

PEP CONTRACTS MEETING TRANSCRIPT (January 28, 2021)

18:24:46 So good evening everyone. My name is Vanessa.
18:24:56 Young and I'm chair of the panel for educational policy.
18:24:58 Thank you for joining the January, 2021 panel for educational policy
18:25:03 meeting.
18:25:04 So I'd like to call this meeting to order.
18:25:08 So today is Wednesday, January 27th, 2021.
18:25:11 And this meeting is being held via teleconference due to the impact of
18:25:14 the COVID 19 virus.
18:25:22 That meeting is also being recorded and will subsequently be
18:25:26 transcribed. So I will now turn it over to Rebecca,
18:25:29 our producer for the evening.
18:25:30 So she'll be able to provide additional details on how this
18:25:32 teleconference will work.
18:25:34 Including instructions for those who've signed up.
18:25:36 Or wish to sign up for public comment.
18:25:38 Thank you chair.
18:25:41 Good evening. My name's Rebecca.
18:25:42 And I'm your producer for tonight's teleconference.
18:25:44 I will now provide details on how tonight's teleconference pep meeting
18:25:47 will work.
18:25:50 Members of the public are able to listen to this hearing via computer
18:25:53 or phone.
18:25:54 In addition members of the public may sign up to offer public comment
18:25:56 on any agenda item.
18:25:57 Or to offer public summit during the general public comment period.
18:26:01 For members of the public who have joined this teleconference by
18:26:03 computer.
18:26:05 Your smartphone,
18:26:06 you may sign up to speak by following the prompts on the screen.
18:26:08 When logging into the meeting.
18:26:09 That public funds.
18:26:11 Sign up period will run for 10 more minutes.
18:26:13 For members of the public calling in by phone.

18:26:21 You may sign up to speak for a given proposal by pressing star nine.
18:26:24 When that proposal is raised during this meeting.
18:26:26 Again, if you've called in by phone.
18:26:28 And wish to speak in regards to a particular proposal.
18:26:30 Please wait until your advice to do so.
18:26:32 During the course of the meeting.
18:26:34 If you press star nine,
18:26:36 now you will be signed up to speak during the general public.
18:26:41 [unknown] at the end of the meeting that public signup period will run
18:26:45 for 10 more minutes.
18:26:48 For each voting items, public comment period.
18:26:50 And for the general public 10 minute period.
18:26:57 At the end of the meeting, individuals to sign up to speak,
18:27:00 we'll be called in three groups.
18:27:01 First individuals who joined the meeting via computer will be called.
18:27:04 These individuals will be called to speak by name.
18:27:07 Then individuals making use of translation services will be called
18:27:10 finally individuals calling in via telephone.
18:27:12 It'll be fun.
18:27:13 These individuals will be called to speak by the last four digits of
18:27:16 their phone number.
18:27:17 If folks signed up for general comment.
18:27:24 But want to talk about chancellor's regulation changes or school
18:27:29 utilization proposals.
18:27:30 Please let us know in the Q and a.
18:27:32 Again, that's if.
18:27:39 You signed up for general public comment,
18:27:41 but you want to talk about chancellor's regulations or school
18:27:44 utilization proposals, please.
18:27:46 Let us know in the Q and a.
18:27:47 When a public commenters name or number is called that individuals,
18:27:50 audio will be un-muted.
18:27:51 And a camera will be enabled.
18:27:55 The public commentary.
18:27:56 We'll also we'll have the option of turning on their camera during
18:27:58 their comment period.

18:28:01 Public commenters will have two minutes to provide their comment.

18:28:04 If you're making in your comment in Spanish.

18:28:13 Mandarin or Cantonese,

18:28:14 it will be translated by the interpreter for all attendees to hear an

18:28:16 English additional time will be allotted as necessary to help

18:28:19 facilitate comments that require translation into English.

18:28:22 A countdown clock will be shown on screen.

18:28:23 When the time to speak has expired.

18:28:25 But speakers audio will again be muted and camera disabled.

18:28:32 Members of the panel,

18:28:34 maybe joining either on their computer or via phone.

18:28:36 We asked the panelists,

18:28:38 please be aware of background noise when toggling on and off your

18:28:40 microphones.

18:28:41 I'll now, turn it back over to the chair. Yeah.

18:28:42 Thank you, Rebecca.

18:28:47 I'm the secretary for tonight's meeting is the DOE is interim acting

18:28:51 general counsel Judi, Nathan.

18:28:53 Secretary Nathan, can you please call roll?

18:29:01 Sure. Can we now have all pet members introduce themselves briefly?

18:29:05 I will call panel members' names.

18:29:07 In alphabetical order and be sure to unmute your line to respond.

18:29:10 Larry and Angelo.

18:29:12 Peter.

18:29:15 [unknown] good evening, everyone. [unknown].

18:29:18 Trella Staten Island borough, president appointee.

18:29:20 Isaac Carmen nanny.

18:29:24 Good evening, all Isaac coming, Yanni, Marilyn.

18:29:26 Pointy welcome to our meeting.

18:29:32 Danielle Checon

18:29:33 and evening everyone Shania's shock.

18:29:35 On Bronx borough, president appointee.

18:29:37 April Chapman.

18:29:43 Yes. Good evening. This is April Chapman, Brooklyn borough,

18:29:46 president appointee.

18:29:47 Debra Dillingham.

18:29:50 Hi, Deborah Dillingham, Queensboro, president appointee.
18:29:53 Natalie Green chilies.
18:29:55 Giles. Yeah.
18:29:59 Natalie Green Giles.
18:30:03 Mayoral appointee. Good evening and welcome Judy. It's fine.
18:30:06 Sorry.
18:30:07 And I practice too.
18:30:08 Eric Henry.
18:30:09 Good evening, everyone.
18:30:11 Eric Henry Mayo.
18:30:12 Welcome to the meeting.
18:30:14 Michael Craft.
18:30:18 Michael Kraft Manhattan borough, president appointee.
18:30:20 Vanessa Liam.
18:30:24 Hi, good evening, Vanessa young, a mayoral appointee.
18:30:26 Gary Lennon.
18:30:28 Good evening.
18:30:32 Gary Lennon, marrow points, Cathy park price.
18:30:36 Good evening, Cathy park price, mayoral appointee present.
18:30:39 Laurie Podesta.
18:30:49 I do believe Laurie will be late this evening.
18:30:52 Okay. Thank you, Thomas Shepherd.
18:30:55 Good evening, everyone.
18:30:59 My name is Thomas Shepherd and I am the CC president's appointee.
18:31:02 Shannon. Wait.
18:31:04 Good evening. Shannon. Wait. Mariela.
18:31:05 Pointy.
18:31:07 Because voting at.
18:31:15 This evening's meeting will be done by a roll call.
18:31:17 I'd like to take a moment to confirm that we presently have 14 of 15
18:31:21 panel.
18:31:22 Voting.
18:31:23 Panel members present.
18:31:32 And can we now have old daily representatives and truce introduce
18:31:34 themselves. Once I say your name, please announce yourself briefly.
18:31:37 And again, be sure to turn your microphones on, to respond.
18:31:40 I'll start with myself. I'm Judi, Nathan and I am.
18:31:42 The DOE is interim acting general counsel.
18:31:44 Chancellor Carranza.

18:31:45 Good evening, everyone. Richard.
18:31:46 Chancellor.
18:31:47 Lindsay oats.
18:31:48 Evening Lindsay oats, chief financial officer.
18:31:50 Charlotte.
18:31:57 [unknown] senior executive director of the division of contracts and
18:32:00 purchasing.
18:32:01 Karen Goldmark.
18:32:06 Okay, Rebecca Rollins.
18:32:11 Hi, Rebecca Rollins, chief executive office of district planning.
18:32:14 You can call it the cook.
18:32:20 Okay.
18:32:23 Thank you. I will now turn the meeting back to the chair, Leon.
18:32:28 Thank you so much, secretary Nathan.
18:32:31 And welcome.
18:32:39 So we, before we move to our first order of business, I'd,
18:32:42 I'd like to introduce our newest panel member, Larian, Angelo.
18:32:45 God, I saw her.
18:32:46 Thank you.
18:32:47 Would you like to share anymore?
18:32:50 [unknown] welcome.
18:32:52 Thank you very much.
18:32:55 I'm a, I'm an economist by trade and I am a mayor.
18:33:06 The pointy I've spent much of my life.
18:33:09 I'm doing budgets for the city of New York,
18:33:11 from both the executive and the legislative side of the budget.
18:33:15 And in that time,
18:33:16 I developed a real connection to the department of education.
18:33:19 During my first run hit.
18:33:20 Oh, and B I had DOE is one of my assignments.
18:33:22 For about six years.
18:33:28 And I was lucky at that time to be there with DOE because,
18:33:32 you know, we went through the CFE struggles.
18:33:34 And successes and also the Obama stimulus.
18:33:37 In my second tour at ONB. Hi.
18:33:42 I had a broader portfolio, but I still work to stand up.
18:33:45 Supportive services corporation.
18:33:47 So.

18:33:50 I'm excited and grateful that I'm on this pattern.
18:33:53 I'm happy to help out.
18:33:57 And I'm excited to further the work of the department.
So thank you.
18:34:04 Thank you so much. And behalf of all the panel members,
18:34:06 we really welcomed you.
18:34:07 And we'll look forward to working with you.
18:34:11 So now we'll move to the business portion of our
meeting.
18:34:17 The first order of business,
18:34:18 if this evening will be approving the minutes from.
18:34:20 The December 14th.
18:34:21 2020 panel meeting.
18:34:23 Gosh, that feels a long time ago.
18:34:33 I'll ask the panel members.
18:34:34 Is there a motion to approve the minutes from the
December 14th panel
18:34:37 meeting? Yes. Panel member cracked. Is there a second
panel members?
18:34:40 Shepherd. Thank you.
18:34:41 Secretary, Nathan, will you now take a roll call,
18:34:43 vote regarding approval of the meeting minutes.
18:34:45 She will call the names of voting panel members
alphabetically.
18:34:48 And so when your name is club.
18:34:49 Please state whether or not you support or oppose or
abstain from
18:34:51 voting on this.
18:34:52 On this motion to approve the minutes.
18:34:54 Sure.
18:34:56 This boat is to approve the minutes from the December
14th panel
18:34:59 meeting.
18:35:00 Larry and Angelo.
18:35:01 I abstain. I was not present.
18:35:02 Peter Kalin Drella.
18:35:04 I approve.
18:35:07 Isaac common Yanni.
18:35:09 Yes approved.
18:35:14 Danielle Checon approved.
18:35:16 April Chapman.
18:35:17 Approve.
18:35:18 Ever Dillingham.
18:35:19 Pro.
18:35:20 Natalie.
18:35:23 Well done approved.
18:35:26 That's a sweat.

18:35:28 Patrick Henry.
18:35:31 Michael Craft.
18:35:34 Vanessa Leon.
18:35:36 Gary Lennon.
18:35:42 Cathy park price.
18:35:43 Approved.
18:35:46 And Laurie is not here yet.
18:35:48 Okay. Thomas Shepherd.
18:35:50 Approved.
18:35:51 Shannon. Wait.
18:35:59 So there are 13 in favor of approving the minutes and one abstention.
18:36:03 Carrie. Thank you very much.
18:36:04 Good evening.
18:36:06 Chancellor, I think we'll move to your updates.
18:36:12 Portion for the meeting, which he liked to share any remarks with us.
18:36:20 Sure. Thank you. Madam chair.
18:36:22 And I also want to add my voice to welcome Larian to the pep as a
18:36:26 panelist.
18:36:27 I think you will find the pep to be a very engaging,
18:36:30 very well-informed group.
18:36:31 New Yorkers. So welcome to the group.
18:36:33 I also want to thank Judy Nathan.
18:36:34 For stepping into the secretary role.
18:36:37 And you're gonna do just fine in that role.
18:36:39 Judy, we got your back.
18:36:47 So it's a pleasure to be here. And again,
18:36:49 I just want to say how proud we are of our students, our educators,
18:36:52 and our families.
18:36:53 During this pandemic.
18:36:54 They've all shown heroic, optimism and determination.
18:37:04 To achieve in the face of unthinkable obstacles.
18:37:06 I visit schools in person almost every day unannounced,
18:37:09 and I am just blown away by what I see happening in schools.
18:37:13 But just yesterday I drew,
18:37:14 I joined to classes on Staten Island virtually.
18:37:17 And I had the opportunity to.
18:37:19 Play my guitar with students and then another class do some art.
18:37:22 And you ask yourself, how do you do music and how do you do art?
18:37:26 Virtually the teachers were incredible,
18:37:28 but the students were incredible.

18:37:32 So I just want to thank everyone when I say your true heroes.

18:37:35 That's what I'm talking about.

18:37:37 What I'd like to do is also share some updates on what's happening within the department of education.

18:37:40 within the department of education.

18:37:44 First is I'd like to bring everyone's attention to the just launched school experience survey.

18:37:48 school experience survey.

18:37:49 And urge everyone joining us tonight to fill it out.

18:38:04 We know that this school year it's been like no other in our schools

18:38:06 want to know how it's been working for their school communities.

18:38:09 So from now until February 5th,

18:38:11 we're encouraging families and staff in all grades and students in

18:38:14 grades six through 12 to share their school experience with us.

18:38:16 Whether it's been fully remote or in a blended learning environment.

18:38:19 The DOE school experience survey is available in 10 languages.

18:38:22 And your answers will help our schools not only plan for the spring.

18:38:25 It'll also help us improve remote and in-person learning.

18:38:28 And our long, longer term planning, Fullmer.

18:38:30 Fall as well.

18:38:31 So if you're a parent or staff member, please fill it out yourself.

18:38:36 If your child is old enough, encourage them to fill it out as well,

18:38:39 because we want to hear from our students,

18:38:40 we want the student voice to be well-represented.

18:38:42 You can find the survey at schools.

18:38:44 Dot nyc.gov.

18:38:47 Backslash.

18:38:49 Experience survey.

18:38:57 I said that slow because I know there were translators.

18:38:59 I want to make sure they get to get that right.

18:39:00 So it's schools.nyc.gov backslash experience.

18:39:04 Survey.

18:39:07 Now I also understand there's been a whole lot of survey that's gone

18:39:10 on this year. So there may be a little bit of survey fatigue,

18:39:13 but please, this is critically important for us.
18:39:15 In our planning and we really want to hear from our community.
18:39:17 I'd also like to share some important information.
18:39:19 About middle and high school admissions reminders.
18:39:21 Middle school applications are open now until February 9th.
18:39:31 Fifth grade families,
18:39:32 please visit my schools.nyc or simply call three,
18:39:36 one, one to explore your options and apply for middle school.
18:39:44 We've made the process easier and more equitable for families
18:39:47 this year. But if you need help,
18:39:49 our family welcome centers are available virtually as well.
18:39:52 So go to schools.nyc.gov to get in touch.
18:39:55 Now on the high school admissions.
18:39:57 Applications for eighth graders.
18:39:58 And first time ninth graders are open now until February 23rd.
18:40:03 Similar to middle school admissions process changes.
18:40:05 We've also made the high school admissions process simpler and more
18:40:08 equitable for families as well.
18:40:09 District priorities for high school admissions will be permanently
18:40:12 eliminated this year.
18:40:13 Opening up schools to more students.
18:40:18 And all other geographic priorities like borough residents
18:40:20 requirements will be eliminated next year to make high school
18:40:23 admissions.
18:40:24 A truly citywide process.
18:40:30 So for schools at screen, based on academics or auditions,
18:40:32 you can find what that screening criteria information is on the,
18:40:36 my school's page.
18:40:44 We are also hosting virtual admissions information sessions where
18:40:47 we'll be walking families through how to apply to high school,
18:40:50 including any changes due to COVID 19 and how to build your
18:40:53 application for the process.

18:40:55 Those dates are on our website, or you can ask your school.

18:40:58 Finally regarding specialized high school admissions.

18:41:01 The main exam administration happened earlier today,

18:41:04 but there is still a chance to do a late registration through

18:41:07 tomorrow, the 28th.

18:41:08 In order to do this, please register via your, my school's account.

18:41:12 By tomorrow,

18:41:13 if you are doing a late registration and please do not miss it,

18:41:17 this is the last chance.

18:41:18 I'm very excited to let you know that we have launched parent

18:41:22 university.

18:41:24 And parent university is a platform that is continuing to expand its

18:41:27 offerings.

18:41:37 The platform offers all of New York city,

18:41:39 parents and guardians access to live and on-demand courses and

18:41:42 resources from across multiple subject areas and grade bands,

18:41:45 the courses are also available in multiple languages.

18:41:47 And we've already expanded the number of multi-lingual offerings and

18:41:50 we'll continue to do so.

18:41:51 All families from early childhood to adult education can create a free

18:41:55 account to register for workshops.

18:42:00 We have over 95 courses that include topics like remote learning and

18:42:03 supporting students during remote learning technology to early

18:42:07 childhood education.

18:42:08 So parents and guardians can access all of these courses at parent.

18:42:12 You.

18:42:13 Dot schools.nyc.gov.

18:42:16 Okay parent.

18:42:17 You got schools.nyc.gov.

18:42:20 I'd also like to spend just a moment talking about gifted and

18:42:23 talented.

18:42:29 And I want to thank all of the pep members and all of the staff and

18:42:31 families for their commitment to our schools and our students and the
18:42:34 discourse that has been happening.
18:42:35 I know that we share the same goals and those are to strengthen the
18:42:38 educational experience for every student.
18:42:39 And to leave a system more equitable than what we found.
18:42:45 Tonight the panel is taking up an item where those two aspirations
18:42:48 come together. Very explicitly.
18:42:52 The renewal of the gifted and talented test administration contract.
18:42:55 This is a very challenging topic as a pedagog.
18:42:58 As a principal, as a parent.
18:43:11 I can say with certainty that there is a better way to serve our young
18:43:14 learners.
18:43:15 Been through the current test that is administered to four-year-olds.
18:43:18 There is no research.
18:43:19 There is no pedagogical reason why one test your four year olds should
18:43:24 be a sole determinant.
18:43:25 That's why we want this to be the last year that this test will be
18:43:27 administered and it will be the last year.
18:43:29 Thanks to some very important conversations with pet members recently.
18:43:32 And I want to thank all pet members,
18:43:34 regardless of what your point of view is.
18:43:35 I want to thank you for engaging.
18:43:37 Thank you for engaging in conversations about equity and academics.
18:43:41 Thank you.
18:43:42 No matter where you stand on that conversation,
18:43:44 we're going to go about it differently this year, too.
18:43:46 We know,
18:43:47 and we agree that there's no time to waste on a topic as important as
18:43:50 this.
18:43:54 By carefully listening to a panel members and other communities have
18:43:57 told us,
18:43:58 we will lay out a set of changes that we can make this very year to
18:44:01 make GMT enrollment.

18:44:02 More equitable for all New York city students.
18:44:07 I want to thank again,
18:44:08 every single member of the panel for their hard work
and unvarnished
18:44:10 support and input for these recommendations.
18:44:13 No one said this was going to be easy.
18:44:15 And I know that from the fire,
18:44:16 we have forged something that will serve our students.
Well,
18:44:18 So I'm going to go through a couple of these changes
now,
18:44:20 and then introduce our first deputy mayor Dean fuller
hand.
18:44:23 To share some more of these changes that will be
implemented
18:44:25 immediately.
18:44:26 First filling unfilled, GMT seats through a lottery.
18:44:33 Now each year after offers go out,
18:44:35 there are a certain number of kindergarten GMT offers
that are not
18:44:37 taken by families.
18:44:38 In stark contrast to.
18:44:49 How we've done all kindergarten GMT offers in the past,
18:44:52 which has been based on the single test for this
enrollment cycle.
18:44:55 We will hold a lottery to fill those unfilled seats
over the summer.
18:44:58 Once we know where those seats are.
18:45:01 So we will fill every one of those seats and we will
utilize a lottery
18:45:04 to fill those unused seats. Secondly,
18:45:07 we're implementing a diversity in admissions for all
district GNT
18:45:10 programs.
18:45:11 So building on a model that is already in use in
hundreds of
18:45:14 admissions programs across the city.
18:45:16 We will expand the diversity in admissions model to
every G and T
18:45:19 program.
18:45:21 These programs get priority. Do unrepresented groups of
students,
18:45:24 including multi-lingual learners, students in temporary
housing.
18:45:28 It's eligible for free and reduced price lunch.
18:45:30 Programs prioritize seats for these students to ensure
that incoming

18:45:33 classes.
18:45:35 Better reflect the diversity of their burrows and other districts.
18:45:42 And thirdly,
18:45:43 we will widen the geographic priority for students living in districts
18:45:46 that do not have a kindergarten GMT program.
18:45:48 There are four districts in the city that don't have a kindergarten
18:45:51 GMT program.
18:45:52 The children of those districts.
18:45:56 Are you at a disadvantage because right now district programs give
18:45:58 priority to those living in the district.
18:46:00 Even if they have a lower score.
18:46:02 This would extend the geographic priority for students in district
18:46:04 seven.
18:46:06 12.
18:46:07 16 and 23.
18:46:10 To provide them priority in additional neighboring districts,
18:46:13 GNT programs.
18:46:15 So first of the three that we are not waiting and implementing
18:46:18 immediately.
18:46:24 And to share more of the details I'd like now to introduce our first
18:46:28 deputy mayor, Dean fuller hand, to provide some additional detail.
18:46:37 Dean you're muted.
18:47:13 Madam chair,
18:47:14 it looks like we're having some audio difficulties for our first
18:47:17 deputy mayor. Okay. Well maybe if.
18:47:19 Things.
18:47:21 Get better. Well,
18:47:22 Take a pause and invite a first step.
18:47:25 For the hand again.
18:47:26 Yes, ma'am.
18:47:27 All right. Well, thank you, chancellor.
18:47:30 So I will just before.
18:47:31 Yes, that's fine.
18:47:37 I'm sorry. I think that this is so important.
18:47:39 We should probably just wait to hear.
18:47:41 What deputy.
18:47:42 Well, the hand has to say.

18:47:45 He, I was just gonna go over just the.
18:47:48 Public decorum bulls.
18:47:49 Oh, okay.
18:47:50 Thank you.
18:48:00 Just a few comments about rule of decorum at this meeting.
18:48:03 So during the public comment period, our producer,
18:48:05 Rebecca we'll call the speakers up from the signup and the.
18:48:07 Methods that she described earlier. And so again,
18:48:09 each individual signed up to speak.
18:48:12 We'll be a lot of two minutes.
18:48:14 Additional time will be allotted as necessary to help facilitate
18:48:16 comments that require translation.
18:48:20 A countdown clock will be shown on the screen during public comments.
18:48:22 And when the allotted time to speak has elapsed.
18:48:24 The speakers microphone will be immediate and camera disabled.
18:48:27 Then the producer will move.
18:48:28 To the next speaker.
18:48:35 If a speaker is not here when his or her name is called,
18:48:37 we will move on to the next speaker.
18:48:38 And once we move on to the next speaker,
18:48:40 you cannot redeem your place in the queue.
18:48:42 And so be before we moved to the voting and public comment portions of
18:48:46 the meeting.
18:48:47 We will.
18:48:48 First call.
18:48:49 Our students.
18:48:50 Our elected officials.
18:48:54 Our CEC and citywide members to offer any public comments they might
18:48:57 have.
18:49:00 And now want to double check and see if first deputy mayor fully
18:49:03 hands.
18:49:04 Tech issues have been solved.
18:49:06 Maybe.
18:49:07 No.
18:49:08 Hmm.
18:49:13 Maybe you could call in. Yes, that's a good suggestion.
18:49:18 Rebecca, would you be able to.
18:49:21 Put in the number four.

18:49:22 Yeah, I'll do that.
18:49:23 Thank you.
18:49:39 Tech issues.
18:49:43 Always a challenge.
18:50:12 I put it in the chat.
18:50:13 Well, wonderful.
18:50:16 Thank you, Rebecca.
18:51:51 Should we perhaps.
18:51:53 Short recess.
18:51:57 A short break. We just need to.
18:52:02 I assume chancellor or somebody could let Rebecca know
what number to
18:52:05 look for.
18:52:06 Maybe we need to reassess.
18:52:10 It's us looking. Yes.
18:52:22 So we're going to take a break.
18:52:23 To make sure.
18:52:25 Three minute break.
18:52:34 Rebecca. Oh yeah. I was just going to say if they,
18:52:36 if the Dean's heater and it's called in,
18:52:38 you can raise your hand by pressing star nine.
18:52:40 So.
18:52:41 He know how to identify you. If you are.
18:52:47 See another hand raise.
18:52:51 Different game.
18:52:53 Oh, got it. Okay.
18:52:54 Okay.
18:52:55 Where.
18:52:56 I see the.
18:52:58 Number that we're looking for.
18:52:59 Okay.
18:53:04 Cool.
18:53:48 Hi.
18:54:19 Hello.
18:54:22 I think, I think.
18:54:23 Yes, we hear you.
18:54:25 You can hear me.
18:54:27 Wonderful.
18:54:29 Okay.
18:54:33 First deputy.
18:54:35 Mayor full hand, please.
18:54:38 Okay, so thank you very much.
18:54:47 And my apologies. I'm hoping it wasn't me,
18:54:49 but it may have were very well done.
18:54:51 In which case I apologize to the DOE staff.
18:54:55 And thank you for your patience. And I really do
apologize for that,

18:54:59 but I don't think this is the first meeting and that's probably ever
18:55:01 happened.
18:55:05 And won't be the last chancellor.
18:55:08 Thank you for your remarks. And let me echo those remarks.
18:55:11 It the, the effort.
18:55:13 That has gone in by you and your staff.
18:55:17 And I won't talk about the panel in a minute, but you and your staff.
18:55:21 During this pandemic has been extraordinary.
18:55:26 I know the mayor says it repeatedly on his morning, press conferences.
18:55:29 But it's never enough.
18:55:33 To always remember how much gratitude we have.
18:55:44 For the effort that's been put in.
18:55:46 I think it's quite telling that all the major American cities that we
18:55:50 have opened schools, we have done so safely.
18:55:52 That we are doing.
18:55:53 We are really doing everything we can in your staff is doing
18:55:56 everything we can.
18:55:59 To make this as successful as possible,
18:56:02 recognizing all the challenges we still have and the challenges we
18:56:05 need to deal with.
18:56:06 To the panel. Thank you. Thank you for allowing me to participate,
18:56:09 to give me this opportunity tonight.
18:56:11 I've talked to several of you.
18:56:12 I've learned a great deal in that. And I thank you for that.
18:56:20 And I now know that a, that dialogue will continue and that's,
18:56:23 that really is something I look forward to.
18:56:26 We appreciate the effort that you've done during the same months.
18:56:34 And we know that there's really no one.
18:56:36 This is easy for, we hope we are seeing.
18:56:48 We are seeing the end of this on the horizon,
18:56:51 but we know we still have many, many, many things to do that.
18:56:55 As we proceed to do that, we'll keep asking you.
18:56:58 And keep asking you for more and more. I'm not even.
18:57:01 I apologize that that comes with what we're all doing.
18:57:04 We're all committed to do.

