



MICAH Z. KELLNER
65th Assembly District

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Support for the Creation of P.S. 267

Testimony by Assembly Member Micah Z. Kellner
before the Panel for Education Policy
Tuesday, March 9th 2010

My name is Micah Z. Kellner and I represent the 65th Assembly District in Manhattan, including parts of the Upper East Side, Yorkville, and Roosevelt Island. Thank you to the New York City Department of Education and the Panel for Education Policy for the opportunity to speak in support of the proposal to co-locate P.S. 267, a new elementary school, in the P.S. 158 building beginning in the 2010-11 school year.

I have been proud to work with Council Member Jessica Lappin, Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer, and parent leaders to achieve this ever since it was known that the P.S. 158 space would become available. I applaud the DOE for listening to the community and being so responsive.

The creation of a new school in the P.S. 158 building meets the immediate need to relieve overcrowding in the worst-hit Upper East Side schools. In addition, it avoids the mega-school proposal which was so unpopular with the community by giving the new school its own administration, and planned permanent location at the MEETH facility in a few years after P.S. 59 completes its scheduled relocation.

Last year, we made a serious dent in the school overcrowding problem on the Upper East Side with the opening of the new P.S. 151 school. The opening of P.S. 267 furthers this commitment.

I know that P.S. 267 will be a great success for our neighborhood and I urge the Panel for Education Policy to approve this proposal. Thank you again for the opportunity to testify today.