

May 12, 2016

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

Re: Staten Island Community Charter School

Dear Chancellor Fariña:

I hope this letter finds you well.

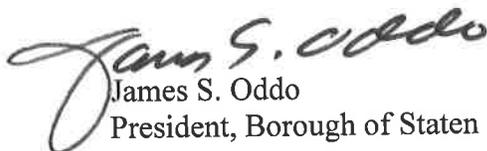
I am writing on behalf of the parents and students of the Staten Island Community Charter School (SICCS).

I have heard from parents firsthand about their level of disappointment and frustration, knowing that their home school, one with which they are comfortable on upon which they rely, may close. I also understand their trepidation about re-locating to a school they neither know nor trust. Those parents are trying to provide their children with the best educational environment they can find, and the prospect of having to enroll in a different school is a source of great distress - especially when that school may not be as well-suited to their child's needs.

I respectfully ask that you reconsider your decision to close the Staten Island Community Charter School. I've been told the school showed improvement under new leadership, and I believe we owe it to the children, the parents and the new administration to give them another year to see if this improvement represents a positive trend that can be built upon.

Thank you for your kind attention, and I hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,


James S. Oddo
President, Borough of Staten Island

