

April 18, 2016

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

Re: Potential Harbor School Location Visit

Dear Chancellor Fariña;

I hope this letter finds you well.

I am writing to invite you to join me in a tour of 120 New York Avenue, a potential home of an intermediate Harbor School.

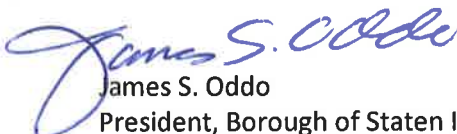
Last week members of my staff met with representatives of the National Parks Service (NPS) at the site of the building in Ft. Wadsworth, which I believe would be an ideal location for a maritime-themed intermediate school. Also in attendance at the meeting from the Department of Education were Borough Superintendent Anthony LoDico, Borough Field Support Director Kevin Moran, Operations Manager Jerel Cokely, and from the School Construction Authority, Fred Maley and Michael Cona.

All parties at the meeting were in agreement that locating a Harbor School on the grounds of Ft. Wadsworth, with its proximity and free access to beaches and shorelines, was an idea to be seriously explored. The advantages of this location, which is also home to United States Coast Guard Sector New York, are numerous. Set amid historically significant buildings, 120 New York Avenue is a modern, 90,000 sf structure (circa mid-1990's) with no environmental concerns, good ceiling height and few load bearing interior walls.

At our meeting in my office, you tasked me with finding a location for a school you very much wanted. I believe I have found it. I urge you to strongly consider joining me for a tour of this location at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Sincerely,


James S. Oddo
President, Borough of Staten Island

