

February 17, 2016

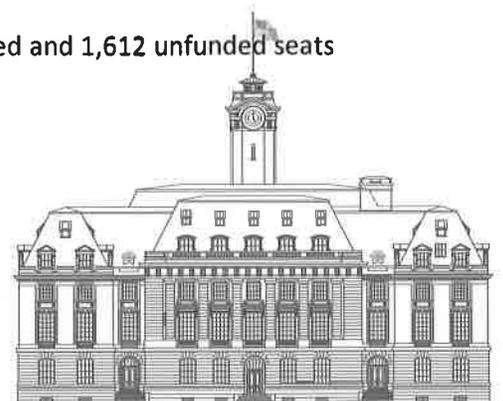
The Honorable Carmen Fariña  
Chancellor  
New York City Department of Education  
52 Chambers Street  
New York, NY 10007

Re: Staten Island Issues

Dear Chancellor Fariña:

It was a pleasure meeting with you to discuss various issues that are important to our Staten Island educational community. This letter will memorialize those areas that are of most concern to us:

- The Francis School (4240 Amboy Road, Staten Island, NY 10308) has been closed and the building is currently for lease. We see the need for a much-needed transfer school at this South Shore location. In order to enhance the work of the school, we recommend partnering with a program such as SLAM (Sobriety, Learning and Motivation) to help students with substance abuse issues.
- Eagle Academy has a need for contiguous space. We believe the mission of the school and student progress would be better served if the full 6-12 footprint remains intact on one site.
- There is a public outcry to expand PS 13 to 8<sup>th</sup> grade. The school site is able to support expansion.
- District 75 schools on Staten Island are in extremely poor physical conditions:
  - Hungerford School main North Shore site
  - PS 37 in Great Kills
  - PS 373 portables on Petrides campus
- Changing the requirements to create D 75 satellites would allow us to place classes at sites such as P 62. This would ease some of the stress on the aforementioned school buildings.
- The January, 2016 Amendment Capacity Program cites 1,736 funded and 1,612 unfunded seats in District 31.

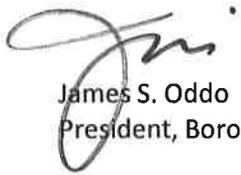


- We are actively pursuing the feasibility of creating a charter school for students with reading difficulties.
- Too Good for Drugs should follow HIV-AIDS model and should be mandated curriculum for K-12, city-wide.
- A long -term suspension site is required on Staten Island. This will enhance our students' ability to attend school; currently some students are forced to attend class off-Island.

I would also like to add that the creation of the Borough Support and Superintendent's offices has greatly added to our ability to help Staten Island students.

Thank you for your continued kind attention to the wants and needs of our borough. I look forward to tackling these issues as a dedicated and willing partner with you and the Department of Education.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Oddo', with a stylized flourish at the end.

James S. Oddo  
President, Borough of Staten Island