



THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

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DOWNTOWN POLS RALLY WITH PARENTS AND STUDENTS TO PROTEST CONVERSION OF P.S. 150 INTO A LUXURY GYM

NEW YORK – Council Member Margaret S. Chin joined parents, students and elected officials at a rally today to protest a plan to close an award-winning school that serves a growing Tribeca neighborhood that is experiencing a huge demand for additional school seats. City officials informed P.S. 150 parents, teachers and administrators only last month that the building’s property owners, Vornado and Stellar Management, would evict the school at the end of the current academic year.

“This community needs more schools, not less,” said **Council Member Chin**. “The loss of this exceptional school would not only affect P.S. 150 students, but it would also have a ripple effect throughout our neighborhoods, which are seeing an influx of families with young children. I want to send a message to the landlords that we stand united with the P.S. 150 community to demand what’s best for our children.”



At the rally, Council Member Chin stood with parents and elected officials in calling on the landlords, the School Construction Authority (SCA), and the Department of Education (DOE) to return to the negotiating table and identify solutions that would preserve stability for these children and families.

“Students and families need certainty about their schools and the entire school community must be part of any planning for our schools' futures,” said **Congressman Jerrold Nadler**. “Lower Manhattan has long worked to maintain and build thriving public schools, and we need a well thought out plan for P.S. 150 that does not send our students shuffling from location to location in their pursuit of a quality education.”

“Multiple forced relocations deeply disrupt schools. P.S. 150 is recognized as an excellent school, and we shouldn't be undermining it,” said **Manhattan Borough President Gale A. Brewer**. “There's got to be a better way forward that doesn't involve bouncing this school from building to building twice in less than five years. We urge the Department of Education to work with us and find one.”

“Forcing students to relocate to a temporary home prior to being permanently located at Trinity should not be allowed to move forward at the expense of the students' educational and environmental stability,” said **Assemblymember Deborah J. Glick**. “The Tribeca community has benefited from the contributions of the student body and we would like to make sure that the sense of community is not lost or disrupted. We remain hopeful that the developers will reconsider and as good corporate citizens will respond to this reasonable request.”

DOE's current plan would potentially require P.S. 150 to move twice in a condensed time span. According to DOE, P.S. 150 would move to the Peck Slip School at the Seaport prior to the start of the 2019 school year, with a possible relocation to 42 Trinity Place in the Financial District in 2022. Taking place in a short time span, these two moves would severely impact P.S. 150 students and parents.

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