18:57:05 For the residents of this city,
18:57:07 the children of this city that you're serving so well.
18:57:09 So with that. Thank you.
18:57:11 I do want to.
18:57:12 Continue.
18:57:17 What the chancellor had outlined on gifted and talented
and the
18:57:20 conversations we've had.
18:57:22 We do want to move.
18:57:23 Very quickly to a new beginning.
18:57:36 During several of these conversations,
18:57:38 it was clear the kind of engagement we need to do so
that we,
18:57:42 and the current process and we move to something that's
much more
18:57:45 enriching for our school community.
18:57:47 I I'll I'll start and I certainly can do this.
18:57:50 There's been concerns about the cost. We certainly
understand that.
18:57:53 As the former budget director,
18:57:54 I definitely understand that we will make sure that
DOE.
18:57:56 Is completely reimbursed for the approximately \$5
million.
18:58:00 With the cost of administering this exam.
18:58:02 We will, we will make it very clear.
18:58:06 We will insert a non-renewal provision in the person G
and T test
18:58:10 contract.
18:58:11 To make it very clear.
18:58:16 And this is a commitment from us and we'll put it in
writing that no
18:58:19 further extension of this contract in the years ahead.
18:58:28 And, and when it comes to safety,
18:58:30 there've been several questions about the safety and
health screening
18:58:34 and safety protocols. I hope you will all agree.
18:58:37 That we have.
18:58:38 We have proven and.
18:58:40 That will spare no expense.
18:58:42 On the health and safety of our children in the
schools.
18:58:45 We have, we have.
18:58:47 Whether it's ventilation.
18:58:52 Whether it's cleaning protocols,
18:58:53 which happen every single day at the school,
18:58:55 whether it's transforming and.

18:59:05 And reconstructing our schools,
18:59:06 whether it's putting in air filters in our schools,
18:59:09 we are doing all that we provide. As you know,
18:59:11 the PPE necessary. We upgrade whenever there's a
change.
18:59:15 We maintain the spacing and we are the only place in
the country that
18:59:19 is doing.
18:59:20 The kind of rigorous testing protocols every single
week and our K
18:59:24 through five. And [unknown].
18:59:25 Five schools.
18:59:26 Every single week we are in those schools.
18:59:28 Testing everyone every single month.
18:59:29 And we're going to continue that we have established.
18:59:32 Through the department of situation room.
18:59:35 That that works with the department of health directly.
18:59:38 That works with health and hospital corporation.
18:59:40 Our T2 testing protocols.
18:59:43 And, and every single week,
18:59:52 I know that, that I speak for Richard on this and the
staff.
18:59:55 We have constant conversations with all of our union
representatives.
18:59:59 To make sure how we can improve that,
19:00:00 how we can improve health and safety.
19:00:02 And how we continue to do that. So I wanted to assure
you.
19:00:12 We'll spare nothing on making sure that we continue to
provide the
19:00:17 kind of health and safety that you you're, that you
insist on.
19:00:20 And that we insist on.
19:00:21 The.
19:00:22 The.
19:00:25 Over the coming weeks.
19:00:26 One of the conversations that was clear was so exactly
how are we
19:00:29 going to engage?
19:00:30 And how do we move forward on this?
19:00:32 So we intend to release a detailed plan for engagement.
19:00:37 That creates the alternative approach,
19:00:39 the better approach that the chancellor referred to.
19:00:41 The plans in progress, we will share an outline.
19:00:47 Including proposed timelines with all the panel
members.
19:00:50 The plan includes five borough listening tour.

19:00:55 Feedback sessions with the members of the panel.
19:00:57 My many other forms of engagement. I know that.
19:00:59 The mayor.
19:01:04 The chancellor and I we'll we'll look forward in early
February to
19:01:08 start this off by meeting with panel members.
19:01:11 And making sure we get your input on how we're going to
move forward.
19:01:15 On second.
19:01:17 And, and really it flows directly from what I just
talked about.
19:01:23 We'll ask the panel members to play a leading role in
formulating the
19:01:26 approach. I just mentioned.
19:01:27 By joining in this engagement.
19:01:28 Robust role for the panel.
19:01:32 Through the spring and the summer.
19:01:39 So that we can get to a clear conclusion about what's
the best way to
19:01:42 deal with this moving forward.
19:01:51 Heard we want, we want,
19:01:53 we understand that the panel members want to see a
commitment to
19:01:55 ensure that new programs and approaching gift Intel
received the
19:01:58 funding.
19:01:59 The efforts and the support they need, we commit.
19:02:02 To return for further discussions to make that approach
work.
19:02:06 Colluding keeping the panel appraised of all potential
cost
19:02:09 considerations, new programmings.
19:02:11 And the shape of things to come.
19:02:12 We share the deep commitment.
19:02:17 That we need a new approach. We will develop that with
you.
19:02:21 And it's something that we will make real for school
communities.
19:02:25 So on behalf of the Bayer.
19:02:26 Echoing what the chancellor.
19:02:28 Has already committed to.
19:02:31 We have nothing but appreciation for the efforts.
19:02:35 And everything you're doing, we are convinced.
19:02:40 And I certainly am after many conversations and I look
forward to many
19:02:44 more.
19:02:49 That we can, that we can leave a much more successful,

19:02:52 gifted and talented program working together.
19:02:55 And with that. Thank you again very much.
19:02:57 Thank you very much. First step be mayor.
19:03:00 Houlihan.
19:03:01 Thank you for joining us this evening.
19:03:13 Where we will.
19:03:14 I'm actually gonna turn this over to Rebecca now to facilitate the
19:03:19 comments, the public comments from.
19:03:21 Our students this evening.
19:03:22 Our CC and citywide officials, elected officials.
19:03:24 Yes.
19:03:25 Remember shepherd.
19:03:28 I'm sorry, I'd just like to clarify two points.
19:03:31 One is.
19:03:37 The chancellor has remarked said that we supported this proposal and
19:03:40 to clarify.
19:03:43 We did not all support it. We had some serious concerns with it,
19:03:45 but we were willing to move forward with the dialogue.
19:03:47 And the second is.
19:03:56 Deputy mayor full hand indicated that he had conversations with a
19:04:00 panel members and I didn't receive that call.
19:04:02 So I just wanted to clarify those points.
19:04:04 As we continue to have this conversation. Thank you.
19:04:06 Thank you, Pam.
19:04:07 All right.
19:04:08 Rebecca.
19:04:09 Yes. Thank you.
19:04:18 At this time,
19:04:19 we will hear from any students who have signed up to offer general
19:04:22 public comment, then we will hear from elected officials.
19:04:25 And any CC members who have signed up to speak.
19:04:33 These comments are untimed,
19:04:34 but please we do have over a hundred people who have signed up to
19:04:38 speak tonight. So please, please keep your comments brief.
19:04:41 And please introduce yourself and correct my pronunciation.
19:04:44 Applicable.
19:04:45 So the first student.
19:04:46 That we have signed up to speak is.

19:04:49 And I'll bring the next speakers up on screen shortly.
19:04:53 The first student is the Jola. You Miraj.
19:05:04 But Jola your audio and video.
19:05:07 Has been enabled, please unmute yourself.
19:05:15 Hello.
19:05:33 First off,
19:05:34 I would like to start off by thanking you guys for giving us a,
19:05:37 a chance to express our thoughts tonight.
19:05:38 I am currently a sophomore at Academy of American studies,
19:05:41 and I've experienced a sense of community.
19:05:43 The students and faculty create each year with,
19:05:45 with incoming students so far.
19:05:47 From experience. I can say that it's a great school,
19:05:49 prepares us for the future by teaching us how to thrive from our
19:05:51 education.
19:05:52 Sorry.
19:05:53 Next year I'll become a junior, arguably,
19:05:55 one of the most important to.
19:05:56 Years in high school. So I'm asking.
19:06:00 And thanking you guys for 'em.
19:06:02 Making.
19:06:06 Possible the renovations to our, a new building for our school.
19:06:14 And thanking you guys for B for allowing us to have new labs and new
19:06:17 gymnasium, new classrooms, and even access to a library,
19:06:20 a new building.
19:06:21 We'll allow our school to run smoothly and provide the students with
19:06:24 more opportunities or resources.
19:06:25 Which is essential.
19:06:30 Having a new environment that isn't being shared with another school
19:06:32 and having to cross the street to get to other clubs to each of our
19:06:35 classes.
19:06:36 Allows your students to feel comfortable and safe.
19:06:38 And motivates us instead of feeling like outsiders.
19:06:48 We would value the help and trying to keep the project on track.
19:06:51 And thank you so much for, for making this project possible.
19:06:55 And thank you for your time.

19:06:56 Thank you.
19:06:57 Thank you.
19:07:00 The next student speaker is Graham Potter book.
19:07:07 Your audio and video has been enabled season yourself.
19:07:13 All right. Can you guys hear me?
19:07:16 Yes, we can hear you and see your cool.
19:07:17 Thank you.
19:07:20 So my name is Graham.
19:07:21 I currently attend millennium Brooklyn high school.
19:07:25 I just wanted to share my thoughts on the inside of the container of
19:07:27 the Pearson contract.
19:07:28 My experiences with the gifted and talented programs began.
19:07:32 When I was attending elementary school at PS 10,
19:07:34 which is in district 15.
19:07:37 There's a gifted and talented program that began in kindergarten at
19:07:39 that school.
19:07:44 And those kids would stay in that gifted and talented class together
19:07:46 throughout the entirety of the next five years of elementary school.
19:07:49 I mean,
19:07:50 this meant that these 30 or so kids were obstensively separated from
19:07:53 the rest of their grade and their peers.
19:07:54 I never had a friend from inside that class.
19:07:56 And that's not to say that I didn't want to be,
19:07:57 but they just were completely.
19:08:03 Separated out know in what world,
19:08:05 the idea of separating kids from their community at the age of five,
19:08:07 because they pass the test. Sounds like a good idea.
19:08:09 From an outside perspective of the kids in the class were presented.
19:08:11 For an,
19:08:12 I've been told by a friend who was in the class in third grade.
19:08:18 The atmosphere,
19:08:19 even at nine years old was one of the we're different let's face it.
19:08:22 They're not different. They're kids.
19:08:31 And clearly the city government knows that this G the current G and T
19:08:33 system is flawed and outdated.

19:08:35 And this is my I'll be discontinued after another year,
but I say,
19:08:37 why, wait another year, let's just get rid of it now.
19:08:39 So please vote no on the contract that not only
upholds.
19:08:44 I'm a segregated school system.
19:08:45 But just, it creates resentment and elementary schools,
19:08:47 which I don't think is ever a good idea.
19:08:49 But the money that will be saved towards educational
programs that
19:08:51 rich.
19:08:52 All New York city students, not just a few. Thank you
guys so much.
19:08:55 Thank you, Graham.
19:08:59 The next student speaker is Brianna. Right.
19:09:10 Hi, I'm Brianna. Thank you for allowing us to speak.
19:09:13 Then I want to share some stuff on the gifted and
talented program.
19:09:16 The gifted and talented program should be canceled this
year.
19:09:21 Because the test itself is racist and as a form of
segregation,
19:09:24 The test and the gifted and talented.
19:09:27 Test.
19:09:39 Is racist because as many, as many studies show these
programs,
19:09:43 mostly except Asian and white students,
19:09:44 and they don't really accept black and Latino and
Hispanic students
19:09:47 studies show that the gifted and talented program.
19:09:49 Has 73%.
19:09:51 Asian students, three, 6%.
19:09:52 Students and only 8% of Hispanic students in 6% of
African-American
19:09:56 students.
19:09:58 This test is not fair,
19:09:59 nor does it has diversity and why wait another year to
get rid of it.
19:10:02 Why not start now?
19:10:03 And build a foundation and build the foundation right
now.
19:10:05 So we this year,
19:10:08 The same students. So this year,
19:10:09 those new students don't have to go on the same path
that many.
19:10:12 Of the other students before the went on also.

19:10:19 Also this pandemic has affected many students in their learning
19:10:22 experiences. They all have the same learning experiences.
19:10:26 As they had before this pandemic.
19:10:28 So it's completely unfair and unjust to continue this test.
19:10:32 Thank you for allowing me to speak.
19:10:36 Thank you, Brianna.
19:10:39 Then the next student speaker is.
19:10:45 Ludo your audio and video has been enabled. Please unmute yourself.
19:10:48 Sure. Thank you.
19:10:49 Thank you for having me.
19:10:51 Good evening.
19:10:52 My name is Gabriel.
19:10:54 I'm a junior at sending forest Hills high school located in Queens.
19:10:59 There isn't to have joined this telecall is because the students to
19:11:01 guidance ratio at our school.
19:11:03 Is 500 to one.
19:11:05 We have around 4,000 students, but only eight guidance counselors.
19:11:09 That's alarming. Right?
19:11:10 No single individual would be able to communicate.
19:11:13 Or solve the problems of 500 students, let alone do it effectively.
19:11:18 So I've talked to my friends at other schools, right.
19:11:21 So just tell some Harris.
19:11:22 And the ratio at the school is 200 to one.
19:11:24 I thought, well, you know,
19:11:25 maybe it's because they get a lot of funding, right.
19:11:33 However, John bound,
19:11:34 who I believe forest Hills high school has a lot in common with in
19:11:37 terms of funding has a ratio of 240 to one.
19:11:40 So I did some research and according to the New York state,
19:11:42 Education. And why? S E d.gov.
19:11:46 It States the ratio of school counselors to the student should be a
19:11:49 maximum of one to two 50.
19:11:51 But preferably one to 100.
19:11:56 At our school, it's double the maximum and yes,
19:11:58 I have reached out to my principal and vice-principal,
19:12:01 it was back in September.

19:12:04 But I did not receive a response. And instead,
19:12:06 I got a message from the coordinator of student
affairs,
19:12:08 who I met when I was in student government, that it was
not.
19:12:10 Wise of me to reach out to my principal.
19:12:13 Directly.
19:12:14 And that I shouldn't have published publicize this
information on my,
19:12:17 again, my social media.
19:12:20 Since then change has not been implemented in students,
19:12:22 including myself, struggle to get the guidance we need.
19:12:24 And this is why I've come on here too.
19:12:26 Hopefully we get the support of Ms.
19:12:27 Our chancellor.
19:12:33 Thank you.
19:12:37 The next student speaker is.
19:12:39 Ariba is on.
19:12:42 Your audio and video has been enabled to please send me
it yourself.
19:12:44 Okay.
19:12:45 Hi, I'm Ariba.
19:12:49 From the Academy of American studies. I'm a current
sophomore there.
19:12:52 First I wanted to say thank you for the opportunity
for.
19:12:54 Giving me.
19:12:55 The opportunity to speak.
19:13:06 And I just wanted to start off by saying thank you for
the moving up
19:13:10 of the day of the Academy building,
19:13:12 as it was originally supposed to be built.
19:13:14 I'm on.
19:13:15 September 20, 22.
19:13:16 And then it was moved up to February, 2020.
19:13:19 Yeah.
19:13:26 And I just want to say thank you because it would give,
19:13:28 give Academy a new environment. Especially during this
pandemic,
19:13:31 it would be really great for students to come to a new
build thing
19:13:34 and.
19:13:35 Just say new change in environment since morale is
super low.
19:13:38 Because of online school.
19:13:39 And.
19:13:41 Yeah.

19:13:42 Thank you.
19:13:43 Thank you Reba.
19:13:49 The next student speaker is Mia.
19:13:52 You Siano.
19:13:55 Your audio and video has been enabled.
19:13:56 Please unmute yourself.
19:14:11 Good evening. My name is Mia Juliana,
19:14:12 and I'm a current junior student at Academy of American
studies high
19:14:15 school.
19:14:18 When I entered the school as a freshman in 2018,
19:14:20 I immediately felt welcomed and knew this was a place
where I would
19:14:22 have the chance to learn and grow.
19:14:23 Throughout my years, I've improved my skills in all
fields.
19:14:25 I made incredible friends to share the highs and lows
of high school.
19:14:33 They're all here today to discuss the possible opening
date for our
19:14:36 new school building the students and staff from Academy
greatly
19:14:38 appreciate the change of our new school building.
19:14:41 Date to February, 2021.
19:14:43 Two.
19:14:48 I for 1:00 AM glad to spend even a few months in the
new building and
19:14:51 be part of the first graduating class with a new
building.
19:14:54 There are numerous issues that need to be dealt with,
19:14:55 and those issues take time to manage.
19:14:57 With the new opening date,
19:14:58 we would have the opportunity to use previous months to
address those
19:15:00 issues and ensure that the incoming students are able
to have a great
19:15:02 school.
19:15:03 Our school will have the possibility to operate
efficiently if given
19:15:06 more time to prepare.
19:15:07 Furthermore,
19:15:08 the opening of a new building would inspire positive
attitudes
19:15:10 throughout the community.
19:15:12 After this pandemic.
19:15:22 We all need that positivity more than I think lastly,

19:15:24 one of the main reasons that we are requesting the new building so
19:15:26 soon,
19:15:27 so it doesn't get pushed off our school needs the funds to be able to
19:15:30 continue this project.
19:15:31 And if those funds are no longer provided or placed into other
19:15:33 projects, students will have to wait longer for a new building.
19:15:35 We appreciate the time that you've taken to speak to us today.
19:15:38 And we hope this building can further unite Academy students and
19:15:40 staff.
19:15:41 Thank you.
19:15:42 Thank you Mia. The next.
19:15:44 A student speaker is Niamh Smith.
19:15:46 Your audio and video has been enabled. Please unmute yourself.
19:15:48 Hi, I'm first.
19:15:50 I would like to first thank you for taking the time to listen to me
19:15:52 and my peers tonight. It is genuinely appreciate it.
19:16:05 I'm currently a sophomore at the Academy of American studies.
19:16:07 And when I entered school in September, 2019,
19:16:09 I knew that the building situation would be challenging at times,
19:16:12 but I was willing to go because I knew that AA has to be a great place
19:16:15 to spend my high school days.
19:16:16 I was also putting these because during my freshman year,
19:16:18 the administration told me that we would have a new building.
19:16:20 In 2021 in September, in my junior year.
19:16:22 So when,
19:16:23 when we got the news that the new building would be postponed to
19:16:26 September 22, 2022.
19:16:28 I was very disappointed.
19:16:29 This is why I'm so thankful that they have moved up the new building
19:16:31 opening to February, 2022.
19:16:34 A new building will get increased.
19:16:35 The quality of learning and Academy.

19:16:36 The new building will give us new library labs and a new gymnasium.

19:16:39 It will also give us the space to add new courses to our cattle.

19:16:42 Furthermore with the system surrounding the pandemic,

19:16:44 I would personally feel much safer.

19:16:46 In a building with newer ventilation systems.

19:16:50 We are so incredibly thankful that the building opening has been moved

19:16:53 up to February 20, 22.

19:16:55 You're just asking you guys help us keep our new building opening on

19:16:59 track.

19:17:00 Thank you so much for your time.

19:17:01 Thank you.

19:17:03 The next student speaker is.

19:17:08 Ariana at silence, your audio, and video's been enabled.

19:17:10 Please unmute yourself.

19:17:30 My name is Ariana,

19:17:31 and I'm currently a sophomore at Academy of American studies.

19:17:33 I would first like to express our heartfelt gratitude for how far we

19:17:37 have come in the development of the new school.

19:17:38 And thank you for giving our voices and opportunity to be heard

19:17:41 this evening tonight. I'm here on behalf of my school community.

19:17:49 To requesting your support to keep our new building project on track,

19:17:52 along with many other families.

19:17:53 Part of my decision and attending Academy was the new building,

19:17:57 which allows for enthusiasm within the student body and long

19:18:00 Island city community. Following the pandemic,

19:18:02 upholding the promises we have made.

19:18:10 To our incoming students,

19:18:11 immediate use of the art music and technology rooms that we have all

19:18:14 eagerly, awaited,

19:18:15 and a library that we do not have to share with another high school

19:18:18 and you support and keeping the project on track and completed by

19:18:21 February, 2022 would be greatly appreciated.

19:18:24 Thank you again for your time and consideration.
19:18:25 Thank you. The next student speaker is Meryl. Must soon.
19:18:29 Your audio and video has been enabled.
19:18:30 Please unmute yourself.
19:18:31 Hi, my name is Mariano sham.
19:18:33 Sham and a number of teens take charge.
19:18:35 And I'm sure today with an important message.
19:18:39 I spent a mem I've been gifted intelligent student for three years
19:18:42 from elementary school.
19:18:43 From.
19:18:44 Grades two to five.
19:18:54 Our school deemed a special, we had specialist soak, showcases,
19:18:57 special clarinet lessons, special music programs,
19:19:00 special field trips.
19:19:01 Like another student said we were special. We were basic essentially.
19:19:05 Given so much more than the rest of the other students,
19:19:07 especially when it came to the arts.
19:19:16 And the message that they sent to our class of mostly white and Asian
19:19:19 kids in contrast to the majority black and Latinex school was clear.
19:19:23 Well, you were worthy to be invested in and they were not.
19:19:28 In a country that tells us that separate is inherently unequal.
19:19:32 And.
19:19:34 In a year that has shown.
19:19:36 The.
19:19:42 In a year with a pandemic that has laid bare the inequities that black
19:19:45 and Brown children have to endure.
19:19:47 I enter, why do we have another obstacle to black and Brown success?
19:19:50 Why do we allow for over-testing?
19:19:54 We need to end the gifted and talented programs.
19:19:57 I'm a gifted and talented kid.
19:20:08 And I was only raised with white and Asian peers.
19:20:11 And I'm ashamed to say that a lot of the peers that I grew up with,
19:20:15 they still Harbor racist beliefs because of that program.
19:20:18 So why are we allowing this racism to exist?
19:20:20 Why are we allowing lightened,

19:20:22 Asians and black and Latinos to be separate,
19:20:25 separated from each other?
19:20:27 Why are we allowing for white and Asian kids to be much
more invested
19:20:30 in than black and Brown kids?
19:20:32 We need to abolish the gifted and talented tests.
19:20:34 Thank you.
19:20:38 Thank you Meryl. The next.
19:20:41 Student speaker is weak. A ceiling.
19:20:43 Lucas.
19:20:45 Audio and video is enabled.
19:20:47 Yeah.
19:20:48 Hello.
19:20:54 My name is Lucas Healy, and I go to a D 75 school.
19:20:58 And.
19:20:59 This.
19:21:00 I mean.
19:21:02 There are lots of things.
19:21:06 Things that make us a person.
19:21:14 Our res our culture, how we live, where we live.
19:21:17 How we love, who we love.
19:21:21 Just are just a few.
19:21:25 All these things.
19:21:28 Also affect how we learn.
19:21:34 If we need more time because we speak.
19:21:37 A different language.
19:21:40 At home.
19:21:43 Please give us more time.
19:21:48 If we need more.
19:21:50 And we need support.
19:21:51 Because our brains.
19:21:53 Process.
19:21:55 Information.
19:21:57 In a different way.
19:22:00 Please give us the support.
19:22:06 If we need an answer is to learn.
19:22:09 Please help us get it.
19:22:16 And if we need.
19:22:18 To learn more.
19:22:19 Then.
19:22:23 We need to take tests.
19:22:25 That.
19:22:26 Do not.
19:22:27 That.
19:22:28 That don't.
19:22:29 We have flipped.
19:22:33 What.

19:22:51 What we know.
19:22:55 Then, please let us learn.
19:22:58 The main thing.
19:23:00 We need is a chance.
19:23:03 To be.
19:23:05 To be here.
19:23:08 Eric and scene.
19:23:12 And, and that is not going to happen.
19:23:16 Show me, you see me?
19:23:18 Please vote. No.
19:23:20 Oh on.
19:23:25 P on a piercing.
19:23:28 Contract.
19:23:32 Thank you for listening. Look as Hailey signing out.
19:23:35 Thank you so much, Lucas.
19:23:37 The next.
19:23:40 Student speaker.
19:23:42 And the last students figure is Sophie mode.
19:23:46 Sophie your audio and video has been enabled. Please unmute yourself.
19:23:52 Hi, my name is Sophie and I'm a high school senior.
19:24:07 The gifted and talented test is discriminatory in a normal year,
19:24:10 which the mayor and chancellor know is they've decided to phase it out
19:24:12 with black and Latin X students making up 66% of New York city public
19:24:15 school students,
19:24:16 but just 22% of students in gifted and talented programs.
19:24:20 But this is not a normal year and with a pandemic raging that has both
19:24:23 medically and financially disproportionately effected low-income
19:24:25 students of color,
19:24:27 not to mention inequitable access to remote learning.
19:24:29 It is absolutely immoral.
19:24:30 The gifted and talented test is not about intelligence and drive,
19:24:33 but about privilege and access to tutoring and other forms of
19:24:35 preparation.
19:24:36 A test cannot measure these things.
19:24:37 And especially not at the ages of four and five.
19:24:40 If the inequities that exist in the most segregated public school
19:24:42 system in the nation warrant enough.

19:24:48 Getting into G and T requires a one-on-one examination with a teacher

19:24:50 leaving no room for social distancing and continuing to endanger our

19:24:53 teachers who have worked so hard through such difficult and uncertain

19:24:56 times.

19:25:02 Finally the contract with Pearson is for \$5 million not to mention the

19:25:06 million spent on the school diversity advisory group,

19:25:08 which told us to remove the test two years ago,

19:25:10 all of this money that could be spent on actually getting students

19:25:12 proper technology.

19:25:13 Putting wifi in homeless shelters, expanding language, access,

19:25:16 and translation services for immigrant and undocumented communities.

19:25:19 Updating the schools and most vulnerable sip.

19:25:21 Zip codes.

19:25:22 It's so much more that so much more,

19:25:24 and these inequities existed before the pandemic and even more so now.

19:25:27 Holding the test this year will be immoral,

19:25:29 unsafe in a waste of our resource.

19:25:39 Education and enrichment shouldn't be something exclusive,

19:25:41 but instead something,

19:25:42 all students take part in our may or may have shown that he doesn't

19:25:45 care about the students of New York city,

19:25:46 but you all have an opportunity today to show that you don't care

19:25:49 about being in his pocket, but about doing what is right. Thank you.

19:25:51 Thank you, Sophie.

19:25:53 The next, that brings us to the end of the students.

19:25:56 So we'll now move on to elected officials and the representatives.

19:25:59 The first.

19:26:00 Official is a deputy public advocate. David Garcia.

19:26:04 Or your audio and video, and it's been enabled.

19:26:07 Please unmute yourself.

19:26:17 Thank you so much.

19:26:19 My name is Daniel Garcia, Maguire.

19:26:24 And I'm honored to speak your time alongside these.

