

First of all, welcome Chancellor Carranza and I hope you have great success and bring equal success to our schools and kids. My name is Leonie Haimson and I'm ED of CSM.

As I'm sure you're aware, the NAEPs were released a couple of weeks ago and showed that despite the mayor's claims, there has been no improvement in student achievement in the past four years and the only change is a sharp decline in 4<sup>th</sup> grade math.

I wasn't surprised because there's been no significant reduction in class size over the last four years and nearly one third of all of our students remain crammed into classes of 30 or more, where in many cases it is impossible for them to receive the attention and support they need to learn.

In fact there's been a substantial increase in kids in very large classes in the early grades, where the research is crystal clear that class size matters tremendously for student achievement, especially for disadvantaged children and kids of color.

This is despite a state law passed in 2007 which obligated NYC to reduce class size in all grades, yet class sizes have risen since then.

On April 12 we filed a lawsuit against city, demanding that the DOE comply with the law and start reducing class size in all grades, below the level they were in 2007 when the law was passed. We hope that this won't have to be resolved in court, but instead we urge you to take a hard look at our schools and do what's right for our kids to give them a real chance to succeed.

There can be no equity until NYC students receive the class sizes they need and deserve.

Thank you for your time.