February 3, 2010

Mr. Joel Klein, Chancellor
NYC Board of Education
52 Chambers Street
New York, NY 10007

Dear Chancellor Klein:

At its Full Board meeting January 21, 2009 Community Board #2, Manhattan, adopted the following resolution:

**Resolution on 75 Morton Street**

**Whereas** Community Board 2 Manhattan has already gone on record in support of the creation of a Public Middle School in the building at 75 Morton Street, which is currently being used by the NYS Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities (OMRDD),

**And Whereas** our local NYC and NYS elected officials and the NYC Department of Education have shown enthusiastic support for this idea,

**And Whereas** the Department of Education recently announced that both Greenwich Village Middle School and Clinton School for Artists and Writers will move next year, and both of these could fit into one empty floor of 75 Morton Street

**And Whereas** the primary resistance to this plan has come from an un-identified source at the State Level, which has so far successfully prevented negotiations from reaching a serious level,

**And Whereas** the need for a new middle school in Greenwich Village has only grown in the past year, as enrollment and enrollment expectations have risen above previous predictions,

**And Whereas** the two future school facilities which had been promised to our community: one in the Foundling Hospital Building and one to be created by New York University, have had their projected opening dates pushed back to at least six more years, making them unavailable to an entire generation of elementary school students,

**And Whereas** the community’s plan for Morton Street would only require one floor of this under-utilized, and school ready building,
And Whereas our local elected officials have recently re-energized their efforts to promote this project, by collaborating together to identify the specific source of resistance, and by reaching out to the Governor for support and assistance,

Therefore Be It Resolved that Community Board 2 Manhattan reaffirms our strong support for the creation of a Public Middle School in the building at 75 Morton Street,

And Therefore Be It Further Resolved that CB2 supports the efforts of our local elected officials in pursuing this project, and urges them to continue to do everything in their power to make it happen,

And Therefore Be It Further Resolved that CB2 urges the Department of Education and the School Construction Authority to do whatever is necessary to create a new Middle School at 75 Morton Street.

Vote: Unanimous, with 36 Board members in favor

Please advise us of any decision or action taken in response of this resolution.

Sincerely,

Jo Hamilton, Chair
Community Board #2, Manhattan

Keen Berger, Chair
Social Services & Education Committee
Community Board #2, Manhattan

JH/gh

cc: Hon. Jerrold Nadler, Congressman
Hon. Thomas Duane, NY State Senator
Hon. Deborah Glick, Assembly Member
Hon. Scott Stringer, Man. Borough President
Hon. Christine Quinn, Council Speaker
Hon. Alan Jay Gerson, Council Member
Hon. Rosie Mendez, Council Member
Lolita Jackson, Manhattan Director, CAU
Sandy Myers, Community Board Liaison, MBPO
February 3, 2010

Mr. Joel Klein, Chancellor
NYC Board of Education
52 Chambers Street
New York, NY 10007

Dear Chancellor Klein:

At its Full Board meeting January 21, 2009 Community Board #2, Manhattan, adopted the following resolution:

**Resolution regarding Sex Education in New York City Schools.**

*Whereas* New York City’s teen pregnancy rates are higher than the national average. U.S. teens have higher rates of pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections than teens in most developed nations; and

*Whereas* 15 to 24 year olds represent only one quarter of the sexually active population, yet they account for nearly half of all new sexually transmitted infections each year; and

*Whereas* half of all new HIV infections in the United States occur among people under the age of 25; and

*Whereas* according to the New York City Department of Health, about half of high school students say they have had sex, and one in three high school students are currently sexually active; and

*Whereas* only two-thirds of New York City’s sexually active youth report using condoms, and one in five girls did not use any birth control the last time they had sex; and

*Whereas* research shows that comprehensive sex education programs delay the initiation of sex and increase the use of contraception. These programs have also been shown to reduce the number of sexual partners, and increase safe sex practices; and

*Whereas* an overwhelming majority of parents support the teaching of Sex Education, and in fact believe that it is already being taught in their children’s schools. A full 77% of registered voters in New York State mistakenly believe that Sex Education is currently part of the required school curriculum, while an even larger 85% want comprehensive Sex Education to be taught in school, according to a poll recently conducted by Hart Research Associates; and
Whereas neither New York City nor New York State currently require or provide funding for comprehensive Sex Education to be taught in schools. In New York City it is up to the Principal of each school to decide whether to provide sex education in the curricula, and what and how it should be taught; and

Whereas the New York City Department of Education has already developed comprehensive guidelines for the teaching of a Sex and Health Education curriculum, with emphasis on age appropriate language and materials, and offers training in the use of this curricula to school faculty, free of charge; and

Whereas Planned Parenthood of New York City (PPNYC) has been working in New York City for more than 90 years providing confidential health care services to the women, men and teens of New York regardless of their ability to pay, and has also provided innovative educational workshops on sex education, peer education, technical assistance, and professional training to communities throughout the city; and

Whereas in the fall of 2009, PPNYC launched the campaign, “We’re Going to the Principal’s Office”, which sets out to empower local parents with the tools they need to effectively advocate for medically accurate, age-appropriate sex education to be taught within their own children’s school

Therefore be it Resolved that Community Board 2 Manhattan supports Planned Parenthood of New York City’s “We’re Going to the Principal’s Office” campaign as an excellent method to empower parents to advocate for sex education in their children’s schools; and

Therefore be it Further Resolved that CB2 Manhattan recognizes the importance of making Health and Sex Education a part of the regular curriculum in all New York City Public Schools, and urges the Department of Education to make this happen.

Vote: Unanimous, with 36 Board members in favor

Please advise us of any decision or action taken in response of this resolution.

Sincerely,

Jo Hamilton, Chair
Community Board #2, Manhattan

Keen Berger, Chair
Social Services & Education Committee
Community Board #2, Manhattan

cc: Hon. Jerrold Nadler, Congressman
Hon. Thomas Duane, NY State Senator
Hon. Deborah Glick, Assembly Member
Hon. Scott Stringer, Man. Borough President
Hon. Christine Quinn, Council Speaker
Hon. Alan Jay Gerson, Council Member
Hon. Rosie Mendez, Council Member
Lolita Jackson, Manhattan Director, CAU
Sandy Myers, Community Board Liaison, MBPO