19:26:27 Many young advocates.

19:26:28 I'm joined this meeting and spoken so powerfully.
19:26:34 I am the deputy public advocate for education and opportunity.
19:26:36 And I'm here tonight.
19:26:37 To speak on behalf of the New York city public advocate.
19:26:39 Bonnie Dee Williams.
19:26:45 Public advocate.
19:26:46 Williams has been clear since he took this office in 2019 and we make
19:26:50 it clear here today.
19:26:51 And we must center.
19:26:52 Equity in education.
19:26:58 And for this reason,
19:26:59 the public advocate is asking the panel to vote him know cause he made
19:27:02 on the extension of the gifted and talented contract.
19:27:03 Tonight's vote will demonstrate how we prioritize equity and safety in
19:27:07 our city.
19:27:08 And then, and in its educational system.
19:27:10 And that is how does he mean will be remembered?
19:27:12 From now.
19:27:13 We already know.
19:27:14 And the data makes clear.
19:27:20 The disparate representation of families and students have more color
19:27:23 in gifted and talented testing.
19:27:24 And we also know.
19:27:26 There are even more stark disparities in offers and enrollment.
19:27:29 For our gifted and talented programs.
19:27:32 We have all been traumatized and hurt by this pandemic.
19:27:37 But there are communities that have disproportionately borne the brunt
19:27:40 of the devastation.
19:27:43 And we must use the limited resources that we have to help them first.
19:27:46 There's boats should not be centered on politics.
19:27:50 It must be centered solely on what's best for our students help.
19:27:53 The public's health.
19:27:58 And what has to be done to truly pursue an equity.
19:28:00 We funded education system.
19:28:02 And an equitable recovery here in New York city.
19:28:05 And these reasons we repeat our call for you.
19:28:07 The panel.

19:28:09 To vote? No, on this contract tonight.
19:28:11 Thank you so much. I appreciate the opportunity to speak.
19:28:16 Thank you.
19:28:21 The next elected official artifice additive is Charlie Fusco.
19:28:25 Charles your audio and video has been enabled.
19:28:28 And can you just.
19:28:30 Hi.
19:28:36 Are you speaking on behalf of yourself tonight?
19:28:39 Or I represent the council member Holden.
19:28:41 Okay.
19:28:42 Okay.
19:28:52 Council member.
19:28:53 Holden's got a lot of calls from his constituents about the gift of
19:28:56 the town at the test.
19:28:57 And they're worried that the contract will not be voted on not renewed
19:29:01 tonight. They're concerned.
19:29:02 They were told that there will be a gift at a time.
19:29:04 This year and voting down the contract with pulling the rug out from
19:29:07 under these parents who played to have their children tested
19:29:09 this year.
19:29:10 Aside from that,
19:29:11 the counselor was very concerned about a limited and gifted and
19:29:13 talented programs. It's a boondoggle.
19:29:15 I say, you're just testing for you all.
19:29:16 Right now,
19:29:17 the deal we test children from four to eight years old for the gifted
19:29:20 and talented program. Any of these children that qualify.
19:29:23 Should be given a seat in the gifted and talented program.
19:29:25 If a deal is not doing that.
19:29:28 They should do that. Every neighborhood,
19:29:30 every district should have a test to get that adopted the program.
19:29:32 The fact that the deal is not put this in certain committees is a
19:29:35 travesty.
19:29:36 The deal, we should put this program in every district.
19:29:38 No.

19:29:40 Let me give you an example.
19:29:41 The chancellor says there's no studies done.
19:29:42 Many studies and we can produce many studies that show
the gift of the
19:29:45 time.
19:29:46 How the testing works, but I'll give you an example.
19:29:48 My daughter was test at a four year old, four years
old.
19:29:50 Her kindergarten class.
19:29:51 I had 25 students.
19:29:53 Three out of those 25 students were accepted to MIT.
19:29:58 These were children of privilege like the mayor's
children or the
19:30:01 chancellor children.
19:30:02 There's children was.
19:30:03 It was a majority of minority class.
19:30:05 And there were children from Masbeth Elmhurst.
19:30:07 Middle village and Glendale.
19:30:08 Three out of 25 mood.
19:30:10 MIT.
19:30:19 This program works and many children have benefited
from tests that
19:30:22 are gifted and talented programs.
19:30:24 We need to keep it for those children that it works for
every child.
19:30:27 Or their ability. We need to give every child what they
need.
19:30:30 But that doesn't mean that's the gifted.
19:30:31 It's the only type of gift that a doubt.
19:30:33 We should have other forms of gifted and talented
programs.
19:30:35 We can do this.
19:30:36 And we should do this.
19:30:37 But don't take away.
19:30:40 Do more. We need to serve all of our children and we
need to stay top.
19:30:44 Play politics and ideological games.
19:30:46 We're children's future.
19:30:48 And give every child the education they deserve.
19:30:50 Thank you.
19:30:53 Thank you.
19:30:55 The next.
19:30:58 A elected official representative is Jennifer
[unknown].
19:31:03 Tyrus.
19:31:07 Your audio and video is being enabled.
19:31:09 He's on mute yourself.

19:31:18 Hello.
19:31:19 Hi.
19:31:22 Hi, I'm so sorry. Okay. Thank you. Good evening.
19:31:24 My name is Jennifer Gutierrez.
19:31:27 Theaters.
19:31:28 And I'm chief of staff to council member Reynoso who had a conflict
19:31:31 tonight.
19:31:34 We represent district 34, which is Williamsburg, Bushwick,
19:31:36 and Ridgewood probably covering school districts 14.
19:31:39 24 30, two and 75.
19:31:45 I went to first recognize are awesome parents and students and our
19:31:48 communities who continue to advocate and drive home the message of
19:31:50 equity, access, transparency.
19:31:52 And stronger schools making stronger communities.
19:31:54 The tight, they tirelessly.
19:32:04 Asleep organized for our student populations and have continued to do
19:32:06 it safely throughout this pandemic.
19:32:08 And equally continue to hold us as elected officials and offices of
19:32:11 elected officials accountable.
19:32:12 I had different remarks for tonight because in hearing the chancellor.
19:32:15 Downside, deputy mayor.
19:32:16 Fuller hands remarks at the start of this call,
19:32:18 acknowledging how problematic GNT is.
19:32:20 I'm briefly relieved that this is their position.
19:32:25 However,
19:32:26 although they've demonstrated that they realize how problematic G and
19:32:29 D testing is.
19:32:30 You still don't understand the consequences of maintaining this
19:32:32 program for our communities. I'm not comforted.
19:32:35 In hearing that you will make the G and T process better the program
19:32:38 and its implication will remain. And that is the problem.
19:32:46 You can emphasize equity as much as you want,
19:32:48 but your message is heard loud and clear.
19:32:49 The very essence of G and T openly segregate our schools and
19:32:52 ultimately our communities.

19:32:53 It's an admission by the DOE that some students,
19:32:55 those of which start testing at four years of age are
more deserving
19:32:57 than others.
19:32:58 We also know that G and T admissions testing are
inherently racist by
19:33:01 looking at the demographics of GNT classrooms versus
their schools.
19:33:04 And then versus our citywide student population.
19:33:06 And even with Ben existing G and D programs,
19:33:07 there are disparities in resources between white
families and Asian
19:33:10 families.
19:33:11 So equity does not. In fact, matter to this
administration.
19:33:13 We oppose this contract and employer the panel to vote.
No,
19:33:15 because even if what we're talking about is extending a
contract for
19:33:18 just nine.
19:33:27 Four months.
19:33:28 It's a millions of dollars contract that rewards NCS
Pearson after
19:33:31 years worth of allegations related to racial and gender
discrimination
19:33:34 against former employees and hiring discrimination.
19:33:37 And to continue to contract with them would be immoral.
19:33:38 As we face the city deficit. We need to prioritize
these funds.
19:33:41 Thank you.
19:33:42 Thank you.
19:33:43 The next.
19:33:44 Elected official representative is Robert Jackson let's
figure,
19:33:47 but I do not see them.
19:33:49 You're in the room.
19:33:50 So we will move on to the CAC members.
19:33:53 The first CC member is Polaris.
19:33:59 Marisol is
19:34:00 there's your audio and video has been enabled. Please
unmute yourself.
19:34:11 It's always weird to pop out and then come back in.
19:34:22 Good evening, everybody hope everybody's safe and
healthy.
19:34:26 I have a couple of things that I want to comment on as
you know,
19:34:29 IMC C4.

19:34:30 For president.
19:34:33 We have a couple of things that we want to mention to the panel.
19:34:35 One is that we are still owed 390 devices and district for the
19:34:39 chancellor had made a commitment that.
19:34:41 All devices that have been requested by our students would be
19:34:44 delivered by the end of December and that has not happened.
19:34:46 And so I want to make sure to elevate that.
19:34:48 Another concern that we have in our district is testing.
19:34:50 There has not been consistent testing and all of our schools.
19:34:53 On a weekly basis, which was what was promised.
19:34:54 By the department of health and the department of education.
19:34:58 We're really concerned about that because we're seeing more and more
19:35:00 cases coming up.
19:35:23 There was a recent study in the journal of American medical
19:35:26 association,
19:35:27 basically showing that 59% of folks that get COVID get it from
19:35:31 somebody that's either presymptomatic or asymptomatic.
19:35:33 And the only thing that we're detecting with the testing is
19:35:35 asymptomatic cases.
19:35:37 And if we're just testing a small number of the population of people
19:35:40 that are in school,
19:35:42 buildings were endangering the lives of educators and students.
19:35:44 And so I want to highlight that.
19:35:45 I also want to highlight that the reporting.
19:35:47 And the city can room is inconsistent cases disappear.
19:35:50 From one day to another.
19:35:51 And so it's really difficult to understand exactly what's happening in
19:35:53 schools and collect the data in an effective way in order to make,
19:35:57 as I've said before important policies and important decisions in
19:36:00 terms of the safety of our students and educators.

19:36:02 Especially since we're at the finish line where we have a vaccine and
19:36:06 we can be supporting our communities instead of continuing to endanger
19:36:09 them by putting them in, in these situations.
19:36:11 Another concern that I have and that our district has is that we have
19:36:15 a charter school that has been requesting some additional space.
19:36:18 And you'll probably receive the proposal in the next couple of weeks.
19:36:21 There are two concerns around that this particular charter school
19:36:23 East Harlem scholars Academy.
19:36:45 Has come into one of our school buildings and they brought in their
19:36:48 middle schoolers when middle schools are not open-ended department of
19:36:50 education,
19:36:52 we were told that the DOE that charter schools will follow DOE
19:36:56 policies. And in this case, no, DOE public schools, middle schools are open.
19:37:00
19:37:01 Why is it that a middle school is in one of our buildings.
19:37:03 In addition to that within the first week,
19:37:05 their school had two unlinked cases.
19:37:07 And so the building was shut down.
19:37:08 So we are concerned about the adherence of safety protocols and
19:37:12 policies.
19:37:13 In our buildings and have concerns with this,
19:37:15 the presence of this charter school moving forward,
19:37:17 you'll be hearing from district four. About that later again.
19:37:20 And finally,
19:37:21 my counsel has already submitted a resolution basically saying that we
19:37:25 should do a way with G and T. We do not support this contract.
19:37:29 I'm very concerned about all of the measures.
19:37:31 Stated by the chancellor and the mayor's office.
19:37:33 We know that in terms of providing a lottery.
19:37:35 For children with the seats that are not taken by those children that
19:37:38 are tested.
19:37:40 Is not enough. How are you going to get.

19:37:41 Diverse number of students into those seats.
19:37:43 We know that diversity programs don't work in G and T P
and G and T
19:37:46 programs they've been tested.
19:37:47 Across the country and they're ineffective and
integrating these
19:37:50 programs.
19:37:51 And we also know, I don't know who ha who is un-muted,
but that they,
19:37:54 if you could mute yourself, that would be great.
19:37:55 We also know that in terms of widening these geographic
priorities,
19:37:59 we do understand that there are districts that don't
have G and T
19:38:00 programs.
19:38:25 But one of those districts,
19:38:26 district 16 actually did a way with a G and T program
that they had
19:38:29 districts are reporting that they're actually
ineffective.
19:38:31 And I will say that in district four, we have a G and T
program,
19:38:34 a city-wide G and T program in our schools that is
currently being
19:38:37 revamped, their principal,
19:38:38 or their actually retiring in the school community is
engaged in
19:38:41 having this conversation and how to make their school
integrated
19:38:44 because independent of the fact that it probably is one
of the most
19:38:46 diverse GNT programs. It's still predominantly white
and Asian.
19:38:49 So I tell you about no \$5 million is in a contract is
absolutely
19:38:54 irresponsible, negligent.
19:38:55 Sloppy.
19:38:56 And you have to please go back and think about what's
right.
19:39:00 And what side of history you're on it. Perpetuates
segregation.
19:39:03 It embodies white supremacy. These tests were created.
19:39:06 As part of the eugenics movement.
19:39:07 And so literally you're telling students like Lucas,
19:39:09 And students like Baru that you can't see them,
19:39:12 that you don't know them, that you're not willing to
meet their needs.

19:39:14 Those \$5 million could be put to counselors.
19:39:16 Those \$5 million can be put to devices.
19:39:18 Those \$5 million can be put to wifi.
19:39:19 To food for the children that we have in our schools
and this whole
19:39:22 promise that we're going to be reimbursed, those \$5
million.
19:39:24 The mayor already owes public schools.
19:39:26 Millions of dollars. So I don't trust you and I don't
believe you.
19:39:29 And I hope that the panel for education policy also
understands.
19:39:32 Their responsibility to us as parents, as families and
as a community.
19:39:35 But no, I'm the GNT Pearson contract.
19:39:37 Thank you.
19:39:38 Thank you.
19:39:40 The next.
19:39:41 The next CC speaker is Eric Goldberg.
19:39:43 Your audio and video has been enabled. Please unmute
yourself.
19:39:45 Thank you.
19:39:47 I'm here tonight to ask you to vote? No, on the Pearson
contract.
19:39:55 No tonight because wasting \$5 million at a time when we
need that
19:39:59 money to address the dire needs of our system.
19:40:01 Each of, you should think tonight.
19:40:02 Whether there's a better use of those \$5 million before
you vote.
19:40:06 Vote no tonight because this administration has been
clear.
19:40:09 That thing.
19:40:12 Thing labeling sorting four year old has no academic
value and
19:40:15 corrodes our school environment.
19:40:19 No,
19:40:20 and stand beside everyone who's been fighting for an
equitable school
19:40:23 system that you've supported with words.
19:40:25 But not with taction.
19:40:27 Stand up and finally vote note tonight.
19:40:29 To make clear that this obsession with assessing,
sorting.
19:40:32 Four year olds.
19:40:33 Is going to end.

19:40:42 Vote no. And show you've listened to the psychometricians.
19:40:45 The psychologist, the researchers,
19:40:46 the teachers that these tests have no value tells us nothing about a
19:40:50 child's potential.
19:40:51 And their bias.
19:40:52 Vote. No. And let us know, you truly understand the trauma.
19:40:55 Our city has endured and how ridiculous, how truly ridiculous it is.
19:40:59 To focus on testing four year olds,
19:41:01 rather than focusing on rebuilding our education system.
19:41:04 Vote no tonight and reject the tie.
19:41:08 Geared and repetitive messages of this administration,
19:41:10 the messages you heard tonight.
19:41:13 About waiting about listening tours, about more information.
19:41:16 The.
19:41:17 Tag team can tell you all of that.
19:41:20 All that means is delay.
19:41:25 Reject this pathetic deal.
19:41:27 The DOE is off you tonight.
19:41:33 Vote? No, because I'm this issue on this issue,
19:41:36 you have a voice and you have a vote.
19:41:38 You didn't have a vote on the [unknown].
19:41:40 You didn't have a vote on screening,
19:41:41 but tonight you do and it's your vote.
19:41:43 It's not Gale Brewer's.
19:41:44 It's not bill de Blasio's vote.
19:41:45 It's your vote.
19:41:47 Have the courage to vote your conscience.
19:41:48 And listen to the community.
19:41:50 Thank you.
19:41:53 Thank you. The next speaker.
19:41:57 CC speaker is the long your audio and video has been enabled, please.
19:42:00 Mute yourself.
19:42:01 Hello.
19:42:02 Thank you.
19:42:06 Hello members of P P.
19:42:07 Thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak.
19:42:09 My name is Phil Wang.
19:42:10 The president of community council, district 24.
19:42:14 The reason I'm speaking tonight, as simple, the mayor has announced.

19:42:20 Two weeks ago that the OPA that para to telling all the parents that.

19:42:30 End kids that interested in taking the GNG exam, they will go online,

19:42:34 sign up and then wait for further updates and instructions.

19:42:37 And there was Peter.

19:42:38 There was a website. It was a notices.

19:42:40 Oh, by the mayor.

19:42:41 By the chancellor Carranza and tens of thousands of parents.

19:42:44 Basically listen.

19:42:45 And when online and sign up.

19:42:49 Now that I'm hearing is that the P P members are so some PB members in

19:42:53 this panel a is considering rejecting this contract.

19:42:58 This Pearson vendor contract that the, by rejecting it,

19:43:01 that will essentially stop the testing and then kill the GNT program

19:43:05 this year.

19:43:06 Now, why do you do that?

19:43:07 For the tens and thousands of kids that that's expected to take the

19:43:10 test.

19:43:11 You're telling them the wrong message.

19:43:12 Right. So I urge everyone here to.

19:43:14 Follow the mayor's promise.

19:43:16 That they offered the test this year,

19:43:18 pay the vendor approved this contract.

19:43:30 So I vote yes to the Pearson vendor contract because the mayor told

19:43:33 the parents Carranza chancellor Carranza told the parents there will

19:43:36 be gifted and talented testing this year.

19:43:38 Keep their promises vote yesterday. Contract. Thank you.

19:43:40 Thank you. The next CC speaker is Rashida Harris.

19:43:43 Your audio and video has been enabled.

19:43:45 Please unmute yourself.

19:43:57 Yeah.

19:44:00 Hello.

19:44:02 Hi.

19:44:06 Hi. Yeah, I was definitely kicked out and pulled right back in. Okay.

19:44:09 Thank you.

19:44:16 Peace and blessings everyone.

19:44:17 My name is Rashida Harris and I am the second vice president for the
19:44:21 chancellor's advisory council.
19:44:23 We're known as C pack. I am speaking on behalf of C pack.
19:44:27 Today we se pack, but asking you the pet number is to please vote.
19:44:31 No on item number five, the GMT pacing.
19:44:34 Person's contract.
19:44:39 The mayor and chancellor announced that they will no longer give the G
19:44:42 and T test to add for admissions, but yet we'll give it one last time.
19:44:45 In the spring of this spring, 2021.
19:44:47 I am not on this call.
19:44:49 Remind everyone that the G and T test admissions process locations,
19:44:52 awareness,
19:44:53 and access to the programs is full of bias and barriers with racist.
19:44:57 Preferential treatment.
19:44:58 That has disenfranchised black and Latin X children's since its
19:45:00 conception.
19:45:02 Rather I'm on this call to remind everyone that we are still in a
19:45:04 pandemic and our families.
19:45:06 Communities and our public schools are suffering financially.
19:45:14 To administer this one last test at the cost of 1.7 million for the
19:45:17 contract, but it's going to really cost closer to 5 million.
19:45:19 If you approve the contract.
19:45:21 Is is, is wasteful.
19:45:23 The DOE could spend this money on other items to equitably.
19:45:25 Address the true needs of our public school students, citywide.
19:45:30 Items such as heat. Is it filters more PPE, most school staff,
19:45:33 most school counselors and technology.
19:45:42 Please vote.
19:45:43 No one is contract to give the G and T test one last time.
19:45:46 This is not about being a guest, the GNT program.
19:45:48 It's about being a guest,

19:45:49 the spending of the money for something that mayor and
chancellor
19:45:51 already announced. They're canceling.
19:45:53 So if you're going to cancel it, cancel it, chef.
19:45:54 And deputy Foley.
19:46:07 We love the plants to remove the barriers and increase
the diversity
19:46:10 and develop an equitable quality education for all our
students.
19:46:13 Thank you. But let's not focus on G and T.
19:46:15 Let's focus on enhancing my education funds,
enrichments fund,
19:46:18 culturally responsive education,
19:46:20 and all schools funds are a healing center schools and
restorative
19:46:23 justice practices.
19:46:24 Continuing to build community as support panel
empowerment and family
19:46:27 services initiatives,
19:46:28 both note when a G and T Pearson's contract tonight,
please.
19:46:30 Thank you.
19:46:31 Thank you.
19:46:32 Then next CC speaker is Aisha urban.
19:46:36 Your audio and video has been enabled, please yourself.
19:46:38 Good evening.
19:46:39 My name is Aisa urban. I'm a CC member of district.
19:46:42 I've been CC.
19:46:43 For 10 years.
19:46:44 Seen a lot of things in the last 10 years.
19:46:46 Usually I don't talk on the contracts tonight.
19:46:49 I need to talk on the contracts.
19:46:50 I need y'all to boat.
19:46:51 No.
19:46:53 On Pearson contract.
19:46:57 We have a lot of other things that that money could be
spent on.
19:47:00 Namely, we still need devices up in district five.
19:47:06 My district is predominantly black and Brown students,
19:47:09 and there's still.
19:47:10 Students do not have the rices.
19:47:12 My two daughters go to.
19:47:25 In high school, we still have students.
19:47:27 This is the end of the semester. We still have students
that have,
19:47:29 annexes not because they don't want to come this class
a lot of them

19:47:33 because they don't have devices to attend class.
19:47:36 So they're not getting to the education that they're
entitled to a
19:47:38 free.
19:47:39 I portable.
19:47:41 Education, they can't get it.
19:47:42 If they don't have devices.
19:47:44 So we're sitting here.
19:47:45 Arguing deciding, debating, whatever you wanna call it.
19:47:48 About four year olds being entitled to take a test.
19:47:51 And we're not giving high school students what they
need to be able to
19:47:55 graduate.
19:47:56 That's not there.
19:47:57 We're worried about students not coming in yet.
19:47:59 Instead of the students.
19:48:03 We're trying to push out into the world.
19:48:05 I think we need to really look at what's important.
19:48:07 And that's all about students.
19:48:12 So,
19:48:14 can we really talk about millions of dollars going into
a test before
19:48:17 you owned?
19:48:20 When we're not looking at our oldest students and we
can't just say,
19:48:23 well, let them ministration worry about it.
19:48:25 We all need to worry about it.
19:48:26 I can't just worry about my own two daughters.
19:48:28 When I know there are other students.
19:48:29 In the district that aren't getting, what they need.
19:48:40 I need you all to please think about it. Please help me
help them,
19:48:43 help all the other CDC members and all the other
districts that are
19:48:45 talking the same talk that I am. Please vote.
19:48:48 No on the past and contract.
19:48:49 Thank you.
19:48:50 Thank you.
19:48:52 The next CC speaker is Michael belter.
19:48:54 Your audio and video has been enabled. Please unmute
yourself.
19:48:56 Okay.
19:48:57 Good evening.
19:48:58 Salaam-Alaikum my name is Michael belts are like
seltzer with a B.
19:49:04 And I currently serve on community education council
eight out of my

19:49:08 candidate for city council. And I am speaking in my personal capacity.

19:49:11 Y I am a member of CCA.

19:49:20 Why run for city council as,

19:49:21 because I am for culturally responsive education for socio emotional

19:49:25 learning for anti-racist anti-racist education and to de-segregate our

19:49:29 public schools.

19:49:30 So this contract that is coming up tonight does not meet any of those.

19:49:33 Objectives.

19:49:34 So I arched the pep members to vote no,

19:49:38 on this contract.

19:49:39 We should be against a contracting out.

19:49:44 In the first place to private entities that don't share our goals or

19:49:48 visions in terms of equity and outcomes for our children.

19:49:52 If we're going to be also adding in things like assessments.

19:49:55 We should be doing assessments in house, in the DOE.

19:49:57 With consultation, not with consultation with direction.

19:50:04 From these, the school governance that we have in place,

19:50:06 the parent leaders and the student leadership that we have a,

19:50:09 so assessments are aligned.

19:50:11 With the school community's goals,

19:50:13 we do not need to go outside to capitalistic interests that only see

19:50:17 our children.

19:50:18 For the dollars and cents above their heads and only serve to

19:50:21 perpetuate a system of white supremacy.

19:50:23 And to, to, to turn out as many students.

19:50:33 To serve a productive means as opposed to making sure that they are

19:50:36 well-rounded and supported individuals in our community. So again,

19:50:40 I urge every pep.

19:50:42 Panel member to vote? No on this contract.

19:50:44 Thank you very much.

19:50:45 Thank you.

19:50:48 Then, next thing you see speakers, just the burn,

19:50:50 your audio and video has been enabled. Please unmute yourself.

19:50:52 Hi.

19:50:55 So I am Jessica burn. I'm the president of CEC.

19:50:58 22.

19:51:03 I'd like to thank the comments earlier from the chancellor and end up

19:51:08 in a mirror.

19:51:15 And regarding the gifted and talented program and some of the changes

19:51:20 that you see going forward immediately,

19:51:21 and also like to thank the youth speaker as a student speakers who

19:51:24 came first.

19:51:25 It's always a pleasure to hear your voices.

19:51:27 Especially when my eight year old is sitting right next to me,

19:51:29 you're a real inspiration.

19:51:30 To younger people and older people as well.

19:51:33 So I'm coming.

19:51:34 Commenting tonight on the Pearson contract.

19:51:35 It's item number five on the.

19:51:37 Contract agenda.

19:51:40 I am urging the panel to vote no, on the Pearson contract.

19:51:50 I agree wholeheartedly with the other speakers this evening who have

19:51:53 raised concerns about the legitimacy and equity,

19:51:55 not only of the task itself.

19:51:56 But also the entire G and T program as it exists today.

19:52:03 However it should not go on recognized that this contract in

19:52:06 particular has been subjected to so much political maneuvering.

19:52:10 That in my opinion, no panel.

19:52:13 Has the interests of parents and public school families that has the

19:52:16 interests of parents in public school,

19:52:17 families should vote in favor of this contract.

19:52:21 First,

19:52:22 the mayor announced that there would indeed be a gifted and talented

19:52:25 test administered this year.

19:52:26 But did so before the contract was approved.

19:52:28 In plain language.

19:52:30 And I hope the interpreters can interpret this properly.

