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THE COUNCIL
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10/21/15

Chief Financial Officer Ray Orlando
 Division of Finance, Department of Education
 52 Chambers Street New York, NY 10007

Dear Ray Orlando:

In our meeting earlier this year your office agreed on the importance of transparency around DOE contracts. We had a productive conversation, and it was my understanding that full information about every contract bid out by the DOE would be made public at least ten days before the vote by the Panel for Educational Policy. You also indicated that this was a minimum, and there was a goal set that the information would be made available weeks ahead of time.

On October 27, there will be a vote by the Panel for Educational Policy and yet the DOE website is still not updated with complete information regarding many contracts that will be voted on.

Item: 15 Description: Head Start Full Day Services for Universal Pre-Kindergarten.

Term: 3 Years	Options: 2 Year option	Funding: NYSED
Division: Division of Early Childhood Education		Contract Type: Requirements
Vendor Name	Estimated Annual Amount	
Vendors To Be Determined	TBD	

Item: 16 Description: Universal Pre-kindergarten Full Day Services

Term: 3 years	Options: 2 year option	Funding: NYSED
Division: Division of Early Childhood Education		Contract Type: Requirements
Vendor Name	Estimated Annual Amount	
Vendors To Be Determined	TBD	

Item: 17 Description: Universal Pre-kindergarten Full Day Services.

Term: 3 years	Options: 2 year option	Funding: NYSED
Division: Division of Early Childhood Education		Contract Type: Requirements
Vendor Name	Estimated Annual Amount	
Vendors To Be Determined	TBD	

On November 19, there will be another PEP vote of several potentially costly technology contracts, including a \$150M no-bid contract for Apple computers, a contract for the TAARIS data system, and what may be the replacement for the earlier \$1.1 billion contract for Custom Computer Specialists for wiring and interconnectivity that was rejected last year by City Hall subsequent to the PEP vote.

It would be appreciated if your office could provide us with complete information on all the proposed contracts to be voted upon at the PEP on October 27th, as soon as possible; as well as complete information regarding items to be voted upon at the November 19th meeting be made available no later than November 5th, in accordance with your earlier promise. By providing this information in a timely manner, my staff and I can go over the information carefully to ensure that taxpayer money is being well-spent.

Yours sincerely,

Helen Rosenthal

CC: Chancellor Carmen Farina