



# BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

HAROLD O. LEVY, *Chancellor*

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR  
110 LIVINGSTON STREET - BROOKLYN, NY 11201

November 5, 2001

Marilena Christodoulou  
President  
Stuyvesant High School Parents Association  
345 Chambers Street  
New York, N.Y. 10282-1099

Dear Ms. Cristodoulou:

I know that you met with Joe Nappi, Bernie Orlan and staff as well as our consultants and the Principal of Stuyvesant High School on October 26, 2001 to follow up on issues we discussed in my office on October 24<sup>th</sup>.

I understand that the October 10, 2001 letter, by Howard Bader to the Parents Association, was reviewed and following are the formal responses to the items enumerated.

Certification for Re-Occupancy: A letter from our consultants, ATC Associates (dated October 5, 2001) certified the safe re-occupancy of the Stuyvesant High School based on laboratory and physical examinations. A copy of this letter as well as pertinent documentation was made available to you.

Request to Modify Air Monitoring: The modification you requested have been agreed to and being performed. This changes have been confirmed by Howard Bader, your environmental consultant.

BOE Contact: Bernard Orlan of the Division of School Facilities is your contact for all environmental issues. He gave you instruction on how to reach him at all times for emergencies. In addition, it was confirmed that our consultant, ATC Associates, will advise Howard Bader each morning on the results of all tests being conducted.

Particulate Masks: The BOE has no plans nor anticipates the need to distribute particulate masks to the school's occupants.

Indoor Sampling: The specific tests and their scheduling has been agreed to and is being performed.

HVAC System Operation and Filtration: As you requested, pleated filters are being used for the major air handling units and are deemed to be adequate by your consultant. The unit ventilators were fitted with a new multi-layered filter recommended by your consultant and appears to be effective in reducing particulate infiltration. It was agreed that these filters will

be tested and evaluated after one week of use. Further, custodial staff will inspect the pleated filters bi-weekly and replace them once a month, or more often if necessary. Your consulaant is to consult further with the UFT on any objectionable outdoor contaminants that may require a shut-down of the HVAC system. Finally, a memorandum of instruction from the Senior Director for Building Services to the custodial engineer was issued with regard to the shutting down of the HVAC system in the event of an emergency occurrence within the system. Our custodial staff is highly trained to operate the HVAC system. A system shut-down of all unit ventilators can be made from the control panel located in the custodian's office. All main air handler units are controlled through the computer terminals that also are located in the custodian's office. After such a shut-down of the system, the custodian also inspects the school to assure that all units are off.

Bridge Cleaning: Mr. Vince McGowan of Battery Park City Authority was contacted on October 30, 2001. We requested more frequent cleanings wash down of the bridge's interior and exterior. Mr. McGowan has agreed to increase the frequency of cleaning with some assistance from the BOE. On October 31, 2001 our Plant Manager and custodian met with Mr. McGowan to work out the details of cleaning the bridge on a daily basis.

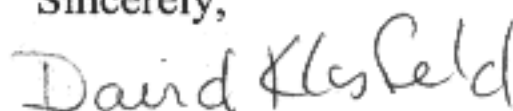
Cleaning of School Entrances: The school's entrances are wet cleaned every day after school classes. It was agreed that the custodial staff will also dry mop the entrances after the students arrive for classes (at approximately mid-day) each school day.

Dust Control/Outdoor Environmental Protocols: Chancellor Levy has made several requests to the City for a more rigorous effort to minimize dust from the barge operations north of the school. The Board of Education has no authority over either barge traffic in the Hudson River or where such barges are located. As I told you, even before your request Chancellor Levy had vigorously urged the Mayor's Office of Emergency Management to relocate these barges. We will make a request for the latest written procedures being followed at the barges from the Department of Health.

Many of the items above were being actively pursued and in effect prior to your meeting at the school and our meeting of October 24<sup>rd</sup> and we will advise you of any further information we receive as a result of follow-up to the meeting.

Thank you for your cooperation during this time.

Sincerely,



David Klasfeld

Deputy Chancellor for Operations

C: Harold O. Levy