19:52:34 They were writing checks that certain parts of their
bodies couldn't
19:52:36 cash.
19:52:37 This announcement leaves you the panel.
19:52:43 More accountable than the policy creators.
19:52:45 I suppose you're used to that by now.
19:52:47 But.
19:52:48 And it might not bother you, but it still bothers me.
19:52:59 Second.
19:53:00 It is no longer news that the mayor filled a vacant
panel seat just
19:53:03 yesterday.
19:53:04 And while I don't want to make your new member
uncomfortable or cast
19:53:07 out on their integrity.
19:53:08 This appointment at this time can be interpreted as
nothing more than
19:53:11 a blatant move by the mayor to get his agenda
fulfilled.
19:53:14 Namely to get this contract passed.
19:53:22 Again,
19:53:23 I do not want to see members of this panel or any other
part of our
19:53:26 parent leadership structures subjected to political,
19:53:28 to political whims.
19:53:29 When we were talking about the education of New York
city's children.
19:53:32 As a committee member of the King's County democratic
committee.
19:53:34 And as an executive member of the South Brooklyn
political
19:53:36 organization.
19:53:37 I'm no stranger.
19:53:39 To sussing out the poorly considered maneuverings of
our local
19:53:43 politicians.
19:53:45 I'm tired of seeing it playing out here at pep
meetings.
19:53:48 And in our schools.
19:53:53 The panel does have, does have the power to stop this
nonsense.
19:53:57 You should exercise your power now by voting? No,
19:53:59 on the Pearson contract.
19:54:01 Maybe then our city officials will get the message.
19:54:05 That the people of New York, the parents of New York.
19:54:10 Do not are done with them playing political games with
our children's

19:54:13 lives.
19:54:14 My final comment this evening on this contract.
19:54:20 I want to know what part of public health and safety.
19:54:25 Includes holding. In-person standardized tests in school buildings.
19:54:30 When our schools are struggling to stay open with COVID cases,
19:54:32 popping up like popcorn.
19:54:44 To quote my superintendent across my district and the rest of the city
19:54:47 with middle schools and high school was still unable to open and
19:54:50 schools closing constantly.
19:54:51 What part of this is actually a good idea during a pandemic?
19:54:54 The administration is blatantly inequitable.
19:54:57 It's like administering a blatantly inequitable and outdated test.
19:55:01 Does not make sense at this time. Thank you so much.
19:55:03 Thank you, then next a CC.
19:55:05 CC speaker is Todd Sutton.
19:55:07 Your audio and video.
19:55:10 Sorry, can everyone hear me?
19:55:11 Yes.
19:55:13 Okay. Awesome.
19:55:19 There's really a lot to say and no one's going to pack everything in
19:55:22 their comments tonight.
19:55:23 Personally, I've been coming to the pep.
19:55:27 My first pep meeting was February of last year and I ran through the
19:55:31 pep.
19:55:33 After a black lives matter at school week of action event.
19:55:35 And it was the first that we had ever had in our district.
19:55:45 And when I went to that pep,
19:55:46 there was this conversation that continues to go on about equity and
19:55:49 education. There was some co-location is on the agenda, right.
19:55:52 There was a lot going on and there was a lot of talk about.
19:55:54 Equity.
19:55:55 Tell me continue to use the language. Excuse me.
19:55:58 But not have it live in our practices and something that I said at

19:56:01 that pet.
19:56:02 A year ago was that.
19:56:04 Solidarity has never been an issue for New York city
parents and
19:56:07 students and communities.
19:56:15 And what I find is that we allow a very small,
19:56:18 but very loud and very aggressive and quite frankly,
19:56:20 violent group of individuals who happen to also be
parents.
19:56:24 To co-op this language of equity and also forced the
conversation into
19:56:28 this very small.
19:56:29 We all know that there are so many issues in education
even before the
19:56:32 pandemic.
19:56:33 But we continue to be drawn out to contest GNT over and
over again.
19:56:51 Yes, we should be talking about the whole system,
19:56:53 but the sheer amount of pushback and racist violence
that comes about
19:56:57 when we name that gifted and talented programs are on
currently
19:57:00 racist.
19:57:01 When we name that the specialized high school test is
inherently
19:57:04 racist is why we continue to advocate specifically
around these
19:57:07 issues.
19:57:08 In addition to things like resource coordinator,
19:57:10 which goes hand in hand with testing, right?
19:57:12 People are showing up to make sure that they make their
voices heard
19:57:14 on this Pearson contract because.
19:57:16 I guess both to this contract would be the continuation
of white
19:57:19 supremacy in our public schools.
19:57:20 Point blank period.
19:57:21 It's not about working hard. It's not about what small
amount of.
19:57:26 Black and Brown and Asian and indigenous students are
able to survive
19:57:29 these programs.
19:57:31 We need to start having a conversation about what it
looks like for
19:57:33 them, because as an alumni,
19:57:53 Brooklyn technical high school. Yes.

19:57:55 I can talk to you about how much I love my step team
and how much I
19:57:57 love being in the chamber chorus,
19:57:59 but I can also talk to you about how I was criminalized
and how I was
19:58:01 tokenized and who,
19:58:02 I didn't even have the language for that at the time,
19:58:05 because you are not afforded critical thinking skills
and the
19:58:07 opportunity to have a representative staff or a
culturally responsive
19:58:10 curriculum in these environments,
19:58:12 so that it's not about getting a handful more black and
Brown children
19:58:15 into these spaces.
19:58:16 It is about utilizing this tragic pandemic.
19:58:19 Where so many lives have already been lost to re-
imagine education.
19:58:22 That's a good five, more black children into
Stuyvesant.
19:58:24 But to recognize that the fact that only 10 black
students got into
19:58:28 Stuyvesant in the first place two years ago is a
systemic issue.
19:58:31 It is a structural issue and it is an interpersonal
issue that has
19:58:34 nothing to do with hard work and everything to do with
the decisions
19:58:37 we make and whose voices we choose to listen to.
19:58:39 We showed up at the pep 200 strong in August.
19:58:41 And we asked all of the questions that we still don't
have answers to
19:58:44 with regard to this pandemic and the safeguarding of
our students,
19:58:47 of our staff, of our families and communities.
19:59:03 We come to you today, focused on Pearson,
19:59:05 but also in the context of all of these things,
19:59:07 being interconnected and understanding that \$5 million
for gifted and
19:59:10 talented programs is \$5 million that we are not
spending on expanding
19:59:14 language, access, interpretation,
19:59:15 and translation is \$5 million that we're not spending
on connectivity
19:59:19 and wifi,
19:59:20 particularly for our students in low-income or
temporary housing it's

19:59:23 money that we're not spending on providing are.
19:59:32 Educators with the culturally responsive training that
we say we want
19:59:35 to give them.
19:59:36 So when we rally behind the chancellor and we rally
behind the office
19:59:39 of equity and access,
19:59:40 and we as unpaid parent volunteers show up to these
anti-biased
19:59:44 training to see what's going on so we can support them.
19:59:46 And we see firsthand that the rhetoric is not matching
the action and
19:59:50 that it is not living in our communities and in the way
that we needed
19:59:53 to, we show up here and we advocate on the whole.
19:59:55 So Pearson.
19:59:56 Please understand that you need to vote.
19:59:58 No.
19:59:59 Point blank period.
20:00:00 I guess vote for this contract during a pandemic that
is
20:00:02 disproportionately impacting black and Brown and low
income and
20:00:05 immigrant communities.
20:00:06 Is preposterous and offensive.
20:00:08 And again,
20:00:18 A vote for white supremacy. But in addition to that,
20:00:21 we need to start thinking more intersectionally,
20:00:23 oppressed and contract does not remove from the
pandemic,
20:00:25 which has not removed from school funding,
20:00:26 which is not removed from the red and the orange and
the yellow zones.
20:00:29 And this push to keep schools open while people who
look like myself,
20:00:32 continue to die as part and parcel of the same white
supremacist
20:00:35 system. We need to name these things.
20:00:37 You need to name the individuals, unwilling to name
these things.
20:00:40 Whether that is at the DOE level at the state level,
20:00:42 at the federal level or at the pep level and lovely pet
members who I
20:00:45 see every month,
20:00:46 because I make sure that I'm here for this meeting in
particular.
20:00:49 I need you guys to.

20:00:50 Also be accountable.
20:00:51 Be accountable. Be brave, be bold. The mayor.
20:00:58 Campaigns on this tale of two cities narrative,
20:01:00 and he has done nothing. It is in his power to do,
20:01:02 to make these things reality.
20:01:03 I watch our students comments and Brian layer and do
all of these
20:01:06 magnificent things to show him the data,
20:01:08 to show him the proof they show up. And they testify
Merle Lucas,
20:01:11 green, Brianna. And what do they get for it?
20:01:14 They get gas lit. They get tokenized. They get told,
20:01:17 do you guys are so smart? You're so eloquent. You're so
amazing.
20:01:19 And then the city does what the hell it wants anyway.
20:01:21 So we are asking and demanding that we put up or shut
up as the pep,
20:01:25 as the department of education. We don't want baby
steps.
20:01:28 This is a pandemic.
20:01:29 We don't want to do gifted and talented by another
name.
20:01:31 We don't want the test to go away, but the elitist,
20:01:34 racist culture of these programs to remain,
20:01:36 because we know that the disparity has only grown.
20:01:39 Since COVID-19.
20:01:40 So asking us to find a way to make GNT work.
20:01:43 When we haven't even figured out how to get our kids
devices and make
20:01:46 sure that every family has access to COVID and school
closure
20:01:48 information and the language they speak.
20:01:50 Is heinous and unacceptable.
20:01:51 I ask that you stand on your two feet,
20:01:53 but your chest out and you do what needs to be done.
20:01:58 And everyone who wants to continue to attack parents
who are doing
20:02:00 this work and standing on the right side of history.
20:02:02 You get at me dog.
20:02:04 Thank you.
20:02:09 The next CC speakers, ULI shoe. And just to reminder to
folks.
20:02:15 Please keep things brief. As we have a lot of folks
signed up here,
20:02:18 you're going to be here late tonight.
20:02:19 Thanks.
20:02:20 Hi.

20:02:21 Can you hear me?
20:02:25 Can everybody hear me?
20:02:32 Yes, sorry. I was muted, but yes, we can hear. Okay, great.
20:02:34 Sorry.
20:02:36 Hi, my name is Julie. I'm a parent in Brooklyn.
20:02:39 CDC 14 first vice president.
20:02:40 Press on YC steering.
20:02:46 If there ever was a time to send a clear message so that the DOE and
20:02:48 the city standards.
20:02:49 On the side of equity.
20:02:54 It would be during a pandemic that has so clearly disproportionately
20:02:57 impacted NYC is black and Latin X students.
20:03:07 I won't read off the data because I know you all have it.
20:03:10 I know you all know this is not a matter of ignorance or awareness at
20:03:13 this point.
20:03:14 This is a matter that only your moral fortitude and humanity can
20:03:17 decide.
20:03:18 Now that may sound dramatic, but it really is not,
20:03:21 not in the context of this country.
20:03:26 Not in the context of Brown vs. Board of education over 65 years ago,
20:03:29 making segregation in schools see illegal.
20:03:31 And yet I am not a proud new Yorker when I say that in 2021.
20:03:35 I send my boys to the most segregated public school system in the
20:03:37 nation.
20:03:39 Right now we have students without devices,
20:03:40 teachers buying their own hand sanitizer and cleaning supplies.
20:03:43 Students using their parents' phones to access their education during
20:03:46 the pandemic.
20:03:48 Vote no on the Pearson contract and redirect the \$5 million.
20:03:51 It will take to administer that G and T test this year.
20:03:58 To supporting our most impacted majority are black and Latino students
20:04:01 that have not even before this pandemic had their right to a basic and
20:04:04 sound public school education.

20:04:06 Fulfilled.
20:04:07 Compromises. Won't cut it tonight.
20:04:08 A lottery for the leftover seeds to a racist and an equitable program
20:04:11 is not a win.
20:04:17 The GNT test is going away. Starting next year.
20:04:19 Chancellor Carranza said it himself earlier in the meeting.
20:04:21 There is no research. There's no pedagogical reason why one test.
20:04:25 Y one test or for your loved one should test your four year old.
20:04:28 So why not make this year? The year it ends.
20:04:30 It makes no sense to fight this hard.
20:04:32 To keep it in this far from normal pandemic year.
20:04:40 Where's this energy when it comes to making sure our students with
20:04:42 special needs students with disabilities, multilingual learners,
20:04:45 students in temporary housing, et cetera,
20:04:46 are getting what they need during this pandemic.
20:04:49 Where's this energy when it comes to making sure our curriculum isn't
20:04:52 Eurocentric and whitewashed or making sure our school staff is
20:04:54 representative of the diversity of our student population.
20:05:01 And it is unfair to put them all responsibility on individual children
20:05:04 and families to solve systemic issues with individual choices.
20:05:07 To say that we can choose not to participate in the G and T program,
20:05:10 if we don't believe in it.
20:05:11 It doesn't matter because we will never get equitable outcomes from an
20:05:13 inequitable education system or structure,
20:05:16 no matter what individual choices we make within it.
20:05:18 So PDP panel members,
20:05:19 you aren't important here because you have a chance to change the
20:05:21 system.
20:05:22 We know we have a racist and an equitable system that predictably
20:05:25 gives racist and inequitable outcomes.
20:05:27 We all seem to understand that this.

20:05:37 We all seem to understand this and other areas such as disparities and
20:05:39 workplace salaries between men and women.
20:05:41 We clearly understand that the disparity is caused by a gender bias
20:05:43 system. Not because women are less war.
20:05:45 Less worthy of more pay.
20:05:46 We know that the mortality rates for black mothers are higher in the
20:05:49 healthcare system due to deep rooted racism in the medical system.
20:05:51 Not because black mothers are deficient and giving birth.
20:06:01 Yet, when it comes to education, though,
20:06:02 the data clearly shows disparate outcomes for black and Latin X
20:06:05 students.
20:06:06 Most egregiously in G and T programs and specialized high schools.
20:06:09 We say the black and Latin X children must work harder with less.
20:06:16 Instead of acknowledging that our education system is racist and
20:06:19 inequitable from lack of cultural competence in schools to the use of
20:06:22 white centered and whitewashed curriculum due to the lack of
20:06:24 representation in staff and the continued use of standardized testing
20:06:27 that is deeply rooted in your genetics.
20:06:29 That perpetuates a meritocracy and scarcity myth and leaves our black
20:06:32 and Latin X students under an underfunded and under-resourced schools.
20:06:38 All this to say that tonight is your chance, your opportunity,
20:06:40 your moral obligation to be on the right side of history,
20:06:42 to use the powers and authority.
20:06:44 You have to change a piece of the racist and equitable system right
20:06:48 now here tonight.
20:06:49 Vote, no. On the purchasing contract.
20:06:50 Thank you.
20:06:52 Thank you.
20:06:53 The next CC speaker is Erica Kendall.

20:06:55 Your audio and video has been enabled season. Meet yourself.

20:06:57 All right. Good evening.

20:06:58 Can you hear me?

20:06:59 Yes.

20:07:00 Wonderful. Thank you.

20:07:11 So good evening, everyone,

20:07:13 this last year has been so, so difficult for all of us really. And,

20:07:17 you know, I want to hold space for that. Right.

20:07:19 But I think we also have to acknowledge that this harm has not been

20:07:22 shared equally amongst the city's residents.

20:07:24 You know, that's in New York city.

20:07:25 They've been disproportionately black and Brown essential workers who

20:07:28 have to leave their homes to go work and make money to keep their

20:07:30 bills paid disproportionately black and Brown.

20:07:33 And they've been put at significant risk.

20:07:34 Right. So I think about the education system in our city, too.

20:07:37 It appears that the harm is disproportionately affecting black and

20:07:39 Brown families there too.

20:07:46 The vast majority of families have decided that their students will

20:07:48 stay home.

20:07:49 And that was long before middle and high schools were shut down and

20:07:52 that should have signal the need to invest heavily in remote learning

20:07:55 on a central level.

20:07:56 Did that happen?

20:07:57 Or was that need put to the wayside because we didn't have enough

20:07:59 wealthy upper West side lawyers demanding that our needs be heard.

20:08:03 Now there are children in New York city who still do not have devices.

20:08:05 And as of literally this week,

20:08:07 there are approximately 365 children in my district who do not.

20:08:10 There are children who have devices that can not connect to the

20:08:12 internet.

20:08:19 And still, still right now,

20:08:21 their families whose children are so emotional behind
the social
20:08:23 isolation,
20:08:24 but they take the deep breath every single day and they
accept that
20:08:27 what they are doing together is keeping one another
safe.
20:08:30 They are making that choice because they cannot bear to
lose anyone
20:08:33 else.
20:08:34 And even though quarantining for them sometimes feels
like it hurts
20:08:37 just as much as the loss of a loved one. They do it
anyway.
20:08:40 Which brings me to my chief complaint. For some reason,
20:08:42 the deal we decided to announce that they were going to
spend
20:08:44 millions of dollars to Proctor an utterly AmSurg.
20:08:47 Third test for the team.
20:08:48 Teeny, teeny tiny.
20:08:52 Percentage of the 1.1 million children who attend our
schools.
20:08:55 I'm sorry. I'm sorry.
20:08:56 This money could be invested in providing social,
20:08:58 emotional curriculum for children who are remote.
20:09:07 Or actual resources for these children to help them
build skills that
20:09:10 could prepare them for when they do eventually return
to buildings.
20:09:13 But instead it's being used to facilitate a private
school system for
20:09:16 elitist to can't actually afford elite private
education.
20:09:19 But something, something meritocracy, right.
20:09:21 If you can test it and it doesn't matter your race
right.
20:09:23 No, no, no, no, no.
20:09:24 What about the fact that the people who likely be not
have the kinds
20:09:27 of insurance that will grant them access to the
hospitals that aren't
20:09:30 even in their neighborhoods.
20:09:33 The hospitals,
20:09:34 they will need the insurance they will need when they
catch Corona
20:09:36 virus from traveling outside of their homes to have
their young,

20:09:39 young, young children tested.
20:09:40 The risks associated with travel,
20:09:42 communicating with strangers communing with strangers,
20:09:44 commuting with strangers.
20:09:45 We're acting like the current infection rate.
20:09:47 Isn't the highest it has been in a very long time. I
see.
20:09:50 The risk of these decisions is disproportionately
experienced by black
20:09:53 and Brown people.
20:10:03 The singular fixation on the needs of everyone,
20:10:05 except the overwhelming majority of children,
20:10:07 the ones who are subjected to the most harm, the
apathy,
20:10:10 the neglect of the hundreds of thousands of children
engaged in remote
20:10:13 learning.
20:10:14 It's disproportionately felt by black and Brown people
and everyone
20:10:17 involved knows it.
20:10:18 But it's cool. Right? We painted black lives matter on
the streets.
20:10:20 Right. Even though we allow cops to park their cars on
top of it,
20:10:22 outside of borough hall, right on Daralyn man. Right.
20:10:27 What's up Eric Adams, we saw that we still see it every
day.
20:10:29 You all won't even leave your homes to fulfill your
duties to this
20:10:32 panel, but the risk these families will absorb as,
okay. Yeah.
20:10:35 The mayor can send his official to speak on this
contract,
20:10:38 but he can't send his people to advocate for broadband
broadband for
20:10:41 the city. Right.
20:10:42 We see, we see what matters. Yeah.
20:11:07 Allowing the department of education to get away with
facilitating a
20:11:10 private school system for people wealthy enough to blow
20:11:12 thousands of dollars on test prep for a system that
doesn't even have
20:11:14 legitimate curriculum let alone in the middle of a
pandemic is quite
20:11:17 literally the most unethical thing I've ever heard of.
20:11:20 And it shows how the symbolism of murals and flags
means nothing.

20:11:23 If the policy's show the same white supremacist antipathy to the harm
20:11:26 experienced by human beings, black one's Brown one's yes. Yes.
20:11:30 Asian ones since we're special.
20:11:31 Special needs students who speak a different language States and
20:11:34 transitional housing.
20:11:35 The symbolism does not matter. We need the policies.
20:11:37 We need the policies.
20:11:38 I'm asking you tell them.
20:11:40 Unethical immoral, racist, dangerous pseudo,
20:11:42 scientific policies that risk lives.
20:11:44 And immoral and wrong.
20:11:46 Make the mayor call us as parents the same way he called somebody.
20:11:49 Y'all make him explain himself.
20:11:51 Force the DOE back to the drawing board.
20:11:53 Say no to this nonsense,
20:11:54 you have absolutely no idea how many lives you could be saving.
20:11:57 And if this turns around and winds up being a super spreader event,
20:11:59 because a bunch of people are now on the streets trying to get their
20:12:01 kids tested, you will feel this moment.
20:12:03 You will remember it and you will regret it.
20:12:05 Thank you.
20:12:06 Thank you.
20:12:07 The next CC speaker is Sanai.
20:12:11 Beckels tendent who I do not see in the room.
20:12:14 So we will move on to Debra Alexander.
20:12:16 Your audio and video has been enabled. Please unmute yourself.
20:12:19 Thank you. Can you hear me?
20:12:20 Yes.
20:12:21 Thanks.
20:12:22 Good evening panel. Happy new year.
20:12:25 Let me start out by expressing my appreciation that the current
20:12:28 incarnation of the PDP bylaw change was removed from tonight's agenda.
20:12:32 I fully support.
20:12:50 Your idea for time limits for CEC members and elected officials?
20:12:52 No one person who already has a raised platform should be speaking for

20:12:56 over five minutes, taking time away from the public.
However,
20:12:59 the idea that those limits would be subjective based on
the will and
20:13:02 whim of the chair is anti-democratic inequitable and
unacceptable by
20:13:06 all means. Please do have a time limit.
20:13:07 But it needs to apply to all speakers equally.
20:13:09 I'd like to talk a bit about the Pearson contract,
20:13:11 which to be clear is \$1.7 million.
20:13:18 I don't think this panel typically includes additional
ancillary costs
20:13:21 in contracts. At reviews. When we talk about bus
contracts,
20:13:23 we don't include the salaries of school aides who walk
the kids onto
20:13:26 the buses.
20:13:27 This contract comprises 0.0005 or five 10.
20:13:31 Thousandths of a percent of the DOE is overall budget.
20:13:35 That statement alone should signal that I am personally
in favor of
20:13:38 identifying and supporting accelerated learners.
20:13:40 I wholeheartedly challenged the notion that kids who
are so identified
20:13:43 or getting anything other than their appropriate
academic environment
20:13:46 or don't deserve their needs being met.
20:13:48 That said,
20:13:49 I also believe that the current identification system
misses too many
20:13:52 kids who require these services,
20:13:54 but fall through the cracks because of a flawed system.
20:13:55 I agree with those in the DOE who believe that
universal assessment is
20:13:59 the way to go.
20:14:00 And I love some of the changes.
20:14:01 The chancellor announced as first steps.
20:14:02 In addition to those, we need more on and off ramps.
20:14:05 More programs in marginalized communities,
20:14:07 standardized curriculum and certified teachers and the
elimination
20:14:10 once. And for all over the phrase, gifted and talented.
20:14:15 I look forward to engaging with the DOE on how to
improve this system.
20:14:17 Something that can't be done effectively and equitably
at this point.
20:14:20 Make no mistake.

20:14:26 Those asking you to vote no,
20:14:27 on this contract or not simply asking you to vote? No.
On a contract.
20:14:29 They want longstanding, deeply embedded policy to
change.
20:14:32 As I indicated, I support that process.
20:14:40 But any process that includes major systemic policy
change must
20:14:43 include parents.
20:14:44 Primarily those directly impacted who are currently in
three K and
20:14:48 pre-K programs we have yet to hear from one of those
families.
20:14:51 Rather than said from folks who so often send their own
kids to the
20:14:54 very programs they now want to stop.
20:14:55 The vote tonight should not be about ideology, but
about logistics.
20:14:58 I'm not sure if this panel has looked beyond its own
personal
20:15:01 feelings.
20:15:04 Either way to realize that in addition to countless
district programs,
20:15:07 there are five schools that currently do not have a way
to seek their
20:15:09 incoming kindergarten classes without this test.
20:15:12 Not one person tonight has recommended a solution.
20:15:23 It is a horrible practice to end the process with no
alternative in
20:15:26 its place. We saw the fallout last year,
20:15:28 when the DOE changed the grading system in March with
no plan in place
20:15:30 for the following year's admissions,
20:15:32 it took nine months before the middle and high school
admissions
20:15:34 processes were announced.
20:15:35 The DOE is not equipped to devise and implement an
entirely new system
20:15:39 for this admission cycle,
20:15:40 as it continues to deal with the pandemic and its
fallout.
20:15:52 A no vote tonight only adds to the current chaos and
forces the DOE to
20:15:55 employ another band-aid solution.
20:15:57 That's still kicks the can down the road in terms of
meaningful

20:15:59 change. Those who understand the reality of the situation,
20:16:02 understand that the vote tonight is pragmatic so we can engage in the
20:16:05 future with the DOE to get it right for all students.
20:16:08 Right. Not fast. Thank you so much.
20:16:10 Thank you.
20:16:11 The next CC speaker is Ellen MCU.
20:16:13 Your audio and video has been enabled. Please mute yourself.
20:16:15 Am I on? Yep. You're there.
20:16:17 Hot stuff.
20:16:22 It's been a long night. It will continue.
20:16:24 The initial impetus for my speaking tonight was about the CC.
20:16:27 E.
20:16:29 Elections.
20:16:30 And problems that I've seen with the.
20:16:32 Selection of the CCSE members.
20:16:35 I have fetched and growled and moaned and groaned.
20:16:39 And made propositions and also made suggestions.
20:16:46 I know that we will continue and that we have to continue in order to
20:16:49 elect on time.
20:16:56 And in a proper manner. However,
20:16:58 I do think that we can be rational about this and sit down and talk
20:17:02 about either amendments to.
20:17:04 The regulations.
20:17:05 Or.
20:17:06 The creation of another.
20:17:08 Taskforce.
20:17:09 To address these issues as we go forward.
20:17:17 I would like a promise,
20:17:18 although I know a public promise sometimes can be a bit of a joke,
20:17:22 but I would like a promise from the.
20:17:24 Chancellor and from the chancellor's staff.
20:17:26 That wants these elections are done.
20:17:31 We will sit down and actually take a long,
20:17:33 hard look at the regulations as proposed and correct the inequities.
20:17:37 However, the real reason.
20:17:38 To speak tonight.
20:17:39 Was about the fact that we.
20:17:41 Use the words, inclusion.
20:17:50 And integration like brick bats.

