



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Thomas K. Duane

Testifying Against the Co-Location of a Charter Elementary School at the Brandeis Campus

THOMAS K. DUANE January 26, 2011

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On January 25, I submitted testimony at a joint hearing of the New York City Department of Education (DOE), the Community School District 3 (D3) Community Education Council (CEC3) and school leadership teams strongly opposing the DOE's proposal to co-locate a new Success Academy Charter School (SACS) with five existing high schools within the Brandeis Educational Campus (145 West 84 Street). I echoed the concerns of the D3 community that SACS would preclude the campus from accommodating much-needed additional high school seats; prove extremely disruptive to the building's existing schools; place elementary students at risk among older students; require costly retrofitting of the building for younger students, and reduce individual schools' flexibility in moving, exchanging and sharing classrooms and cluster rooms -- all while doing little or nothing to address elementary school overcrowding in the area.