidence to the contrary.

I have evidence to the contrary.

I stood here at the PEP meeting in Long Island city two months ago with the same fraudulent letter and was approached by the deputy chief counsel for the DOE.

I was assured that my former principals actions would be investigated. I am still standing here waiting for the DOE to explain how this happened.

According to ML DOE secretary they were going to be investigated. Specifically I was told that Laura Fayu deputy superintendent will review the cases I ask you when will this meeting be held?

Thank you.

>> Ma'am, can you just state on the record which school you're from again.

>> PS 34.

>> Thank you.

>> Next speaker.

>> Hello my name is Jason gutman taxpayer and husband to a discontinued New York City teacher recently three teachers from my wife's former school in Queens came forward and stated to the DOE that the principal had doctored the schools quality review removing children from overcrowded classrooms only allowing hand picked parents to be interviewed and only allowing specific teachers to be observed. Chancellor, you recently paid a visit to this very school PS 34 Queens.

Neither you nor anyone from your group spent anytime speaking to the teachers that are suffering the never-ending abuse coming from Principal Shakespeare why does the DOE continue to support these horrible and abusive principals.

The bullying and corruption lying fraud and theft being committed by these principals must be stopped.

Your actions chancellor or more importantly your inaction is giving these principals the empowerment to lie, steal and destroy the careers of teachers like my wife.

As you're now aware of the atrocities that are happening under your watch, you have a moral and ethical obligation to investigate and to make things just.

The New York Post recently published an article on February 22nd that if you're one of the chancellor's favorite principals you can be caught stealing directly from your school but will never be held accountable.

The Pauline Shakespeares Linda Hills must be held accountable for their actions.

Is this the legacy you want to leave behind?

>> Thank you.

>> Next speaker.

I'm Chris Mamao, service provider for the Department of Education for a number of computer products and services and we were a participant in the recent bid process for the infrastructure and the networking that's being discussed relative to the award in front of the panel tonight for custom computer.

We want to echo the comments and the sentiments of a number of the speakers in particular, the city council woman earlier this morning or earlier this evening.

Seemed like this morning.

Regarding the extreme price reduction that took place after the bid opening, we are very challenged to see how a 40 percent, 40 percent drop from a competitive bid can be accomplished without a substantive change in the scope.

And we believe that if ASI, who was approximately \$200 million less than custom computer in the original bid opening was afforded and the other responsible bidders were afforded the same opportunity and the same information to rebid this, that there be potential savings for the DOE and that that could take place with a firm that from our understanding is not on the watch list, the do not do business with from the SCI, from a letter to the chancellor four years ago, recommended to not do business with custom computer.

And we are imploring the panel to reconsider the vote this evening. We understand that there are timing issues but we also understand that the other responsible bidders in this process have contracts in place with the DOE.

With the city of New York and we don't think it will have to be a lengthy process to reset, to take the pause button and try to think this through a little bit more clearly.

Thank you.

>> Thank you.

>> That concludes --

>> Okay.

So we'll now move on to the resolution.

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

>> There are no recusals on any contract items being voted on this evening.

>> Thank you Madam Secretary.

Please raise your hand if you vote to approve resolution regarding

approval of contract items 1 through 10, 14 through 26 and 28.

>> I need to correct what I read in the record.
I said 13.

>> I said 13.

>> So we'll quickly -- everyone can put your hands down I'm going to correct the record.
When I read the resolutions I'm pretty sure I said 13.
So I will self-correct now and I will say that strike that and where I said 13 it should be 14 through 26.

>> 13's been removed.

>> We need to clear this up.
It's 14 to 26.

>> 14 to 26.

>> All right.
So we're all in agreement.
Again, first resolution contains contract items 1 through 10, 14 through 26 and 28.
The second resolution contains contract items 11 and 12.

>> Excuse me.
I would just like to say something.
There may be some panel members that have some discussion that they would like to present to the floor about these contracts before we vote on them.

>> Yes.

>> Please.

>> Panel members have questions regarding any of these contracts?

>> Go ahead.

>> This one or for the next.

>> For all of them.
-DELETE- We'll just do all of them.

>> I thought we would have conversation for the --
>> The 11 and 12 after.

>> Actually my comments are about 11 and 12.
I really have to echo everything I've heard from the floor, from those

that spoke about putting the pause button, hitting the pause button I have to say let's hit the stop button.
I'm very concerned about this.
I'm extremely concerned about this.
This is a huge contract.
And David -- I'm sorry, Mr.
Ross, this is nothing new to you or your colleague.
I've said this since I've heard about this.
Some of the elected officials have even sent me threatening notes that they were going to sue about this.
I think this is the wrong time to engage in this.
I'm not saying that it's the wrong -- there's not enough transparency surrounding this.
And I understand that the federal money that we should probably get, but I don't want to throw out the baby with the bath water in voting for a contract that has nothing hinged off of it.
I've heard a lot about corruption with these guys.
I think we should probably have not vote on this tonight.
Let's convene, have some deep dive discussions about this, what are we really trying to accomplish, what other vendors are out there that maybe we should be engaged with for this type of contract.
It's a huge contract.
And I don't want to see us vote on something today not have a plan in place for where it's going to be used, how it's going to be used and just spend money needlessly.
I think that this is the wrong time to do it.
Again, I don't want to lose the federal money either.
But I think the federal money is applicable to anyone that's out there.
The mere fact that they dropped it significantly, I'm trying to figure out, well, was it worth only one point, what is it \$1.5 million a start.

>> If you would like, Robert, if I may let me address some of the key points that were raised a short while ago.