20:17:52 We're proud of the fact that we can use the words,
20:17:54 inclusion and integration yet.
20:17:58 No speaker before me.
20:18:00 And I think very few after me will recognize the fact
that students,
20:18:04 especially those in district 75.
20:18:06 Are repeatedly.
20:18:07 Segregated and separated principals say to families.
20:18:10 In an off site. That's not my kid.
20:18:12 It's not ours.
20:18:13 She's not ours.
20:18:16 We're not going. We're not involved.
20:18:18 You have to go and speak to someone else.
20:18:20 It's a very scary situation.
20:18:22 As a part of.
20:18:26 My role on the CC S E.
20:18:30 We are looking at how people.
20:18:33 Integrate or include students.
20:18:42 We have had suggestions. We have had our annual report
address.
20:18:45 These issues. We have received little to no feedback.
20:18:49 From the DOE about any suggestions that we have made.
20:18:53 It is a very,
20:18:54 very scary situation for our kids.
20:18:58 Who are segregated, separated apart and tested.
20:19:02 Till there.
20:19:03 Blue in the face.
20:19:14 Because we need to recertify every three years,
20:19:17 we need to have testing done every year to assume,
20:19:21 or create new goals and aims on the IEP.
20:19:24 One of the most disappointing episodes.
20:19:26 In my life was a recent meeting in district 20.
20:19:30 We're an individual from the school, from the SCA.
20:19:42 When confronted with the fact that for new sites going
up in district
20:19:46 20,
20:19:47 make no effort to include children from district 75.
20:19:50 We'll have more severe and profound disabilities.
20:19:52 Or told.
20:19:53 That it's too hard.
20:19:55 That's the phrase she used.
20:19:56 And that it's not an efficient use of the building.
20:20:00 It's the phrase she used.
20:20:01 So our kids are hard and our kids are inefficient.
20:20:09 I would have to say to you,
20:20:10 you have never lived with a child with a disability
until you realize.

20:20:15 That they are really precious.
20:20:16 As any other child.
20:20:19 And it's easily loved and supported.
20:20:21 By parents.
20:20:22 As any other child.
20:20:28 To the best of mining. And I need to point this out.
20:20:32 In the discussion about integration and inclusion.
20:20:37 To the best of my knowledge, there is no one in leadership.
20:20:40 Right now at the DOE.
20:20:43 Who has a definite end or diagnosed disability?
20:20:48 To the best of my knowledge,
20:20:50 there is only one teacher who currently uses a wheelchair.
20:20:55 And is teaching in a general ed class to the best of my knowledge,
20:20:58 those few teachers.
20:21:00 Who have a hearing loss or a visual loss.
20:21:05 Are segregated and apart with their students who are deaf or blind.
20:21:11 They are not in the general community of staff.
20:21:14 I would challenge this administration.
20:21:26 And any other that comes after it to begin to hire individuals who
20:21:30 look like 25% of the students who are currently receiving.
20:21:35 Special education in this system.
20:21:37 It is appalling to me.
20:21:39 That we can have situation rooms from everything too.
20:21:42 From every thing.
20:21:49 Oh, God, I'm losing my train of thought from everything and everyone,
20:21:52 but it had no situation room to address the continuing segregation of
20:21:56 our students.
20:21:57 To paraphrase field of dreams. Yes. It's hard.
20:22:01 It's always hard.
20:22:02 If it wasn't hard, everyone could do it.
20:22:04 Our kids are hard.
20:22:05 But our kids can do it.
20:22:08 And I challenge you to stop using the phrase is integration.
20:22:15 And diversity, unless you really mean it.
20:22:18 And unless you really mean to include our students, our families.
20:22:21 And our futures in a very.
20:22:22 If a call to world.

20:22:23 Thank you.
20:22:24 Thank you.
20:22:26 The next scene.
20:22:27 Speaker is.
20:22:29 Camille tests already.
20:22:35 Both of your logins have been promoted and your audio
and videos
20:22:38 enabled.
20:22:39 Thanks Rebecca.
20:22:41 I can hear you, but you're very low.
20:22:43 Either.
20:22:44 Can you hear me now?
20:22:49 It's still coming in really low.
20:22:50 Can you speak closer to the microphone?
20:22:54 Rebecca.
20:22:57 Yeah, it's a little bit better.
20:22:58 Thank you.
20:22:59 I can.
20:23:02 You can hear it's. I think it's fine. Just to folks,
20:23:04 everyone else's meeting.
20:23:09 Hello.
20:23:13 Oh, no.
20:23:21 Kim.
20:23:25 I can't, I can hear a slight sound, but it got worse.
20:23:31 Okay.
20:23:34 So we're gonna, yeah, we'll come back to you.
20:23:37 Yeah, just let us know.
20:23:41 And put in the chat or the number we should look for or
raise your
20:23:44 hand.
20:23:45 Well, move on to our next cities.
20:23:48 A CEC speaker. Polet Seely.
20:23:52 Pull at your audio and video has been enabled. Please
unmute yourself.
20:24:01 Oh, and just a reminder to folks.
20:24:03 If we can try to keep it direct and brief.
20:24:05 We would all really appreciate it. Thank you.
20:24:07 No, what it, Rebecca, can you hear me?
20:24:08 Yes.
20:24:17 Okay. So my name is Paulette Healy.
20:24:19 I am a member of the a city-wide council on special
education.
20:24:22 You just heard my co president Ella MCU speak about.
20:24:25 The Travis.
20:24:26 That are fronted by our children with the IEP is,
20:24:29 and children.
20:24:30 In D 75.

20:24:32 I am here.
20:24:33 To ask the pet members.
20:24:34 To please vote no, on the Pearson's contract.
20:24:36 Not only because it's inequitable.
20:24:45 Not only because it's been used as a smokescreen for
divisive
20:24:49 conversation in order to detract from the real
travesties that are
20:24:52 happening in our school system.
20:24:53 Our students in temporary housing still don't have
wifi.
20:24:56 They have lost almost two years of.
20:24:58 Actual education at this point, because of that.
20:25:00 Our students with disabilities are still struggling.
20:25:03 With learning loss because they're their classrooms.
20:25:08 Continue to balloon at 60 to 75 children per ICT class.
20:25:12 Our teachers are still struggling.
20:25:24 To teach children in the environments that they're in
three-year-olds
20:25:27 and four-year-olds are going to classrooms at 27 30
degree degrees
20:25:32 because of the windows that need to be open in order to
accommodate
20:25:34 the, the ventilation.
20:25:35 School safety officers are now taking temperatures for
the schools
20:25:38 that are still taking temperatures.
20:25:39 Because that seemed to have been laxed as well.
20:25:41 And all of these things are being ignored.
20:25:43 Because of the smoke screen that is this G and T
conversation.
20:25:48 So please just put it to an end already,
20:25:50 but it's not beat a dead horse at this point.
20:25:52 I want to just say.
20:26:02 Because of,
20:26:03 because none of these travesties have been addressed by
the DOE,
20:26:06 no matter how much we beg, no matter how much we shout,
20:26:08 no matter how much my son Lucas asks you to see him.
20:26:10 By approving this contract, you will not only.
20:26:14 Be upholding, systemic, racist.
20:26:22 Structures that have been continuing to segregate our
schools in all
20:26:25 varieties of ways,
20:26:26 but you will be turning a blind eye to the suffering of
all of the
20:26:29 students that I had just mentioned.

20:26:31 During this pandemic.
20:26:32 The last thing I want to say is to miss Angelo.
20:26:34 Your appointment was yesterday. How you vote tonight?
We'll say a lot.
20:26:38 About where you stand.
20:26:41 With the families of New York city, we are all
watching.
20:26:44 So think about that before you cast your vote. Thank
you for the time.
20:26:47 Thank you.
20:26:49 The next CC speaker is Alyssa Shay.
20:26:52 Your audio and video has been enabled, please.
20:26:54 It yourself.
20:26:55 Hi, good evening.
20:27:15 My name is Elisa O'Shea and I am from community
education council,
20:27:18 district 27.
20:27:19 I'm an appointee of the Queensboro president and the
council's
20:27:21 parliamentarian.
20:27:22 I am commenting tonight on behalf of the council on the
proposal for
20:27:25 significant changes in school utilization for the
reciting of PS 47,
20:27:29 Chris Gallis and the construction of a new school in
broad channel
20:27:32 Queens.
20:27:33 I was happy to hear from principal.
20:27:34 There ends at our December CEC meeting that pupil
transportation will
20:27:38 be in place during the temporary reciting for the
entire student body,
20:27:41 including the six through eighth grade.
20:27:42 I am excited for broad channel to finally receive this
new school
20:27:45 building, to alleviate overcrowding and permanently
replaced.
20:27:48 Existing structural damage in a building that is no
longer capable of
20:27:51 supporting our students.
20:27:59 2020 was an incredibly challenging year,
20:28:01 and it is understandable that the timeline has been
adjusted for
20:28:04 demolition of the current school building. I am.
20:28:06 I am hopeful that the new design will be approved and
construction
20:28:09 will move forward.

20:28:10 The community in district 27 are in full support of this project as
20:28:13 was stated at the last public hearing on January 11th.
20:28:16 On a personal note.
20:28:17 I want to ask the pep to vote in favor of the gifted and talented
20:28:20 testing contract.
20:28:21 Charlie from council member,
20:28:22 Robert Holden's office has attended our CCD.
20:28:29 27 meetings and presenting, convincing Dana in support of the program.
20:28:32 Some of which he touched on tonight,
20:28:34 I believe that the program has value and I support accelerated
20:28:37 learning and all school districts. Yes, there is room for improvement,
20:28:40 but we shouldn't throw the baby out with the bath water.
20:28:42 As the saying goes.
20:28:43 In my opinion,
20:28:44 the gifted and talented program should be expanded into every
20:28:47 neighborhood for all families to apply to and potentially experience.
20:28:50 Thank you for your time this evening.
20:28:51 Thank you.
20:28:52 Well now go back to Camille cost already.
20:28:55 Your audio has been enabled.
20:28:57 Pleased to meet yourself.
20:28:59 Hi, everyone.
20:29:06 Good evening members of the pap and chancellor Carranza.
20:29:08 I want to thank you for this opportunity to speak.
20:29:11 I am Camille Tesoro.
20:29:12 Already I'm the president of CEC.
20:29:13 15.
20:29:15 Ending the GMT program is absolutely necessary.
20:29:19 Please continue to promote equity and diversity for all children.
20:29:29 You're keeping the needs of all children at the forefront of decision
20:29:32 making is admirable. And like many of my fellow CC colleagues,
20:29:35 I hope you'll vote no to the Pearson contract.
20:29:37 I've been speaking out for years about the segregation of the G and T

20:29:40 program, which is literally a civil lawsuit of great proportions.

20:29:46 We need to end all discriminatory screens and stop pretending like

20:29:49 some children are better than others and start teaching all of our

20:29:53 students.

20:29:54 Developing all of their gifts and talents.

20:29:56 Stop separating and segregating arch kids.

20:30:00 We want them to know each other and learn and grow together.

20:30:03 We need inclusive classrooms that reflect our city or borrow,

20:30:06 or our district.

20:30:07 We're having great success in district 15 with our MSR middle school

20:30:10 diversity plan.

20:30:15 And now we're looking at how to work towards more inclusive elementary

20:30:19 schools.

20:30:20 We're working together with our community to make this happen.

20:30:24 I seen extraordinary teachers and administrators who clearly loved

20:30:27 children and are focusing on the social, emotional growth of,

20:30:30 of these.

20:30:33 Students while implementing culturally responsive curriculum into

20:30:36 conversations to help students remain strong and confident.

20:30:46 These incredible school leaders and educators are doing everything

20:30:48 that they can to keep students engaged and learning,

20:30:50 but they are running themselves,

20:30:52 ragged working all hours of the day and night.

20:30:54 And this is totally unsustainable.

20:30:56 And the best of remote learning settings,

20:30:58 there are always tech issues.

20:31:00 Think about how much money is being spent tonight to host this meeting

20:31:03 and the delays that had occurred earlier due to the tech issues that

20:31:06 are beyond the control of our hosts.

20:31:09 We are almost a year into this pandemic and we absolutely have to find

20:31:12 a safe and equitable return to the classroom as soon as possible.

20:31:22 Besides the very obvious harm that is being caused socially and

20:31:24 emotionally,

20:31:26 our students are angry and stressed out frustrated.

20:31:30 They're missing their friends.

20:31:31 Academically, we're seeing students missing out on necessary.

20:31:34 Hands-on learning art stamps.

20:31:38 Physical education and STEM classes.

20:31:40 Many of these things cannot be taught remotely,

20:31:42 no matter how hard our teachers are trying.

20:31:47 Schools that have a science focus,

20:31:49 which is a large majority of our schools all across the city are

20:31:51 unable to fill up,

20:31:52 to fulfill their own goals for teaching and learning.

20:31:58 How can labs,

20:31:59 which require equipment materials and other supplies be taught

20:32:02 effectively in a home or in some cases in a shelter,

20:32:06 we have to think about our students.

20:32:07 There are students who are in their first year of a new school and

20:32:10 they have no real way to connect. The year is half over now.

20:32:13 Our children cannot thrive in this remote environment. And in fact,

20:32:16 for many of them, they're crumbling.

20:32:23 I can't reiterate enough that we have to have a safe and equitable

20:32:26 return to the classroom,

20:32:27 put the needs of our children first and prioritize the whole child.

20:32:36 With vaccinations now available to school staff.

20:32:39 I would imagine that this returned to the classroom might be happening

20:32:42 in the coming months. I really hope so.

20:32:44 And I pray every night that our families stay safe and remain healthy.

20:32:47 I'm seeing authentic engagement from our chancellor,

20:32:50 from our borough Norris.

20:32:51 Executive superintendent, an art district, 15 superintendent.

20:32:54 And for that, I thank you.

20:33:08 They build trusting relationships with parents and school community
20:33:10 members here in district 15.
20:33:12 And we look forward to our continued work together because together
20:33:15 we're stronger. Right. That's what we keep saying.
20:33:17 So let's work together for the benefit of our children,
20:33:20 continuing to promote diversity and equity for all.
20:33:23 And just one last comment regarding the proposed amendments to the
20:33:26 chancellor's regulations that are on tonight's agenda.
20:33:29 I submitted six pages of comments, remarks,
20:33:31 and suggestions that were collected from.
20:33:33 CEC and citywide.
20:33:39 Council members and C PAC members.
20:33:41 So I just want to make sure that you received those comments and if
20:33:44 not, I'm happy to resend them right now by email.
20:33:47 So just let me know if you did not receive them. Thank you so much.
20:33:50 Have a lovely evening.
20:33:51 Thank you. The next CC speaker.
20:33:53 Is Jonathan Greenberg.
20:33:55 Jonathan your audio and video's been enabled, please.
20:33:57 Yourself.
20:33:59 Hello, I'm Jonathan Greenberg. I'm a member of CEC 30.
20:34:08 I'm not quite sure why the department of education is even proposing
20:34:12 to conduct gifted and talented testing this year.
20:34:16 By pledging to do away with the test. Next year,
20:34:18 the Dewey has acknowledged what many have known for a long time.
20:34:21 The testing four year olds and then separating them out into separate
20:34:24 classrooms.
20:34:25 And schools is not only invalid in arbitrary.
20:34:28 But discriminatory and harmful.
20:34:37 The mayor's owned school.
20:34:38 Diversity advisory group made this quite clear,
20:34:40 and it seems that many in the DOE, including you, Mr. Chancellor,
20:34:42 understand this.
20:34:52 But even if P P members don't fully agree with this,
20:34:56 I think we can all agree that holding an in-person test during a
20:34:59 horrific pandemic will skew any modicum of equity.
20:35:03 This G and T system ever had.

20:35:05 If you are,
20:35:06 you're asking families to risk their lives in order for
their child to
20:35:09 take the G and T test.
20:35:10 This is a particular threat to multi-generational
families.
20:35:13 And families with essential workers who have already
been,
20:35:15 been hit hardest by the pandemic.
20:35:19 And you are ready to pay \$5 million for this \$5 million
at a time when
20:35:23 kids need laptops and internet connections.
20:35:25 When both kids and staff need more robust supports to
deal with the
20:35:28 ongoing trauma of the pandemic.
20:35:36 When schools need help making remote,
20:35:38 learning more engaging in culturally responsive.
20:35:40 And when now more than ever,
20:35:41 we should be coming together as a city to support each
other.
20:35:44 Rather than feeding a system that encourages the
hoarding of
20:35:47 privilege.
20:35:48 Please vote no to the contract with Pearson, for the G
and T test.
20:35:54 Thank you. The next CDC speakers, Robyn Roshi.
20:35:57 Your audio and video has been enabled. Please unmute
yourself.
20:36:03 All right.
20:36:05 Hi, everyone.
20:36:06 I'm Robyn Roshi.
20:36:10 I'm a member of CEC district two in Manhattan.
20:36:24 And it's really hard for me to wrap my head around the
fact that we're
20:36:27 sitting here in a pandemic debating whether to approve
a contract for
20:36:31 \$5 million that will benefit fewer than 3000 children.
20:36:34 A disproportionate number of whom are white and higher
income.
20:36:37 Black and Hispanic children make up 70% of the
population of our
20:36:39 schools, but only 14% of G and T students.
20:36:45 We're talking about a test that is trying to predict
whether children,
20:36:49 many of whom still suck their sums and crawl into their
parents' bed
20:36:52 at night.

20:36:55 We'll be advanced at mass and reading when they're 10 years old,
20:36:59 based on how they perform on a very strange set of puzzles presented
20:37:02 to them by a stranger.
20:37:03 And in this case, a stranger wearing a mask.
20:37:08 The intention to move away from this existing test is a clear
20:37:11 admission of its faults.
20:37:13 So why are we going to spend \$5 million on a faulty process?
20:37:16 I've heard that justification is that families have invested in
20:37:18 preparing their children already.
20:37:20 But the fact that families prep to their children just further calls
20:37:23 into question the utility of this test.
20:37:25 Diversity and admissions will not work to expand access.
20:37:35 It has been implemented in a G and T in district two for school that
20:37:38 has never filled its priority bucket.
20:37:40 Despite three years of intensive outreach by unpaid school volunteers.
20:37:43 And in my district and it's city-wide schools,
20:37:45 there are never any unfilled seats to allocate in a lottery.
20:37:47 And how can we speak of band-aids to expand GNT access to
20:37:50 traditionally marginalized populations.
20:37:53 When those same populations have already largely avoided returning
20:37:55 just schools in person.
20:38:02 Why would they bring their babies to a building that doesn't feel safe
20:38:05 to them to hand off their child to be tested by a stranger and a mask.
20:38:09 When mayor de Blasio was running for mayor,
20:38:12 he promised to address the tale of two cities.
20:38:14 In his inaugural address, he promised.
20:38:28 When I said we would take dead aim at the tale of two cities.
20:38:30 I meant it. And we will do it. We know this won't be easy.
20:38:34 It will acquire all we can muster and it won't be accomplished only by
20:38:37 me. It will be accomplished by all of us.

20:38:40 He also promised that the tale of two cities wasn't just election
20:38:42 rhetoric.
20:38:44 The here we are tonight.
20:38:45 I know many of you feel like a yes. Vote.
20:38:47 Is honoring a commitment to the mayor.
20:38:49 I hope that tonight you do honor to your commitment to the mayor.
20:38:54 But not the one who is asking you to spend \$5 million on a contract to
20:38:57 support a process. He himself does not believe in.
20:39:00 Honor your commitment to the mayor. We elected in 2013.
20:39:06 Who promise that together we would March forward,
20:39:09 March toward a fairer, more dressed, more progressive place.
20:39:14 Thank you.
20:39:20 The next CC speaker is Jennifer headlock.
20:39:24 I see two Jennifers. Your audio has been enabled is that.
20:39:29 Here, Jennifer.
20:39:38 Okay, we will move on to the next cease.
20:39:41 See CC speaker.
20:39:43 Lucas Lou.
20:39:45 I also do not see in the room.
20:39:53 So move on to Chino ti tiny tower.
20:39:55 Your audio and video has been enabled. See some neat yourself.
20:40:03 Good evening.
20:40:07 My name is [unknown].
20:40:08 I'm a member of the community education council in district two.
20:40:11 Rebecca, can you give me a sum up that you can hear me?
20:40:13 Thank you.
20:40:15 So many amazing comments.
20:40:19 It makes me a little bit sad that.
20:40:22 We may be doing this for nothing.
20:40:24 That this is all a farce.
20:40:26 That we're just.
20:40:29 Playing the part without.
20:40:33 Changing the outcome, but I'll say what I have to say.
20:40:38 Because it's important that we all speak out and we'd be heard.
20:40:41 So I ask you, or did you.
20:40:43 You to vote? No. On the Pearson contract.
20:40:49 It's actually unbelievable to me that we're having this conversation.
20:40:54 In the middle of the pandemic.

20:40:55 When we have students who don't have devices.
20:40:57 Who don't have internet connectivity.
20:41:01 Who don't have food whose parents don't have a job.
20:41:15 Who might become homeless tomorrow.
20:41:17 And we are talking about GNT that serves thousands of students at most
20:41:23 in 2019 3,700 offers were made. That's it.
20:41:25 And we're spending so much time and energy.
20:41:28 And money.
20:41:31 Debate in this one,
20:41:32 we really should be working on making sure that all our students put
20:41:36 particularly those who are historically marginalized.
20:41:39 Has what they need to thrive.
20:41:42 Even in the pandemic.
20:41:43 Instead.
20:41:44 We are here.
20:41:45 Pleading with you.
20:41:46 To just vote this down so we can move onto more important things.
20:41:51 \$5 million. Just imagine what you can do with \$5 million.
20:41:58 Here's one idea.
20:41:59 A lot of schools are going to own money back to central because of
20:42:02 resistor loss.
20:42:03 And a lot of families actually lift the system. He seems this year.
20:42:07 Instead of making schools pay back what they owe.
20:42:11 Because start using some of these \$5 million.
20:42:14 Do you feel that gap?
20:42:17 There are other places where we can use this \$5 million.
20:42:19 And I know of.
20:42:28 Previous speakers at the contract is 1.7 million. Well,
20:42:31 that's just the contract.
20:42:32 We have to pay teachers to going to school buildings during the
20:42:35 pandemic and administer these tests.
20:42:37 So it is \$5 million.
20:42:38 And it really, doesn't not of who pays for this 5 million,
20:42:41 whether it's the city hall, the DOE it's the same money.
20:42:43 It's coming from the same place.
20:42:44 Even.

20:42:51 Foundation or some billionaire business person decided to donate
20:42:54 \$5 million. This is not where we should be using this money there.
20:42:58 There are other places where this money is needed.
20:43:00 So.
20:43:05 Beside this equity argument of how flawed this GMT program is,
20:43:10 how on scientifically founded this GNT testing is.
20:43:19 And how racist and white supremacist this whole GNT system is.
20:43:23 Aside from the argument.
20:43:24 There is a good fiscal reason why we should not continue this.
20:43:28 Please vote. No.
20:43:30 I'm just really tired of saying the same thing over and over again.
20:43:32 And I want to be done with it so we can move on.
20:43:34 Thank you.
20:43:35 Thank you.
20:43:39 The next CC speaker is Lucas Lou. He was in as a different name,
20:43:43 Lucas, your audio and videos enabled. Please unmute yourself.
20:43:45 Hi. Thank you.
20:43:46 Thank you very much. Appreciate that.
20:43:47 You know, several pet members a week ago.
20:43:56 And you know,
20:43:57 what that tells me is that those members weren't interested in hearing
20:44:00 from all of this.
20:44:01 And, you know,
20:44:02 the constant complaint that so many of us had all parents.
20:44:05 Have over the years has been that we are not being included into
20:44:08 discussions or the decision-making process.
20:44:10 And so, you know, let's be clear, you know,
20:44:12 I heard at the beginning the day, you know,
20:44:16 Sounds like they're going to be involving the pet members in future
20:44:18 GNTs discussions, but let's be clear that parents.
20:44:21 All parents expect to be included in those GMT discussions.
20:44:26 The, the potential passing of this contract tonight is because parents
20:44:29 spoke out.

20:44:30 And those parents need to be included.
20:44:34 I will say that it's good to hear that the DOE is finally talking
20:44:37 about expanding.
20:44:38 Opportunity instead of taking away opportunity.
20:44:41 I don't think anyone denies that the G and T process could be
20:44:43 improved.
20:44:47 I think we all agree.
20:44:48 There needs to be a process developed to identify students from all
20:44:51 schools in all neighborhoods.
20:44:52 Neighborhoods that would benefit from a GNT education.
20:44:56 But you know how I want to point out.
20:45:04 Something that a number of people commented and implied tonight that
20:45:08 the percentage of Asian students in G and T programs is too high.
20:45:11 I find that pretty offensive.
20:45:12 Then they don't bother to mention the Asians have the highest
20:45:14 percentage of students living in poverty.
20:45:15 So to those people and those two,
20:45:17 those who claim to fight about equity.
20:45:20 I want to ask you to go, you know,
20:45:21 who's exhibiting racism now and to look in the mirror.
20:45:23 And ask yourself if you really care about all students.
20:45:29 Everyone also agrees that the G and T programs provide dinosaurs.
20:45:34 Otherwise,
20:45:35 why would be having this discussion on equity when it comes to gene
20:45:37 too?
20:45:41 The education provided by a G and T program is different and it
20:45:43 provides students with an enhanced learning opportunity.
20:45:46 That again,
20:45:47 while we agree that many students are missed by missing out on this
20:45:50 opportunity.
20:45:51 But instead of expanding GMT to students most talk about taking away
20:45:53 opportunity.
20:45:55 You know,
20:45:57 in the New York city public school education is the only place.

20:46:04 Where people actively talk about taking away
opportunity in order to
20:46:07 achieve equity instead of expanding and providing
opportunity to
20:46:10 achieve equity.
20:46:11 No, I wish some of those people would put the same
metric.
20:46:18 And to making sure that all our students in all our
schools received
20:46:20 challenging rigorous education starting in elementary
school.
20:46:23 And the G and T program is one of those ways to achieve
that.
20:46:28 And for those who don't feel their child is ready for G
and T had
20:46:31 kindergarten. That's fine. Take the test at first
grade, second grade,
20:46:34 third grade, or even middle school.
20:46:36 There are middle school GMT programs,
20:46:37 and we need more of those as well.
20:46:39 Go, why are you taking opportunity away from others?
20:46:40 Those before me who spoke before me and those who are
going to speak
20:46:43 after me.
20:46:44 Against JT string schools, specialized high schools.
20:46:48 Send their kids to G and T program screen schools and
specialized high
20:46:51 schools.
20:46:55 So for them to advocate for those against those
programs while their
20:46:58 kids are benefiting for their programs.
20:47:00 It's just very odd to me.
20:47:02 And what I don't understand why they don't want others
to have the
20:47:04 benefits that their kids are having.
20:47:13 There are those who say that the \$1.7 million is too
much to spend
20:47:16 \$1.7 million to DOE spends on average eight to \$16,000
per student,
20:47:20 depending on the student's needs.
20:47:21 Not the color of a student's skin or whether they're
Asian or not.
20:47:24 So let's be clear.
20:47:25 \$172 million translates to 142 students.
20:47:28 Which is far less than the number of students that will
probably leave
20:47:31 the system. If we can't meet the educational needs.

20:47:33 So I did, and I think we all agree and I know the mayor could.

20:47:35 Chancellor could probably verify these numbers and it's probably

20:47:37 familiar with them.

20:47:42 That 142 students leaving the system.

