



BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Harold O. Levy, Chancellor

Office of The Chancellor

110 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201

File 109M

Reference No. 2002-86

March 8, 2002

Dr. Irving S. Hamer, Jr.
Board Member
NYC Board of Education
110 Livingston Street
Brooklyn, N.Y. 11101

Re: P.S. 109-Manhattan

Dear Dr. Hamer:

This is to follow up on our meeting regarding the potential re-use of the vacant P.S. 109 Manhattan school site for use as a new high school.

This is a brief outline of the steps and processes required before proceeding with the demolition of the former P.S. 109 structure and building a new 600 to 800 seat high school on this site.

In accordance with the School Construction Authority statute, the siting of a new high school at this property would be subject to the SCA's site selection public review process. This would involve public hearings by the SCA, the Division of High Schools, the Community Boards and the City Council.

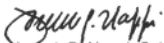
The project would also be subject to environmental review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQR). As the structure to be demolished is landmark eligible, the completed environmental assessment documents would have to be reviewed by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Most important, a full environmental impact statement (EIS) would almost certainly be required because of the potential significant impact of demolishing a landmark-eligible building.

The completion of the EIS and the site selection public review processes, which run concurrently, would take approximately one year. Currently, the new high school is funded for scope and design only. Construction funding would be required in the next Five-Year Capital Plan. Therefore, there will be sufficient time to complete the site selection process as well as the design in this Plan for construction in the next capital plan, if a decision to proceed with this project is made.

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If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,



Joseph P. Nappi, R.A.
Executive Director (Acting)
Division of School Facilities

JPN:cjb

c: David Klasfeld
Linda Corcoran
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f: PS 109-M
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