20:47:44 If we get rid of GMT is not an unrealistic and realistic expectation.

20:47:56 So for those of you who voted? No. What comes next?

20:47:57 What about the additional cost and time and effort for reopening

20:48:00 elementary school enrollment that's already closed.

20:48:02 So the parents can go in and make changes to what their enrollment

20:48:04 decisions are going to be.

20:48:06 If anyone bothered.

20:48:07 What comes then?

20:48:08 Besides more confusion and chaos for parents and students.

20:48:10 And we've had enough of that for this year.

20:48:11 So I encourage everyone to continue with this GNT program to vote.

20:48:15 Yes.

20:48:16 And then we can talk about what we need to fix and change later.

20:48:18 Thank you.

20:48:19 Thank you.

20:48:22 The next CC speaker is Kenyatta.

20:48:24 Read your audience that he was enabled. Please unmute yourself.

20:48:27 Hello.

20:48:29 I don't have many words, so it's going to be super quick.

20:48:35 I just wanted to say vote no to the Pearson contract because funding

20:48:39 millions of dollars.

20:48:43 To a racist practice was ridiculous before.

20:48:46 And it's even more ridiculous now during a pandemic. That's it.

20:48:49 Thank you.

20:48:50 Thank you for keeping it brief.

20:48:51 The next slide.

20:48:55 CC speaker is Chanel Lawrence,

20:48:59 who I do not see.

20:49:00 So we'll go to Tim Watkins.

20:49:02 Oh, okay.

20:49:10 Your audio and video is enabled.

20:49:11 He's on mute yourself.
20:49:13 I'm sorry.
20:49:14 I'm not.
20:49:19 Sharon Lawrence. I was accidentally raised my hand.
20:49:22 I was, I wasn't sure how to.
20:49:23 How to make a comment.
20:49:24 Thank you.
20:49:26 You can write into the Q and a okay.
20:49:29 Perfect. Thanks. Sorry about that.
20:49:34 Then next CC speaker is Tim Watkins.
20:49:38 Can your audio and video is enabled. Please unmute yourself.
20:49:48 Can you hear me?
20:49:50 Yes. Okay, great. Thank you.
20:49:53 Good evening, everyone.
20:50:00 Hello panel members. Thank you so much for the time to speak tonight.
20:50:02 My name is Kim Watkins. I am president of CEC.
20:50:04 And I'll try to be brief as well.
20:50:12 You know, I think some of my colleagues said, eh,
20:50:15 said it so much more eloquently than I could put into words.
20:50:42 My heart is breaking, listening to the commentary of this evening.
20:50:45 I want to reiterate that the, the,
20:50:49 one of the main frustrations that many of us have is having to have
20:50:53 this conversation in a pandemic when so many students,
20:50:56 so many parents, so many teachers continue to suffer. We have,
20:51:00 we heard from two parents tonight who or CDC members who reported more
20:51:03 than 300 students in two.
20:51:05 Different districts still do not have devices.
20:51:08 We have issues related to students with disabilities that are not
20:51:11 being met. We have lots of,
20:51:12 of emotional supports that are not being met.
20:51:14 And here we are having this conversation because of.
20:51:18 It's what is essentially a political game.
20:51:20 And I think the most important thing that hasn't been said yet.
20:51:22 Is that,
20:51:23 that the mayor and his deputy and this entire Schrade is just an
20:51:28 embarrassment for our entire city. Because if you,

20:51:31 if we really sort of distilled out what parents really want.

20:51:49 It's it really isn't that different.

20:51:51 We are being pit against each other in terms of providing

20:51:54 opportunities and providing an educational experience for our stew for

20:51:57 all of our students in this city. And we want it to be as, as,

20:52:00 as educationally enriching as possible.

20:52:02 We want our kids also to be healthy, to be challenged emotionally,

20:52:06 and to be enriched culturally. But when we are,

20:52:09 we are forced into these various nuanced conversation.

20:52:13 Patients about a program.

20:52:20 That let's be human. We have to be honest. We,

20:52:22 we talked for years about how people in Washington,

20:52:26 DC, about how president Trump wasn't listening to experts while he was

20:52:30 making up stuff. We should be listening to pedagogical experts.

20:52:33 When we think about the impact of this type of testing and this type

20:52:37 of assessment on students who are so young, we can book,

20:52:41 but 30 seconds for me to find three different studies, UCLA Brown.

20:52:44 NYU all who call out.

20:52:46 G and T in New York city as not being sound academically.

20:52:49 So.

20:52:50 I am with the camp of voting no for tonight.

20:52:53 And going back to the drawing board and figuring out how to make this

20:52:56 program work for everyone, how to utilize the budget in the.

20:52:59 Oh the right way and how to get the politics out of this conversation.

20:53:03 The fact that there was a mayor,

20:53:05 the deputy mayor was lobbying the pep, the mayor himself,

20:53:07 lobbying the pack.

20:53:08 Speaks volumes about the shenanigans that are going on in this

20:53:11 conversation.

20:53:12 So, thank you so much for your time and have a great night.

20:53:15 Please vote now.
20:53:16 Thank you.
20:53:17 The next CC speaker.
20:53:19 Is Rosa Diaz.
20:53:20 Your audio and video has been enabled, please.
20:53:22 Hi. Thank you. I'm good evening, everyone. I'm hope.
20:53:24 And we wanna be safe and well.
20:53:26 And then Ms. Rosa Diaz, I am fluency C4.
20:53:28 Before,
20:53:29 and I think you all know by now that there is more
important needs.
20:53:37 In the school community or the Dan to find out who will
be tested in
20:53:40 who I'm gifted enough to go to the gifted and talented
program.
20:53:44 Right now that's not a priority.
20:53:46 And I don't think it will continue to be a priority
right now.
20:53:48 I wish that.
20:53:51 It can be spent. This money can be spent in providing
students with.
20:53:54 Better resources.
20:53:58 Even better breakfast and lunch to process for the,
20:54:00 for the students to process.
20:54:01 These are learning better.
20:54:06 And also to spend this money on,
20:54:09 on reliable in a iPad.
20:54:11 They have already the internet.
20:54:12 And also.
20:54:13 Spend money.
20:54:17 To better serve our students with IPS who desperately
needed.
20:54:21 And I think last, I will say that.
20:54:24 This man is to also be span on a racing.
20:54:27 The paycheck for teachers.
20:54:28 That's my comment. Thank you very much.
20:54:30 Have a good night.
20:54:35 Thank you.
20:54:39 The next CC speaker is dizziness on.
20:54:42 Your audio and video's been enabled, please unmute
yourself.
20:54:49 Hi, can you guys hear and see me?
20:54:51 Yes.
20:54:56 Okay. So I'm here.
20:54:58 I'm with the testimony of myself and my youngest.
20:55:01 My name is [unknown].
20:55:02 I am a CC member of district 22.

20:55:08 And also at Deepak chair.
20:55:09 So I'm going to begin my testimony by asking my youngest to share.
20:55:12 Maybe what's your name?
20:55:13 How old are you?
20:55:17 Four.
20:55:20 How do you go to school?
20:55:25 Our overall comparable. Do you like your teachers?
20:55:28 Yeah.
20:55:29 What do you like to do best in your class?
20:55:32 Do you like taking tests?
20:55:36 And how smart are you?
20:55:40 They're super smart. Thank you, Amy.
20:55:42 And I agree with her.
20:55:50 And I'm proud that my baby's self-awareness and self-confidence
20:55:54 on.
20:56:10 I'm really proud of it. It especially important for black Brown,
20:56:13 indigenous,
20:56:14 Asian immigrant neuro divergent people to feel this way,
20:56:18 especially as their struggles, pains, trauma, psyche,
20:56:21 body existence, and their demands are up today.
20:56:25 Demands to their basic rights are.
20:56:27 Either ignored gas, lid, or stifled by the people in power.
20:56:30 We saw very scary iteration of this at the national level.
20:56:33 And possibly we'll see here, something like this tonight.
20:56:35 A policy that has a legacy of discrimination, administer.
20:56:39 To be administered.
20:56:40 Amid a pandemic that ravaged all BiPAP communities.
20:56:43 That.
20:56:44 Is nothing but a [unknown].
20:56:48 Assault rendered on these students and families that are continued to
20:56:51 be marginalized for the more the maneuvering done around presentation
20:56:54 of this contract. Today is a gross misuse of power.
20:56:57 And the front to the mandate of the people.
20:56:59 It is a boring that we are here today.
20:57:01 Amid uncertainty, devastation and death.
20:57:07 To argue the necessity of a test that the department of education

20:57:11 itself has deemed discriminatory on sustainable and wrong.

20:57:14 Let me also add racist and classes and not to mention xenophobic.

20:57:29 Mr chancellor.

20:57:30 I really do appreciate the fact that you recognize this.

20:57:33 And I imagine the panel members today also do.

20:57:36 And, and so it is imperative that we all unite today,

20:57:40 too.

20:57:41 To remove this thing as history will remember.

20:57:43 From our academic discourse. So I encourage,

20:57:46 and I really do hope the panel.

20:57:47 Today,

20:57:48 we'll stand with the people for equity and both for the Pearson

20:57:53 contract. Thank you.

20:57:54 Thank you.

20:57:55 The next CC speaker is Shamila Lawrence,

20:57:57 who is here under a different name.

20:57:58 Smell your audio and video has been enabled. Please unmute yourself.

20:58:01 Thank you. I'm there. I'm a member of the city-wide council president.

20:58:10 I'm here because I filled that two of these items on this thing for

20:58:13 vote tonight, we shouldn't even be having a conversation about one,

20:58:16 the GMT program and two.

20:58:18 The change to the chancellor reg.

20:58:20 These both items that we are, you have supposed to bowl on tonight.

20:58:23 Have you really want splitter box?

20:58:28 How equitable is gonna be for parents all in a citywide,

20:58:33 especially when it comes to election.

20:58:35 Just like now my voice or more than get hurt,

20:58:37 we got better things that we could invest into. Why don't we.

20:58:48 Vote no to those things and put the real issues.

20:58:51 Let's talk about getting kids who weren't getting related service.

20:58:53 Let's talk about kids who need busted.

20:58:54 Let's talk about kids who don't have devices.

20:58:56 Let's talk about kids who don't have wifi. Mr. Castle.

20:58:58 Mr mayor.

20:58:59 You both have done a disservice to this.

20:59:01 [unknown] and all.
20:59:03 The students and family in New York.
20:59:04 You're be ashamed of yourself. That's all I'm going to say.
20:59:06 Thank you for letting me speak.
20:59:07 Thank you.
20:59:10 Then next CC speaker is Amy side.
20:59:13 Your audio and video has been enabled. Please unmute yourself.
20:59:15 Can you hear me?
20:59:16 Yep.
20:59:28 Great. Thank you so much, Rebecca. Good evening, everyone.
20:59:30 Good evening to panel for educational policy members and the
20:59:32 chancellor Carranza.
20:59:33 My name is Amy [unknown] and I'm a member of the city council for
20:59:36 district 75.
20:59:37 Tarion as well as other chairs of other committees on my cancer.
20:59:39 I'm a mother of five and the New York city citywide at New York city
20:59:42 school system.
20:59:43 Tonight. I would like to speak on three items.
20:59:59 We talk about equity and inclusion a lot.
21:00:02 And when I was a district 75 that I represent for my district in my
21:00:06 community,
21:00:07 it has really important that thirst the proposal for the amendment for
21:00:11 the elections upcoming year. I do suggest that we.
21:00:15 Makes them and postpone the citywide elections specifically for cells.
21:00:20 CCSC CC H S and district 75,
21:00:23 just because it has been very difficult to serve our city wide.
21:00:26 At raging campaigning for the selection,
21:00:28 it is very difficult on a traditional day.
21:00:30 So reach out to all five boroughs of our parents to get resources,
21:00:33 to get them re.
21:00:34 Information.
21:00:35 And it is not enough to decide now in the next few months on how we
21:00:40 can serve, eat fairly with our constituents.
21:00:42 Second of all.

21:00:44 Let's talk about the test and trace communication that reaches from
21:00:46 just your study.
21:00:53 75 has been a very poor communication.
21:00:55 There has been days that parents are not aware that the situation room
21:00:58 has not been conveyed to the principal or to the bus company or to
21:01:02 opt.
21:01:03 In regards to an individual who has been contacted with COVID
21:01:06 positive.
21:01:07 What would quarantine be looking like?
21:01:08 And when a child does need me to turn it back to school,
21:01:10 Does the bus company.
21:01:11 Aware to get the child and pick up the child.
21:01:13 To attend school for that day.
21:01:18 And lastly, we need our middle school students and inclusion program.
21:01:21 They are the ones that have been excluded since forever.
21:01:25 For a very long time of this pandemic.
21:01:27 They have not returned back to school since the system has closed.
21:01:30 And it's an unfortunate thing that they are.
21:01:32 Five students, but they are not treated like this for 75 students.
21:01:37 They have been excluded for many activities,
21:01:39 excluded from many support services and related services.
21:01:42 And yet there's no plan for them to come back this spring.
21:01:47 And hopefully they do come back in September with some type of
21:01:49 normalcy, but thank you so much for the opportunity to speak tonight.
21:01:52 And chance of karate.
21:01:53 We look forward to our town hall, this coming week. Thank you so much.
21:01:56 Thank you.
21:01:58 Amy the next CC speaker.
21:02:02 Is Mitchell Lou, your audio and video has been enabled, please.
21:02:04 Some yourself.
21:02:10 Good evening.
21:02:13 Can folks hear me? Yes. Thank you.

21:02:15 My name is Mitchell.
21:02:19 I'm the president of the city-wide council or English language
21:02:21 learners. I'm commenting tonight.
21:02:26 On the proposed amendments to transit regulation, D one
70,
21:02:29 and which is the process on the nomination and
selection of members of
21:02:31 the statewide council.
21:02:37 Of English language learners, including filling
vacancies.
21:02:39 I just want to thank the council,
21:02:41 the picture as well as the other panelists to give me
the time to
21:02:43 testify this evening.
21:02:49 Pertaining to the chancellor's regulation. Do you want
70?
21:02:52 I just want to ask some comments regarding the
particular amendments.
21:02:54 A lot of there's a lot of confusion around and within
the language
21:02:57 about eligibility.
21:02:58 And so forth.
21:03:00 Particularly with how people are eligible and are able
to run and
21:03:05 boat. And how's, that's how that is determined.
21:03:07 Our parents who have students in high school who are
also English
21:03:10 language learners or multilingual learners. We're also
with NPSP.
21:03:12 To be eligible to vote and like multiple councils, you
know,
21:03:16 and so forth.
21:03:19 Other issue is, you know,
21:03:20 there are not clear or such as if there are two parents
in a
21:03:23 two-parent household.
21:03:24 Are they also able to run a vote?
21:03:37 You know, because we want to make sure that no parents
are, you know,
21:03:39 disenfranchised due to any technical issues pertaining
to the language
21:03:42 here in the proposal amendments. And, you know,
21:03:45 there are just a name, you know, I just need some
scenarios,
21:03:47 but there are many scenarios that could present
themselves.

21:03:49 Possible.
21:03:50 Variety of different events that should be addressed within this
21:03:53 regulation.
21:03:54 To eliminate any problems or barriers with full voter eligibility.
21:04:00 That could arise that might possibly be solved solvable at the time of
21:04:03 the, you know, now, which is the election.
21:04:05 There are many paragraphs that still need clarification of who is
21:04:07 eligible to run well, as well as serve.
21:04:11 As well as if,
21:04:12 if we can conclude assurances that conflict of interest would not be
21:04:15 on original bully applied as well as clarity on malfeasance.
21:04:20 So that it is not misused also within the language of that amendments
21:04:23 out. We just also something that there's some.
21:04:26 Confusion about as well within a language,
21:04:27 particularly with Sikh coalition to the council.
21:04:29 Canada forums. If you know this applicable to Cecil.
21:04:32 The council forums.
21:04:33 If they're actually right now,
21:04:35 no mention of provisions for interpreters.
21:04:37 Including American sign language and, you know,
21:04:48 The forms and should be in those things should be, you know,
21:04:51 include in addition for the assurance of compliance,
21:04:54 particularly at ADA compliant locations.
21:04:55 And so even with the post-election review of qualifications,
21:05:02 There should be stronger language of how runoff should be conducted,
21:05:04 who was the independent agent that will be managing the elections
21:05:06 process that is not specified.
21:05:12 In the event of a tie and also with red resignations of a member does
21:05:16 not provide a resignation of writing because they never been sworn in.
21:05:19 You know, in a creative vacancy for a period of time.
21:05:23 Can the Viacom, CBS declare what? That a letter of resignation.
21:05:25 Under, you know,

21:05:27 Circumstances that may arise. That what happened. So again, please.

21:05:36 Take consideration these particular issues when it comes to the

21:05:39 language of the amendments, when it comes to, you know,

21:05:45 Candidates and their eligibility,

21:05:46 as well as the outreach, you know, and as well as selection process,

21:05:50 when it comes to the amendment.

21:05:58 Now, lastly, just want to say, and I want to save this,

21:06:00 not as a representative of, this is what council about elves,

21:06:02 but as a parent of a New York city, you know,

21:06:06 public school students. And so this is.

21:06:07 Our record as me as a parent and not as representative Cecil.

21:06:09 Or we'll like to encourage the panel to also vote no, on the Pearson.

21:06:12 You know, based on many of the issues of equity.

21:06:15 And in congruence of actual, you know,

21:06:18 educational aptitude with that many of the testimonies.

21:06:20 I've said prior. Thank you again for the time to testify tonight.

21:06:22 Thank you.

21:06:27 The next and last CEC speaker is Dr.

21:06:30 Miriam.

21:06:32 Ben chick Ellis, your audio and video is enabled.

21:06:34 Please unmute yourself.

21:06:35 Good evening, everyone.

21:06:36 Meaning members of the panel.

21:06:37 Good evening.

21:06:40 It's very late. It's already 9:00 PM. So.

21:06:42 I'm going to talk.

21:06:45 As a CC.

21:06:46 13 member.

21:06:48 If I saw first vice-president.

21:06:52 And I will read the document that we decided to.

21:06:55 To present tonight.

21:06:59 On behalf of this vote for item five, dependents.

21:07:02 For educational policy members.

21:07:06 This letter is being sent with intend to urge you to vote.

21:07:09 To not approve.

21:07:10 Item five, the NCS Pearson.

21:07:12 Contract allowing the deal.

21:07:14 Administer the gifted and talented.

21:07:17 GT test this spring 2021.

21:07:27 She's all children are gifted and talented.
21:07:29 And the fact remains that the current admission process
for this
21:07:32 program will end. There's no logical reason to
administer this test.
21:07:35 The 1.7 million cost of this one.
21:07:39 Last gift and talented test could be allocated towards
more critical
21:07:43 needs for our 1.1 million students.
21:07:45 As parent leaders,
21:07:46 we strongly urge you to not approve the NCS person
contract.
21:07:53 Gifted and talented assessment program extension,
21:07:56 allowing the DOE to administer the gifted and talented
test this
21:07:59 spring 2021.
21:08:00 Did you eat could spend this money.
21:08:01 On other items to equitably.
21:08:03 Address the needs of our public school students such as
heaters.
21:08:10 Air filters, more PPE school stuff. Consider
counselors,
21:08:13 technology, devices, connectivity for students.
21:08:16 We thank you in advance for reconsideration
respectfully.
21:08:18 The CC 13.
21:08:19 And I would like also to speak as a parent.
21:08:21 Who has five kids.
21:08:26 In the public school system here in New York city.
21:08:32 I definitely am on board for voting. No.
21:08:36 On this.
21:08:37 On this contract.
21:08:40 Because there is so much inequities and so much
appeared.
21:08:43 During this pandemic.
21:08:46 And everything is being amplified and we see.
21:08:49 Really.
21:08:50 With a magnifying.
21:08:51 Lance.
21:08:59 There are so many, many, many,
21:09:01 many inequities among older families and the classes
and the social
21:09:04 classes. It's the devil.
21:09:05 So I just want to say being from another country.
21:09:07 In another continent from Africa. I just want to say.
21:09:10 This is how democracy looks like.

21:09:13 Parents having the possibility to talk in front of this panel.
21:09:16 In front of the honorable members of this panel.
21:09:19 Parents having the possibility to give their opinion.
21:09:22 And if we don't all agree.
21:09:25 Like my friend, Luca.
21:09:38 I had just saw him talking tonight. We, we agree on other measures,
21:09:41 but we,
21:09:42 this is democracy and we express our opinions and we hope that I hope
21:09:46 as a parent, that the panel.
21:09:48 Tonight, we'll do the right thing and vote. No.
21:09:51 No.
21:09:52 The money can really be really is needed in other parts of,
21:09:55 of what we need to do.
21:09:57 And one of the, one of the speakers said raising the teacher's salary.
21:10:00 Oh yes, let's do that.
21:10:01 Thank you so much to everyone.
21:10:03 Thank you.
21:10:07 That brings us to the end of the CEC students and elected officials.
21:10:13 I will now. And there was no one in the language rooms for those.
21:10:16 Okay. Thank you. Thank you everyone. For your comments.
21:10:21 And we're gonna move to our first voting item on the agenda,
21:10:24 which is the consideration of contracts.
21:10:29 So I'm not as that contracts committee member as a Carman Yani
21:10:32 summarize for the panel, the contracts committee's recommendations.
21:10:34 Regarding the contracts listed on tonight's agenda.
21:10:37 Thank you cheerlead.
21:10:38 So the contracts committee met on Monday.
21:10:45 January 25th, 2021,
21:10:47 and reviewed the contracts being considered by the panel tonight.
21:10:49 The meeting was attended via Microsoft teams by Peter Callen. Drella.
21:10:56 [unknown] April Chapman. They're killing him. Natalie Green chiles,
21:10:59 Eric Henry.
21:11:00 Michael Craft Gary Lennon, Cathy park price, Thomas Shepherd.

21:11:04 Shannon our weights and myself.
21:11:06 The meeting was open to the public.
21:11:07 The online live stream.
21:11:12 At the meeting,
21:11:13 the committee recommended the approval of contract items.
21:11:15 One through four.
21:11:18 And six through 14 objections were raised regarding contract item
21:11:22 five.
21:11:24 We recommend that contract items one through 14,
21:11:26 be considered in five resolutions.
21:11:33 Resolution one competitive seal bidding and MWDE discretionary
21:11:37 purchases would be items one, seven and eight.
21:11:41 Resolution two amendments extensions and negotiated services items two
21:11:44 through four and six.
21:11:46 Resolution three.
21:11:47 GNT assessment program, extension item number five.
21:11:52 Resolution for emergency contracts would cover items nine and 10.
21:11:56 Resolution.
21:11:58 Five discretionary and grant funded purchases to government contracts.
21:12:02 Items 11 through 14.
21:12:07 Thank you so much, Pam, and we're coming Yani and,
21:12:08 and all the contracts committees.
21:12:11 Participation this week. So before we begin.
21:12:14 Ms. [unknown]. Do you have any texts you'd like to read into
21:12:16 the minutes this evening?
21:12:18 Yes. Thank you, Charlie.
21:12:19 Can everybody hear me?
21:12:20 Great.
21:12:33 As I've done a prior panel meetings before going into the detail on
21:12:36 some of the specific items on this evening's agenda.
21:12:38 I just want to remind panel members and the public have a few things.
21:12:50 First,
21:12:51 I want to make clear that a vote to approve these contracts does not
21:12:55 immediately or automatically render any payment if and what the DOE
21:12:59 actually chooses to spend with any of our vendors will absolutely

21:13:02 reflect our current reality of budgetary.
21:13:04 Constraints as well as blended and remote learning.
21:13:07 The numbers that we post publicly on the contracts
agenda are often
21:13:10 the highest estimated amounts.
21:13:11 But the actual spend is often lower and of course,
21:13:14 dependent on the services that are actually rendered.
21:13:16 As has been on prior and will continue to be the case
for future
21:13:19 contracts, agendas.
21:13:20 Some of the items on the agenda tonight,
21:13:22 reflect months long procurement processes.
21:13:24 Many of which began well before COVID 19 impacted our
school system.
21:13:28 And in some cases,
21:13:30 these contracts will be able to be accessed by schools.
21:13:32 Long after the crisis resolves.
21:13:38 This is so when normal operations resume,
21:13:40 our students and schools have access to these supports
and services.
21:13:43 And now like to turn to some of the specific items on
this evening's
21:13:46 agenda.
21:13:51 Item number five is an extension of the existing DOE
contract with
21:13:54 Pearson. That's tied to the gifted and talented
program.
21:14:12 However,
21:14:13 this last and final contract extension will provide the
needed
21:14:17 continuity and services.
21:14:18 While the DOE collaborates with families, schools,
21:14:20 and other stakeholders on the future of the program.
21:14:23 The contract factors in additional time at no
additional cost.
21:14:30 To allow for greater flexibility and administering the
exam,
21:14:33 just strict, just health and safety standards in the
age of COVID-19.
21:14:39 The publicly posted request for authorization has also
been updated to
21:14:43 reflect that this will be the final extension of the
contract.
21:14:45 Items seven and eight.
21:14:50 Our awards under the new minority and women owned
business enterprise
21:14:53 known as M WBE procurement method.

21:15:03 These are the first contracts to city certified MWB vendors,
21:15:06 utilizing a method that was approved for addition to our DOE
21:15:10 procurement policy procedures by the panel one year ago, this month.
21:15:13 And I, again, want to thank the panel for the approval last year.
21:15:16 The contracts such as these ensure that the city and the DOE is
21:15:19 commitment to providing opportunities.
21:15:21 To certify MWB businesses in our communities.
21:15:24 And it is a commitment, which is now more important than ever.
21:15:27 As the city begins to recover from the pandemic.
21:15:32 We look forward to this,
21:15:33 being able to provide additional awards pursuant to this method at
21:15:36 future panel meetings.
21:15:37 Items nine and 10 relate to contracts for the learning bridges
21:15:40 program.
21:15:43 Do the COVID-19 health crisis,
21:15:45 most New York city schools and early childhood programs.
21:15:47 Continue operating on a blended learning model.
21:15:52 This means that each week students have some school days in person and
21:15:55 some school D is remotely.
21:16:00 Learning bridges provides free childcare options for children from
21:16:03 three to K through eighth grade on days when they are scheduled for
21:16:07 remote learning.
21:16:08 Do you use managing three K and pre-K childcare options.
21:16:14 While the department of youth and community development is managing K
21:16:16 through eight child care options.
21:16:18 And as such the panel will only see the contract to support the
21:16:20 provision.
21:16:21 For three K and pre-K.
21:16:27 These emergency contractor agreements with early childcare providers
21:16:30 have allowed the DOE to operate childcare services for three and four

21:16:34 year old students. As part of the learning bridges program.

21:16:36 Since services came online at the start of the 2021 school year and

21:16:39 are expected to continue.

21:16:40 Until the 20 until the end of the school year.

21:16:42 They have expanded to greater support the childcare needs.

21:16:44 Of our essential workers and other parents in need of assistance.

21:16:48 I also note the technical changes to items on the agenda have been

21:16:51 posted to the web.

21:16:52 And with that,

21:16:53 I hope it offers some additional clarity to the panel members in

21:16:55 public.

21:16:57 On the items that are in this evening's agenda. Charlie angle,

21:16:59 turn it over back to you now. Thank you.

21:17:01 Thank you so much, Ms. Samantha.

21:17:03 I'll try.

21:17:07 Secretary. Nathan, could you please introduce the resolution?

21:17:11 Thank you.

21:17:16 The resolutions up for approval are all entitled resolution regarding

21:17:19 approval of contracts.

21:17:20 And as indicated by panel member.

21:17:24 Carmen Yani.

21:17:25 The first resolution contains items a one seven and eight.

21:17:29 The second resolution contains items two through four and six.

21:17:32 The third resolution contains item five.

21:17:36 The fourth resolution contains items nine for 10.

21:17:40 The fifth resolution contains items 11 through 14.

21:17:48 Panel members,

21:17:49 please note that if you wish to vote differently for a specific

21:17:52 contract item within a single resolution, you may do so.

21:17:55 Simply indicate as much when the roll call vote is taken.

21:17:57 I will now turn the meeting back over to Charlie on.

21:17:59 Thank you so much, secretary Nathan.

21:18:05 I'll ask the panelists.

21:18:06 Is there a motion to adopt the resolutions being considered tonight?

21:18:09 Thank you, Pam.

21:18:10 Pod Baskar is there a second?

21:18:11 Second. Thank you. Panel member Kellen.

21:18:16 [unknown]

21:18:17 so we'll move to public comments regarding contracts.

21:18:36 I want to note that this portion of public comment is only for

21:18:40 contracts being voted on at tonight's panel meeting.

21:18:42 So if you accidentally signed up to comment during the section,

21:18:44 but wish to comment on other matters,

21:18:46 just let us know and we'll call your name and we'll move you to

21:18:49 general public comments. So again,

21:18:50 comments at this time should only pertain to contracts being consumed.

21:18:52 Voted on tonight.

21:18:53 I will now turn it over to Rebecca to facilitate those comments.

21:18:56 Thank you chair Leon.

21:18:57 Each speaker will be given two minutes to submit comment.

21:18:59 First we'll take comment from those joining the meeting via computer,

21:19:02 then we'll take comments that require translation.

21:19:04 If you're calling on calling in via phone and would like to sign up

21:19:07 for public comments.

21:19:08 Related to contracts, please press star nine now.

21:19:12 And you'll be called to speak shortly.

21:19:14 Okay.

21:19:15 The first.

21:19:18 Well, first, we're going to go to.

21:19:22 Robert Jackson, who was missed during the elected officials.

21:19:25 A portion.

21:19:28 Well, thank you. And good evening, everyone.

21:19:35 To the chair and the chancellor and panel members.

21:19:38 Let me thank you for.

21:19:40 The service that you provide in this process.

21:19:52 I apologize for not being on earlier.

21:19:54 I had other commitments that I was zooming in on,

21:19:57 and this kind of late now I'm like tired, but I felt it.

21:20:00 Necessary to come in and speak on a contract five to
Pierce and
21:20:03 contract.
21:20:05 As a parent advocate for public education and as an
elected public
21:20:08 official or a state Senator.
21:20:09 In New York city.
21:20:10 I have been fighting alongside other parents against
inequities,
21:20:14 rapid in our schools for decades.
21:20:17 They vocal minority has pushed the city and DOE to
continue
21:20:20 discriminatory practices, including G and T
programming.
21:20:23 That hurts every student.
21:20:25 And categorizing students as gifted and talented
creates an other
21:20:28 category would die.
21:20:29 Consequences.
21:20:30 Equity and diversity.
21:20:38 And black and Latin X students make up 66% of New York
city public
21:20:41 school students,
21:20:42 but just 22% of students in gifted and talented program
to these
21:20:46 outcomes.
21:20:47 Wall certain individual students or from others.
21:20:50 And as the world shifted during this pandemic
continuously.
21:20:53 Not as a time to creatively,
21:20:55 think of a better way to uplift those students.
21:20:57 Defendant make heads hit the low-income black and Brown
community.
21:21:00 Just proportionately.
21:21:01 And these families historically faced.
21:21:02 Blockades receiving access to quality education.
21:21:05 And we know about that.
21:21:14 That's why the campaign,
21:21:15 this guy equity was filed allocating 1.7 mil for
testing.
21:21:19 And as I heard in testimony earlier from CEC members to
total cost is
21:21:23 about 5 million.
21:21:24 But testing that are not to observe students when
broadband technology
21:22:07 I asked you to please vote. No.

21:22:08 And thank you for giving me the opportunity to come and hear what I
21:22:11 have to say.
21:22:12 Thank you.
21:22:13 Thank you, Senator Jackson.
21:22:14 Thank you.
21:22:21 The next, the first speaker on contracts will be Michael Horwitz.
21:22:25 Your audio and video has been enabled. Please unmute yourself.
21:22:28 Thank you.
21:22:29 Good evening.
21:22:30 My name is Michael Horwitz and tonight I'm speaking on behalf of class
21:22:33 size matters.
21:22:38 We urge the PDP, not to renew the Pearson contract.
21:22:41 We as well as numerous other advocates, parents and teachers.
21:22:49 Have pointed out how the gifted test has been shown to be unreliable
21:22:53 and bias effects,
21:22:54 which the pandemic disruptions to the education system.
21:22:57 I would almost certainly exacerbate further.
21:23:00 Although the program was supposedly established in the name of equity.
21:23:05 It's in practice it's outcomes.
21:23:06 Haven't said reflected and deepened the racial and economic inequities
21:23:10 plaguing the school system.
21:23:13 We also urge you now to expand the gifted program,
21:23:15 to do a universal screening,
21:23:16 which would be even more expensive and take even more classroom time.
21:23:36 Finally, we feel it is important to voice the concerns with the DOE is
21:23:39 incomplete account of Pearson's problematic record in their requests
21:23:42 for authorization document. The RA emits this company's history of Ms.
21:23:46 Gorin tests in New York city.
21:23:47 The company's past attempts to bribe New York officials and several
21:23:51 allegations of discrimination, including an ongoing investigation.
21:23:54 By the equal employment opportunity commission based on employee

21:23:57 complaints of discrimination on the basis of age, sex,
disability,
21:24:00 and race.
21:24:02 To spend the billions of dollars on a company with such
an egregious
21:24:04 record at a time of such a severe budget crisis for our
city is
21:24:58 testing, whether the contract is for 1.7 million,
21:25:00 we know that the city is projected to spend \$5 million
when all is
21:25:03 said and done.
21:25:05 As a former literacy coach,
21:25:06 I've purchased libraries for classes and price
curriculum for our
21:25:09 school. And as a 15 year veteran of the DOE,
21:25:11 I've taught special education in every grade, K to
five.
21:25:28 I'm a parent I've spent in time and money and energy
supplementing my
21:25:31 son's remote curriculum and education wearing all of
those hats and
21:25:34 thinking about all of those roles,
21:25:35 I could probably list about a hundred better ways the
DOE can spend
21:25:38 \$5 million instead of testing four year olds,
21:25:41 like my son for a gifted and talented program that
doesn't even
21:25:43 equitably serve our current students.
21:25:45 Especially in the midst of a pandemic.
21:25:47 Especially when thousands of children's still lack
devices for remote
21:25:50 learning,
21:25:51 especially with thousands of children still live in
shelters when they
21:25:53 still accurate, reliable access to internet.
21:25:55 It's unconscionable to me that this year when school
leaders are
21:25:58 literally trying to do the impossible with their
budgets that have
21:26:00 been cut.
21:26:02 That the DOE would spend this much money on something.
21:26:04 I want to spend my last 30 seconds calling out and
shouting out the
21:26:07 brilliant students that spoke before Brianna and
Sophie.
21:26:10 You gave all the data. We need to know that this test
is racist.

21:26:14 Graham and Meryl,
21:26:15 you gave an excellent picture of what exactly GNT
programs are like in
21:26:18 our city. And Lucas brought it home,
21:26:20 especially for me as a special educator.
21:26:21 How do we want to show all students that we see them?
21:26:25 Budgets and financial plans are moral documents to,
21:26:27 and I implore those on the pep to use their boat
tonight,
21:26:29 to show us who they are here to serve,
21:26:31 who they see and who they stand behind.
21:26:32 Vote no on the contract. Thank you.
21:26:34 The next.
21:26:35 As speaker is Anna Lee, your audio and videos enabled.
21:26:39 Please unmute yourself.
21:26:40 Hi.
21:26:48 My name is Anna Lee.
21:26:49 I'm a parent of a third grader and a GNT program where
I have seen
21:26:52 just how racially and socioeconomically divided
classrooms are due to
21:26:55 these questions.
21:26:56 Testing screens.
21:27:01 Now more than ever after we see the rising forces of
white supremacy
21:27:04 in this nation threatening our democracy,
21:27:05 we must realize just how urgent it is that our
children's classrooms
21:27:09 finally be integrated now.
21:27:10 It's a vital part in strengthening our communities and
raising a
21:27:13 future generation of voters.
21:27:14 I'm calling to urge the PP to vote no on the contract
with Pearson for
21:27:17 three reasons.
21:27:18 One conducting an in-person one hour test for four year
olds while
21:27:21 COVID is still actively spreading.
21:27:25 Is medically dangerous and will surely result in
asymptomatic and
21:27:28 symptomatic spread unnecessary infections and even
death.
21:27:32 To also, as you noted in the agenda for this meeting,
21:27:35 Pearson has shown itself to be an unreliable test
designer and
21:27:38 reporter.

21:27:39 As well, they have a known history of both data security.
21:27:41 Picks violations.
21:27:43 Three administering the G and T this year is certain to further
21:27:46 exacerbate existing racial inequities.
21:27:52 Even before the pandemic,
21:27:53 the G and T test was a contributing factor to New York city is
21:27:55 embarrassingly segregated classrooms. Now this year,
21:27:58 With black Brown and low-income immigrant communities.
21:28:00 Many of them, low wage, essential workers,
21:28:02 disproportionately ravaged by COVID.
21:28:08 There can be no justification for spending a total of 5 million on a
21:28:12 test, which will only serve to highlight yet again,
21:28:14 which communities are underserved.
21:28:16 Our children,
21:28:17 our city and our country need integrated classrooms more than ever.
21:28:20 And we can start by divesting from racial screens now.
21:28:22 And using these funds in a way that would benefit the students who
21:28:24 would need support the most. Thank you.
21:28:26 Thank you.
21:28:30 The next speaker is Catherine Fox. Last men,
21:28:33 your audio and video is enabled. Please unmute yourself.
21:28:35 Thanks for the opportunity to speak this evening.
21:28:39 I just want him to speak in support of the recommendation that a
21:28:41 chancellor got onsite.
21:28:42 Deputy mayor.
21:28:43 Fully handmade earlier this evening.
21:28:49 I, well,
21:28:50 I think we all acknowledge that there are many problems and issues
21:28:53 here. I think it's important.
21:28:57 Not to create a,
21:28:58 a gap for students coming into the pipeline for the New York city
21:29:02 public schools right now.
21:29:10 I would caution you all about eliminating the current process without
21:29:13 any kind of an alternative in place and,
21:29:15 and what that will do to students who are coming in now.

21:29:18 And reiterating what that one of the CDC members mentioned earlier.

21:29:22 Including the process for schools that,

21:29:24 that worked solely on this space as currently and what the process

21:29:27 would look like for them going forward.

21:29:32 I would encourage you all to unequivocally endorsed the city's GNT

21:29:37 programs.

21:29:41 Including with a strong emphasis on diversity and inclusion that that

21:29:45 was articulated in the opening remarks by chancellor Carranza.

21:29:53 I think there's no question that there is a need for a different

21:29:57 approach to this, but one that doesn't,

21:29:59 that continues to recognize the different educational needs of

21:30:01 different students.

21:30:02 And cater to their individual needs in a, a highly attentive manner.

21:30:06 Thanks for the opportunity to speak.

21:30:07 Thank you.

21:30:08 The next.

21:30:09 Speaker is Jody Dressner.

21:30:11 Alperin.

21:30:12 Please unmute yourself.

21:30:13 Hi, can you hear me?

21:30:14 Yes.

21:30:16 Great. Thank you for the opportunity to speak to the panel,

21:30:18 to the chancellor. Thank you to the interpreters this evening.

21:30:35 My name is Jody Dresner Alperin and I'm a teaching artist.

21:30:37 I'm a member of New York city opt out.

21:30:39 I'm a participant in black lives matter at schools,

21:30:40 and I'm the parent of two New York city public school students.

21:30:43 I'm not going to rehash all the arguments.

21:30:44 So I think you should vote no on the G and T test and contract because

21:30:47 so many of my fellow advocates and activists.

21:30:48 Have already spoken so eloquently about that.

21:30:50 But what I would love to hear actually tonight,

21:30:53 and I know that the PDP doesn't often work like this is for the PDP

21:30:55 members to tell us why should you vote? Yes. On this contract.

21:30:59 We know the challenges that were announced at the beginning of this

21:31:01 meeting are crumbs and are not going to change systemically all of the

21:31:04 problems that are inherent in the system.

21:31:14 The only other reason that I've heard for voting yes.

21:31:16 Is because the test is because families plan to have their children

21:31:19 take the tests this year. So you have to administer it.

21:31:21 So we don't disrupt that plan.

21:31:23 And I want to ask you which families are afforded that courtesy in

21:31:26 there and the way that we treat families in our system,

21:31:28 I'm sure. The families whose students,

21:31:29 students still don't have devices more than 600.

21:31:31 We heard about earlier tonight.

21:31:32 Didn't plan for their children's access to their education.

21:31:34 To be limited,

21:31:35 neither the families who were unhoused on how is and who cannot

21:31:38 reliably connect to wifi still in our city shelters.

21:31:41 Neither did our teachers who are having to adapt daily to changes

21:31:44 without enough support or resources,

21:31:46 and surely the families in our school system,

21:31:48 families of students and of teachers and staff.

21:31:59 Who have lost someone to this pandemic and who are,

21:32:01 we know are disproportionately Brown and black families have been

21:32:04 disrupted, have had their plan disrupted in the most devastating way.

21:32:07 So I want to ask you if you were a no vote on this contract

21:32:10 earlier this week, and now you're a yes. Vote. What's happening.

21:32:16 What,

21:32:17 why do you think that that there's been enough substantive change?

21:32:20 What, why is the mayor so vested in this contract?

21:32:22 Why is Pearson so important in this moment?

21:32:25 I really want to hear your defense of a no vote.

21:32:26 And I want you to explain it to Lucas and Sophie and Meryl and Graham

21:32:29 and all the rest of us. Thank you.

21:32:30 The next speaker is.
21:32:32 Jessica Zillow, your audio and video has been to me.
21:32:34 And meet yourself.
21:32:35 Sure.
21:32:36 Good evening, everyone.
21:32:39 I appreciate everybody's comments and concerns and everything about
21:32:42 the G and T program. I am speaking as a parent leader as a parent,
21:32:46 not apparent leader. I do have a child in the G and T program.
21:32:49 I'm all for voting yes.
21:32:50 For the contract only so that the families and communities can have
21:32:53 another year to reimagine and expand the G and T programs.
21:32:57 And allow all children, the availabilities that kids deserve.
21:33:00 That's all I have to say. Thank you for your time.
21:33:02 Thank you.
21:33:04 The next speaker is.
21:33:09 Carrie Trowbridge. There were two log-ins.
21:33:11 So please unmute one of them.
21:33:15 Hi. Yes. Thank you.
21:33:27 All students in New York city should have the opportunities.
21:33:30 My husband Fernando had growing up,
21:33:32 even though his family had very little,
21:33:33 because he had access to a rigorous public education at home.
21:33:37 That is what gave him the opportunity to Excel academically.
21:33:40 Which ended up being his path to come to this country.
21:33:42 I agree that G and T admissions favors the privileged and that this is
21:33:46 not okay.
21:33:47 I think that opt out testing rather than opt-in testing would make a
21:33:50 huge difference there as could other steps.
21:33:56 But this issue has become so politically charged that what has been
21:33:59 proposed and what not approving the Pearson contract would do for
21:34:03 the upcoming year.
21:34:04 Is to throw the baby out with the bath water.
21:34:06 The [unknown].
21:34:20 Stag to report came out in August, 2019,

21:34:22 and it had virtually the same arguments and the same vague references

21:34:25 to enrichments as an alternative to GNT that have been made very

21:34:28 recently.

21:34:29 This was long before the pandemic and nothing more fleshed out has

21:34:32 been suggested in all this time. Enrichments are incredibly important.

21:34:35 But they are not a substitute for a whole accelerated programs and

21:34:38 there is no alternative plan on the table.

21:34:40 That is as Deborah Alexander said, a major logistical issue.

21:34:43 And it is essential for a body charged with approving contracts to

21:34:47 consider it logistical issues. In addition to ideological ones.

21:34:50 What New York city public education needs right now,

21:34:52 when over half of the million New York city public school,

21:34:55 students are not performing at grade level in reading and math.

21:35:02 It's more programs that work.

21:35:04 We should not be eliminating ones that do the DOE should work to make

21:35:07 access to accelerated programs,

21:35:09 truly equitable and should work on expanding them so that more

21:35:12 students can have access to the rigor they provide. Thank you.

21:35:14 Thank you.

21:35:15 The next speaker is a Tina basin.

21:35:18 Your audio and video is enabled. Please unmute yourself.

21:35:20 And just a reminder to folks. If you see your name on screen, please.

21:35:23 Raise your hand so we can find you faster.

21:35:24 Hi, my name is [unknown].

21:35:27 [unknown] equity now. And like the mayor,

21:35:30 I'm a parent of black biracial kids.

21:35:32 It's been said that hate never disappears.

21:35:34 It just takes a break for awhile.

21:35:38 We have an opportunity right now to guard against the scarcity mindset

21:35:42 and zero sum thinking.

21:35:43 Not all opportunities are created equal.

21:35:49 After a while slavery was an opportunity and provided benefits for
21:35:52 some, but at the great expense of many human beings.
21:36:01 You all have a chance right here on this very night at this hour to
21:36:06 break completely from a mechanism of anti-blackness because that's
21:36:09 what we're talking about here after all.
21:36:11 On the day of Holocaust remembrance to cast a vote to continue.
21:36:15 A verifiable mechanism of white supremacy anti-blackness and
21:36:18 segregation would just be absolutely unconscionable and morally
21:36:21 reprehensible.
21:36:22 We're all currently engaged in a national conversation around police
21:36:24 brutality and systemic racism.
21:36:36 And it's no surprise that many of those who want to maintain GNT are
21:36:39 the same people who obstruct integration,
21:36:42 removing discriminatory screens, and those who take the plate,
21:36:45 the pages right out of Trump's playbook and attack critical race
21:36:47 theory.
21:36:48 Anti racism is racism.
21:36:50 Right,
21:36:51 but painting a racist as a hood wearing Southern vigilante,
21:36:55 redneck lets the rest of America off the hook.
21:36:57 History will not remember you well,
21:36:59 and you will continue to be a part of what divides us in this country.
21:37:02 I'm urging you all to vote? No.
21:37:03 On the Pearson G and T testing.
21:37:05 And instead use that money to focus on the needs of our most
21:37:09 marginalized.
21:37:10 Focus on trauma informed culturally responsive curricula. And.
21:37:16 And, and, and focus on enrichment.
21:37:17 And please do not just rubber stamp this contract through. Thank you.
21:37:21 Thank you.
21:37:22 The next speaker is Chauncey young.
21:37:23 Your audio and video has been enabled.

21:37:25 Please unmute yourself.
21:37:27 Hmm.
21:37:34 Good evening.
21:37:35 I'm I'm speaking today on behalf of the new sediment
parent action
21:37:38 committee.
21:37:43 The parent action committee was founded over 20 years
ago by Bronx
21:37:46 parents to address issues of equity and district nine.
21:37:48 And we are still fighting for equity today.
21:37:51 Production committee as a pair,
21:37:53 led multicultural group of concerned parents and
community members
21:37:55 that believe that every child deserves a quality
education.
21:37:58 This administration,
21:37:59 both mayor de Blasio in trance of Crohn's as say they
believe in
21:38:01 equity.
21:38:02 Yet it is clear that G and T testing and the G and T
program itself
21:38:06 are both racially biased.
21:38:07 How can you ensure that your four year old is gifted
and talented?
21:38:21 Paid thousands of dollars to a private tutor or
consultant to teach
21:38:24 your child to pass the test,
21:38:25 to get them into a program that will divert in order
amounts of
21:38:28 funding to program it as a socially private school for
a small number
21:38:31 of New York city school.
21:38:32 Students.
21:38:33 The mayor and the chance to say they want to end the G
and T program,
21:38:36 but then ask the pep to approve the funding.
21:38:38 Leaving the next administration actually cancel it.
21:38:40 All of this during one of the most profound crises in
our city's
21:38:43 history,
21:38:44 a health and economic crisis that is exposed to cities
and equities.
21:38:47 Leaving behind black and Latinex families,
21:38:49 students with disabilities students in temporary
housing,
21:38:51 immigrant and English language learners.

21:39:04 It is obvious that gifted and towns and programs are not equally
21:39:07 funded or supported throughout the boroughs and districts.
21:39:09 New York city is one of the most segregated school systems in this
21:39:12 country.
21:39:13 And the gifted and talented program is the one of the clearest
21:39:15 examples of this segregation and clear and equity.
21:39:17 As parent leaders, we urge you not to prove the Pearson contact.
21:39:22 The DOE could spend this money on other items to adequately address
21:39:25 the needs of our public school students, such as culture, responsive,
21:39:28 education, healing, centered practices, additional school staff,
21:39:31 such as restorative justice coordinators, counselors.
21:39:33 And technology devices in captivity, fried shields.
21:39:36 Good students.
21:39:37 Thank you so much and I hope you vote. No.
21:39:39 Thank you.
21:39:40 The next speaker is Sasha MailChimp.
21:39:43 Your audio and videos enabled, please.
21:39:44 Meet yourself.
21:39:48 Hello. Good evening.
21:39:49 Have all the members of the panel looked at the gene test itself.
21:39:52 Did you see anything whatsoever, inherently racist in the test?
21:39:55 Do you realize the absurdity of claiming that the test that which so
21:39:58 many Asian students from poor families Excel?
21:40:00 Perpetuates white supremacy and anti-blackness in our schools.
21:40:04 Have you actually checked the bogus claims repeated here earlier.
21:40:06 That there are no better.
21:40:10 [unknown] reasons,
21:40:11 no proof that supporting accelerated learners in schools,
21:40:13 benefit students.
21:40:14 Or that this test itself is discredited.
21:40:21 How many of yours or prior speakers,
21:40:23 children actually went and already benefited from GNT programs that

21:40:26 your urge to kill for the upcoming class.
21:40:27 Tens of thousands of families,
21:40:29 meaning of which in underprivileged neighborhoods.
21:40:32 And communities underserved by well,
21:40:34 performing schools are looking forward to G and T test
every year,
21:40:37 like a Ray of hope for their kids.
21:40:40 We absolutely will bring their kids to the test
regardless of the
21:40:42 pandemic, because education is of paramount performance
importance.
21:40:45 By killing.
21:40:46 The very last minute he.
21:40:48 We'll pull the rug under all those families.
21:40:49 You know, the test is not administered just to four
year old in pre-K.
21:40:52 But in several higher grades as well.
21:40:58 How many families have been planning this year to have
their older
21:41:01 kids try the test again, after not getting a spot in
the prior years.
21:41:04 Tens of thousands in total.
21:41:09 Do you really want to add this last minute change to
all the stress
21:41:11 families with small kids in public schools in the city
already went
21:41:15 through in the past year.
21:41:16 Do we pull you there working on a comprehensive plan.
21:41:18 For the next year.
21:41:19 Without a comprehensive theory replacement plan and
police counseling
21:41:22 gene.
21:41:30 This year will prematurely destroy the existing
district programs in
21:41:33 the few excellent city where gene to schools,
21:41:34 most of which are actually very diverse for which there
is currently
21:41:37 no replacement plan whatsoever.
21:41:39 Not approving the test today will do nothing to.
21:41:41 Problems of underperforming schools,
21:41:42 please don't attack the programs in schools that work
led you to
21:41:45 develop replacement.
21:41:46 Integrated reasonable replacement first. Thank you very
much.
21:41:49 Thank you.
21:41:50 The next week.

21:41:51 Has Sarah delay.
21:41:52 Your audio and video has been an adult.
21:41:54 See some of that yourself.
21:41:55 Thank you.
21:42:05 Thank you.
21:42:06 My name is Sarah DeLeo and both my children attend the
G and T
21:42:08 program. I come from a modest background.
21:42:10 I grew up in a new England city, a smart girl in the
school system,
21:42:13 which had no program for accelerated learners.
21:42:15 Over time.
21:42:16 I've learned that I valued G and T more than others
because I know
21:42:19 what it is like not to have it.
21:42:20 I know what it's like to have academic potential that
was not
21:42:23 recognized because of my socioeconomic background.
21:42:25 With regard to diversity, I applaud the chancellor's
initiatives.
21:42:29 G and T parents,
21:42:30 administrators and faculty have worked extensively with
the DOE on
21:42:32 diversity initiatives over the past several years.
21:42:38 Please vote. Yes.
21:42:39 On the Pearson contract for GMT testing the contracts
and not be
21:42:42 canceled until there's a new Janti plan in place. Thank
you.
21:42:45 Thank you.
21:42:46 The next speaker is Liz Rosenberg.
21:42:48 Your audio and video has been enabled.
21:42:49 Please unmute yourself.
21:42:50 Can you hear me?
21:42:51 Yes.
21:42:52 Great.
21:43:02 You can set things right tonight by voting no on this
contract. No,
21:43:05 you cannot have a private school experience in public
schools. No,
21:43:08 you cannot participate in a program that further
segregates are
21:43:11 already segregated schools.
21:43:12 No, we will not ignore what black, Latin, X, Asian,
21:43:14 indigenous parents and students are telling us. We will
do.
21:43:18 Okay.

21:43:19 Yes, we will do the just thing.
21:43:23 Are you aware that in 2013, the mayor made us all of us
at promise,
21:43:27 New York city kids pack surveyed candidates about the
PDP Isaac
21:43:30 [unknown].
21:43:54 Johnny was part of the kids' pack at that time,
21:43:56 I believe the mayor said PB members will have a two
year fixed terms
21:43:59 and will ensure the P P members who might disagree with
bill will
21:44:02 maintain their membership.
21:44:04 And he also said that he would ensure that all members
of the P P are
21:44:07 given at least two weeks to discuss the policy ideas at
hand before
21:44:10 bringing them to a vote.
21:44:11 Our newest member has not had two weeks to consider
this policy.
21:44:15 And I hope that you will abstain from.
21:44:18 Vote this evening, because it's what the mayor said.
21:44:21 And in the spirit of what the mayor has requested,
21:44:24 that you honor that request and go back to what someone
said earlier
21:44:28 to the candidate that.
21:44:29 We all.
21:44:30 Is that some of us voted for,
21:44:32 and that is the person who made many promises about
what the PCP would
21:44:35 be in tonight.
21:44:36 You have a chance to show us what the PCP is.
21:44:40 And we hope you'll make the right choice.
21:44:41 I had many other things to say, but I'm so tired.
21:44:43 And nervous and done with all of this.
21:44:47 Thank you.
21:44:48 The next.
21:44:49 A speaker is Katrina. He.
21:44:51 Please unmute yourself.
21:44:52 And correctly.
21:44:53 Katrina.
21:44:56 Okay.
21:45:02 Let me get some technical difficulties. We'll move on
to Rafael.
21:45:07 Lena.
21:45:15 Failure audio and video is enabled.
21:45:17 Please unmute yourself.
21:45:18 Can you hear me?

21:45:19 Yes.
21:45:21 Okay. Great.
21:45:28 So as an elementary school parent in Queens,
21:45:31 I just want to speak on how disturbing it is to read
about the.
21:45:34 Shameful politicking in the daily.
21:45:38 That we've heard about the mayor or the mayor and the
DOE sort of
21:45:42 pressuring pet members to vote on a contract.
21:45:50 To uphold a system that they themselves know is racist
in their own
21:45:55 internal communication there on memos. I said,
21:45:57 this that's pretty shameful.
21:45:58 That the mayor would do that.
21:45:59 You know, I expect.
21:46:01 The president and recording secretary of a modern day
parents and
21:46:04 taxpayers group, like place in life seed, ask for that.
21:46:06 Setting things like logistics,
21:46:07 but I don't expect it from a supposedly progressive
administration.
21:46:10 Just one more year of racism is still racism.
21:46:15 That's not okay. Would it be okay to fund the Tuskegee
experiments?
21:46:18 Because it's just one more year.
21:46:19 You know what.
21:46:26 What leader would ask you to keep separate but equal
going,
21:46:28 but it's fine because it's just one more year.
21:46:30 What self-respecting institution can't find the money
to staff up
21:46:33 remote learning.
21:46:34 So that there aren't 15 million kids on zoom,
21:46:36 but can finally in dollars to promote segregation
for one
21:46:39 more year.
21:46:46 I like speaking to our Queens pet representative, Ms.
Dillingham,
21:46:49 I don't envy your position. I know it's gotta be hard.
21:46:51 When your bosses tell you to ignore your heart and act
on their
21:46:53 poisonous words, I'm sure it's confusing.
21:46:56 But I'm confusing moments.
21:46:57 Hopefully the moral clarity of doing the anti-racist
thing. Well,
21:46:59 went out against the moral poison of asking you.

21:47:02 And asked to spend millions to put millions of dollars into Pearson's
21:47:04 pockets for just one more year.
21:47:06 Telling another generation of five-year-olds that.
21:47:09 A few of you are gifted, but most of you,
21:47:10 especially the black and Brown ones are not because of some.
21:47:15 Dumb ass tests with it's BS fit the triangle into the circle.
21:47:18 Pattern recognition question says, so.
21:47:24 Please listen to what so many parents have said.
21:47:26 And when presented with a choice of keeping the racist they're going
21:47:28 or stopping the racist thing, choose to stop.
21:47:31 Racist thing.
21:47:32 But no, please. Thank you.
21:47:33 Thank you.
21:47:34 The next speaker is a tomorrow.
21:47:36 Gear.
21:47:37 Yes.
21:47:39 Hi.
21:47:40 Great.
21:47:45 So dear members of the pep I come before you tonight with many others
21:47:49 to insist that you vote no.
21:47:51 On the Pearson gifted and talented contract.
21:47:57 The contract was scheduled to come up for a vote earlier in the
21:47:59 pandemic and was tabled because pep member's voice serious concerns.
21:48:02 And how could the test be administered equitably and safely during a
21:48:06 CA.
21:48:08 A pandemic. Those concerns not only stand,
21:48:10 they are exacerbated after nearly year.
21:48:12 We are in a second wave with threats of not only one new and even more
21:48:15 infectious strain, but too.
21:48:17 The low numbers,
21:48:18 the city sported during the summer because of our collaborative
21:48:20 investment in our health.
21:48:21 Are long gone with no view of returning and on top of that,
21:48:24 we've had nearly a year.
21:48:25 With students still with no devices, no wifi.

21:48:28 And remote classes of sizes that we would never legally allow in
21:48:30 person.
21:48:31 On top of this wealth and racial inequalities have been starkly
21:48:34 illuminated by this pandemic.
21:48:52 In the grievance disparity in the home and learning conditions of our
21:48:55 students and nothing has been done to address any of these on this
21:48:59 background, the \$5 million in are required to administer this test,
21:49:02 or not only galling because of the minuscule numbers of students they
21:49:05 supposedly serve.
21:49:06 But because of the very fact that it perpetuates all of these
21:49:08 inequities,
21:49:09 Esteemed members of the panel illuminated these concerns in depth and
21:49:12 with passion at your recent budget meeting.
21:49:15 And there's no way that those concerns that they raised could have
21:49:17 been alleviated in a year of dedicated,
21:49:19 but med tech would eat not to mention a day.
21:49:21 This test, according to the mayor's own announcement,
21:49:23 slated to be canceled this year,
21:49:24 when budgets are beyond strained in the lives and health of our
21:49:27 students and city are still held in the balance.
21:49:28 It is your moral obligation to light the way out of this travesty of
21:49:32 our own making and vote? No.
21:49:35 And then the amendment and then with the deputy mayor and mayor should
21:49:37 be ashamed at suggesting they will find this past from some secret
21:49:40 pool of discretionary funding.
21:49:42 When millions of new Yorkers are facing eviction and many more are
21:49:44 going hungry.
21:49:45 \$5 million one solve those problems,
21:49:47 but they can go a long way to saving the lives of many new Yorkers.
21:49:49 Thank you.
21:49:50 Thank you.
21:49:51 The next speaker is.

21:49:53 Anna Burnett.
21:49:54 Your audio and video has been enabled.
21:49:56 Please any yourself.
21:49:58 I would like to voice my support for continuation and expansion of
21:50:01 gifted and talented program.
21:50:02 I am a parent of a GMT student, my family.
21:50:05 His classmates family.
21:50:07 We are not affluent people.
21:50:08 And the majority.
21:50:09 Immigrants.
21:50:11 And.
21:50:16 By taking away GMT program, you're taking away an opportunity.
21:50:19 From kids.
21:50:21 Are capable of learning.
21:50:23 Accelerated speed to receive an appropriate education.
21:50:26 DMT might not be perfect, but please by all means.
21:50:29 Build a equivalent.
21:50:32 But build a better equivalent and then this mental what's in place.
21:50:35 You just.
21:50:37 I'm sorry.
21:50:44 If you don't blow off the old working bridge before you build a new
21:50:47 one, that's not responsible and it's not smart.
21:50:50 And I believe that I have a faith up.
21:50:52 P a P P P members are smart and responsible people.
21:50:56 Please vote.
21:50:58 For extension of a gifted and talented accessment program. Thank you.
21:51:02 Thank you.
21:51:03 The next speaker is Nikolai. Hello.
21:51:05 Your audio and video has been enabled.
21:51:07 Susan Ingersoll.
21:51:08 Can everybody hear me?
21:51:09 Yes.
21:51:14 I'm a parent of a child.
21:51:18 GT program. And I think we haven't been child.
21:51:20 That is a about to enter kindergarten.
21:51:24 And as such,
21:51:25 I'm directly affected by the potential admission process next year.
21:51:31 We are incredibly grateful for the education with our older child
21:51:34 receives and you like, okay.
21:51:36 Opportunity for our younger ones here.

21:51:37 For the country to comply under the same conditions.
21:51:39 As before.
21:51:40 The approval of the Yucatan.
21:51:42 Down to the interest exams easily.
21:51:44 Some budgetary problem.
21:51:45 And as such.
21:51:49 I understand that there are several.
21:51:53 People that have a well-meaning concerns about it.
21:51:56 But my.
21:51:57 Is concerned. I think that these concerns.
21:51:59 Unconvincing and valuable to them.
21:52:00 Convincing.
21:52:03 My biggest concern is that there are no other.
21:52:08 And if a contract for the GMT vesting.
21:52:11 It's not approved as soon as possible.
21:52:12 These long-term program.
21:52:19 We destroyed.
21:52:20 Don't be confused that this is a one-year thing and
it's a \$5 million
21:52:23 thing.
21:52:24 Students are leaving.
21:52:25 Teachers are leaving.
21:52:26 [unknown] the GMT program.
21:52:28 And it will not be easy if possible at all.
21:52:30 Reconstruct any accelerated learning.
21:52:32 If the panel.
21:52:36 Does not vote for this, this Pearson contracts.
21:52:40 Thank you.
21:52:41 Thank you.
21:52:44 The next speaker is.
21:52:46 Samitra budge.
21:52:49 Judge your audio and video has been enabled.
21:52:52 He's a meet yourself.
21:52:53 Hello? Hi, good evening. My name is [unknown].
21:52:57 [unknown] and I'm a parent of a child in the GMT
program.
21:53:03 And I would urge the members to vote. Yes. For the
beers in contract.
21:53:07 I have three reasons for the same. I I'm also an
immigrant.
21:53:10 One.
21:53:14 It it, you know, even the GMT, the students in the GMB
pro.
21:53:18 Program represent the population of the students.
21:53:20 You know, everyone deserves a chance. And so, so.
21:53:23 Go to the students in the G and D program.

21:53:32 You know, it's it's, I would support far more universal testing,
21:53:35 but to take away the program is to take away opportunity from
21:53:37 children.
21:53:38 Second, I would say immuno, when we talk about leadership,
21:53:41 it's about expanding such programs.
21:53:43 Today, there are more than 2 million jobs in the us.
21:53:45 Rochelle for high-skilled workers or not.
21:53:47 I'm not I'm unfulfilled.
21:53:52 And a large part of that is because we don't have the education
21:53:54 programs that, that STEM for these students.
21:53:57 So therefore by taking away the opportunity and lowering the bar,
21:53:59 In effect, all you're doing is causing this.
21:54:02 Perpetual cycle of.
21:54:08 Unfulfilled jobs.
21:54:09 If we want to give a brighter future to our students,
21:54:12 we have to give programs that have them out.
21:54:14 Lastly, I would say that lot of people have talked about.
21:54:16 The, the GNT.
21:54:21 And it's cost.
21:54:22 I don't think there's much cause G and D programs do not get any
21:54:25 special funding from the DOE.
21:54:26 Neither is any money spent on the DOE schools in any extra,
21:54:29 any extra funds?
21:54:30 Raised by the barons.
21:54:31 So I did not.
21:54:32 Extra burden on anybody to, to have the G and D programs.
21:54:37 I would in fact advocate for more GNT programs,
21:54:40 more accelerated programs.
21:54:44 And give more opportunities to the districts that don't have them as
21:54:47 opposed to taking away the opportunity from the district that have
21:54:49 them.
21:54:50 Thank you.
21:54:51 Thank you.
21:54:52 The next speaker is.
21:54:55 [unknown] your audio and video has been enabled for some yourself.

21:55:00 Thank you.
21:55:01 PEB panel members.
21:55:06 And all speakers. My name is Johana Bureau cane.
21:55:08 I'm the parent of a sixth grader in district 15.
21:55:11 And this is my first time ever speaking at a pep and.
21:55:14 I cannot believe how much rage.
21:55:15 Yes.
21:55:22 Rage.
21:55:23 I feel that the DOE is even contemplating spending at least \$5 million
21:55:27 to administer the G and T test to four year olds this year.
21:55:29 Panel members like, like the students who spoke so many hours ago,
21:55:33 I'm going to appeal to your values.
21:55:35 As Sophie said it is immoral to spend this much money on that test.
21:55:39 When, you know,
21:55:42 That even in the best of years, it measures privilege.
21:55:45 It members measures preparation.
21:55:46 And it measures access.
21:55:47 Not the aptitude for future success.
21:55:50 It is immoral to try to make last minute changes.
21:55:54 Putting a bandaid on the gaping wound of inequity because by this
21:55:57 test,
21:56:01 Who is even going to take this test when the majority of BiPAP
21:56:03 families don't trust it is safe to come to in-person school.
21:56:11 And it's even more and more into boat to devote operational resources,
21:56:14 to organizing safety precautions for in-person G and T testing.
21:56:17 When we don't even have adequate testing in schools.
21:56:19 Right now and there isn't even a plan to reopen middle schools and
21:56:22 high schools.
21:56:23 It's a moral to be prioritizing \$5 million for this test.
21:56:26 More than many elementary schools, entire annual budget.
21:56:30 During a budget crisis and a pandemic,
21:56:32 and even more immoral to pretend that that amount of money is a drop
21:56:35 in the bucket.
21:56:36 At a time when schools are going into deficit,

21:56:37 just to keep teachers in front of students.
21:56:42 Many of the racial injustices in our city are harder to solve,
21:56:44 but this one is not it's 3000 highly coveted seats.
21:56:47 We don't need to spend \$5 million to fill them.
21:56:50 And about the last minute complicated gymnastics to try to change it.
21:56:52 I say this.
21:56:56 When your house is burning down,
21:56:57 you don't meet with the architects about renovation.
21:56:59 You put out the fire.
21:57:00 Panel members. I implore you. Look at your values.
21:57:02 And put out this fire.
21:57:03 Thank you.
21:57:10 The next speaker is a fluoro wing who we do not see in the room.
21:57:15 So we're going to move on to Ali.
21:57:16 Hurried Opolis your audio and video has been enabled.
21:57:18 Thank you.
21:57:19 You hear me?
21:57:20 Yes.
21:57:22 Okay. Great.
21:57:23 Hi, everybody.
21:57:24 A while. Thank you to everyone who's spoken.
21:57:28 Against this contract with Pearson. Yo I'm. Wow.
21:57:32 So, so blown away by everybody.
21:57:43 And just want to add to these thoughts. So, yeah,
21:57:46 it's embarrassing that we need to be here tonight doing all of this in
21:57:50 the midst of a pandemic, we're literally here arguing about.
21:57:53 A program that's been tied historically to the eugenics movement.
21:58:02 If you support black lives matter, you need to vote to N G and T.
21:58:05 It was mentioned before we want in a bad way that we want fast policy
21:58:09 changes. Yes.
21:58:10 There is an educational debt to black and Brown poor students.
21:58:13 In the midst of this pandemic,
21:58:14 it's even more clear that education has always been a litmus test for
21:58:17 one's class, not their actual intellectual abilities.
21:58:19 DNC programs, aid in a bed, the school to prison pipeline.
21:58:22 Making high quality education.

21:58:24 Are we a resource,
21:58:25 a privilege for the few and not a right for everybody.
21:58:27 I'll stop there.
21:58:28 Thank you.
21:58:29 The next speaker is GLE.
21:58:31 Your audio and video has been enabled.
21:58:35 Thank you so much.
21:58:40 First, I want to just say I'm a special education
teacher of 20 years.
21:58:43 In the New York city public school system, as well as a
parent.
21:58:46 And a member of the movement of rank and file
educators.
21:58:49 NYC opt out.
21:58:52 And I cannot emphasize enough.
21:58:55 But this is really a discussion that needs to be had.
21:59:01 With the other parents who want this program,
21:59:03 we're saying the same things, guys.
21:59:06 We're saying we want access rigorous, whatever you want
to call it.
21:59:17 Education for all of our students.
21:59:18 What you need to understand is that you've landed in a
place with a
21:59:21 history of systemic institutional racism that is rooted
in these
21:59:24 standardized tests.
21:59:25 Okay.
21:59:27 What we are saying is the same.
21:59:31 But what we're saying is please do not make it into a
system of
21:59:35 competition where you're,
21:59:36 they are pitting us against each other for crumbs.
21:59:39 We're saying we are insisting and demanding that all
students.
21:59:42 Have everything that they need to, to have the best
nurturing.
21:59:45 System of education possible.
21:59:52 Martin Luther King Jr.
21:59:53 In his letter from a Birmingham jail spoke about this
very issue.
21:59:57 He didn't know who to be more.
21:59:58 Deplored with right.
22:00:01 The KKK, the members of the Klan or the moderate white,
22:00:05 those who kept saying not today.
22:00:06 We need to.
22:00:07 Do things in.
22:00:08 A systemic way in.

22:00:10 In a way that is an order.
22:00:12 No, we can change things today.
22:00:19 It is impossible me tell you right now,
22:00:21 there are two pre-K classrooms in my school. I work in
person.
22:00:27 Where the radiators are still not working.
22:00:28 We put work orders for months now, and it still has not
been fixed.
22:00:32 It's freezing.
22:00:33 Please help us fix things before you spent \$5 million
on a racist
22:00:37 test. Thank you.
22:00:38 Thank you.
22:00:42 The next figure is Olympia causing your audio and video
has been in at
22:00:46 all.
22:00:47 Hi, can you hear me?
22:00:48 Yes.
22:00:49 Thank you. Hi, I cannot see.
22:00:50 My name is.
22:00:53 [unknown] and I'm a district one mother of a three and
a
22:00:55 five-year-old.
22:00:56 And I'm here to ask you to vote no to the Pearson
contract.
22:01:03 So the reports that we heard that the various, no,
22:01:06 there was question from the mayor.
22:01:08 About the PDP members voting, changing their boat.
22:01:11 That really concerned me.
22:01:15 As a fellow new Yorker that I performed my civic duty.
22:01:17 I served as an appointee of the city council.
22:01:19 The nightlife advisory board and on my community board.
22:01:21 I mean the most important thing for us when we serve is
our
22:01:24 independence.
22:01:29 And we cannot lose the trust of the people that were
supposed to be
22:01:31 serving. And that's not the mayor's,
22:01:33 but the people who elect the mayors.
22:01:38 So I want to make sure that you guys do the right thing
and you vote
22:01:41 no tonight to the new med they're appointed by the
mayor.
22:01:43 Just yesterday. I was looking for your name.
22:01:45 Website and it's not there.
22:01:46 So I had to go to the aforementioned daily news article
and find your

22:01:49 name is [unknown].
22:01:56 Angela.
22:01:57 And I want to plead with you that you need to do the right thing and
22:02:00 abstain tonight because that's the only right thing to do as a civil
22:02:04 servant or whatever it is that we're called when we're doing these
22:02:06 kinds of duties.
22:02:07 Now I must say I got to laugh tonight, guys. Thank you so, so much.
22:02:09 In America.
22:02:11 And I had never heard that we're advocating for accelerated education.
22:02:14 What is that? Whoever came up with the idea that, Oh, the best thing.
22:02:17 I'd just like to do it faster.
22:02:19 The faster, you're going to learn it better.
22:02:20 What are we talking about? That's funny. That's really funny.
22:02:23 In this sad, sad situation.
22:02:30 So I believe that we need to stop, stop doing this thing.
22:02:33 We need to invest in good public education for everybody.
22:02:36 Not gifted and talented. They're all gifted and talented.
22:02:38 Not accelerated because it just pure silly.
22:02:40 So let's invest in our people.
22:02:42 And guess what.
22:02:47 There is a moment to improve right now. So investing teachers,
22:02:49 investigative mode learning.
22:02:50 And what about outdoor learning this spring and next fall?
22:02:53 Let's do that for the health of our kids that are fully remote.
22:02:55 Thank you.
22:02:56 Thank you. The next speaker is Mark Lotter Bach.
22:03:01 We do not see. So we'll move on to Natasha capers.
22:03:04 Your audio and video is enabled.
22:03:05 Hello. I'm the director of the New York city called edition.
22:03:07 Mission for educational justice and a public school parent.
22:03:13 MLK wrote.

22:03:14 I have almost reached the regrettable conclusion that the Negro's
22:03:17 great stumbling block in his stride.
22:03:19 Freedom is not the KU Klux Klan, but the white moderate.
22:03:26 Who is that who is more devoted to order than to justice who prefers a
22:03:30 negative peace, which is the absence of tension to the positive piece.
22:03:35 Peace, which is the presence of justice.
22:03:37 If your argument is that we know that this is racist,
22:03:39 but let's do it anyway, then that is you.
22:03:42 Mayor de Blasio and the continuation of the GNC exam.
22:03:44 Are clear examples along with his continued threats against P a P
22:03:48 members.
22:03:56 And shows how mayor DeBlasio continues to gas, light,
22:03:59 and Han students and families of color, including Asian students.
22:04:02 Over the years,
22:04:03 we have heard stories from Asian students and families.
22:04:08 About how harmful the GNC and specialized high school programs are and
22:04:12 have been along with the predatory practices of GNC prep programs and
22:04:16 how they disproportionately hot Asian families.
22:04:18 Currently due, due to COVID-19.
22:04:21 They have been.
22:04:29 They have not been any exams to designate evaluate the approximate
22:04:32 155,000 English language learners in New York city public schools.
22:04:36 Why is the GNP exam and unmanned data and unnecessary tests being
22:04:40 given more priority?
22:04:41 The answer is that this man has once again,
22:04:44 shown his devotion to upholding white supremacy and not to ending the
22:04:47 tale of two cities.
22:04:49 It is this week unprincipled policy decisions like this one that
22:04:53 sustains the structure lies and operations of white supremacy on a
22:04:57 daily basis.
22:04:58 These are these immediate updates to this racist policy and exam on
22:05:02 mainly a redistribution of education.

22:05:13 There has been engagement for seven years under this man.
22:05:16 And that case before saying that Geet needs to be eliminated,
22:05:19 continue with this process shows the DOB is commitment to
22:05:22 experimentation on children, especially those of color.
22:05:25 Thank you.
22:05:26 The next speaker is Daniel Breesa.
22:05:28 Apologies for pronunciation, your audio and video has been enabled.
22:05:31 Hello, can you hear me? Okay.
22:05:32 Yes.
22:05:33 Hi everyone. This is Daniel Gray socks.
22:05:34 I would like to,
22:05:36 I know this is not very popular here to advocate for a yes.
22:05:39 To number five.
22:05:40 So I am an immigrant.
22:05:46 I was on food stamps. I went to PS 200.
22:05:48 Fast-forward now.
22:05:51 I'm a father and I strongly believe in.
22:05:54 And accustom education.
22:05:55 So instead of.
22:05:57 Sort of taking away opportunity.
22:06:01 There should be a custom education.
22:06:06 For students. So if someone doesn't speak the language well,
22:06:09 Like I didn't.
22:06:11 When I came to this country, I went to ESL.
22:06:15 And then I ended up in third grade and the honors program.
22:06:18 NPS 200, which is the equivalent.
22:06:20 I have a Chancy program.
22:06:23 In my class, I was the minority.
22:06:26 There were.
22:06:28 Black.
22:06:30 Students Hispanic students.
22:06:32 Korean students.
22:06:34 Chinese students.
22:06:36 So.
22:06:38 Accelerated programs.
22:06:42 Are for everyone.
22:06:50 They're not just for a single class.
22:06:52 So instead of taking away opportunity,
22:06:54 we should expand the GMT program.
22:06:58 It is not perfect. It definitely needs improvement,

22:07:01 but there should be programs where.
22:07:03 Or various communities that need help.
22:07:05 I provided.
22:07:06 Extra.
22:07:14 Extra tutoring.
22:07:15 If there's a class in any public school where student
is excelling
22:07:18 that student, who's always raising their hand.
22:07:20 And breaking the curve. Those students.
22:07:22 Neat.
22:07:23 To enter a program like a GNT program. So.
22:07:27 But dismantling the entire program as of now.
22:07:29 Is not a form of discrimination.
22:07:32 Thank you.
22:07:40 The next speaker is Natasha chemo and we don't see in
the room.
22:07:42 So I'm gone to Gavin healing. Your audio and video has
been enabled.
22:07:45 He's on mute.
22:07:46 Yeah. Thank you.
22:07:47 Good evening. My name is Gavin Healy and I'm a public
school parent.
22:07:51 Thank you to the panel for this opportunity to speak.
22:07:54 And thank you from the bottom of my heart,
22:07:56 to all the students who spoke tonight.
22:07:57 They all have so much to learn from you.
22:08:02 I strongly urge the panel to vote. No, on the Pearson
contract.
22:08:09 A test of intelligence administered to four-year-olds
is nothing more
22:08:13 than a test of privilege.
22:08:14 We have one of the most segregated school systems in
the nation.
22:08:21 G and T testing exacerbates the racial and economic
segregation of our
22:08:24 schools and our classrooms in an ordinary year.
22:08:32 What will it do during a pandemic that has already
killed more than
22:08:36 20,000 New York city residents and left countless more
fearful for
22:08:40 their health and safety.
22:08:41 And I keep asking myself.
22:08:43 What could we do with the \$1.7 million that would be
spent on this
22:08:47 contract for a flawed biased and a moral test?
22:08:49 Not to mention the millions more for administering.

22:08:52 How many devices could we buy to enable students to complete
22:08:54 assignments and communicate with our teachers?
22:08:58 How many shelters could we provide with internet access to get our
22:09:01 most vulnerable marginalized students online?
22:09:10 One reason given for going through with this flaw biased in a moral
22:09:12 test. One last time in April, is that not holding?
22:09:15 It would be unfair to families who have prepared for it all year.
22:09:18 Yep.
22:09:19 What about the many more families who even in an ordinary year have no
22:09:22 time or money to prepare for this test?
22:09:24 We've all weathered the same storm this year.
22:09:26 But we're not all on the same boat.
22:09:27 Many of us were not doing well even before COVID.
22:09:30 And since March of face, job loss,
22:09:32 food and housing insecurity and the loss of leprechauns.
22:09:37 This is not a fair test, even in the best of years,
22:09:39 it's all the more inequitable.
22:09:40 Now I urge you to vote no on the Pearson contract. Thank you.
22:09:43 Thank you.
22:09:44 The next speaker is Rachel Abigail.
22:09:46 Can you hear me?
22:09:47 Yes.
22:10:09 I'm a district 15 parent, a teacher, a member of press NYC,
22:10:12 and have more so starting next year,
22:10:15 the DOE says it would be wrong to let one exam given to toddlers with
22:10:18 savvy parents,
22:10:19 determine who is labeled gifted and segregated for five to 10 years.
22:10:22 Like the student Graham said earlier,
22:10:24 and who is labeled unworthy of such a pedestal and enrichment when we
22:10:27 could actually provide enrichment to all kids.
22:10:33 So the DOE already knows that approving tonight's Pearson contract
22:10:36 would mean paying a sus corporation \$5 million for what they agree is
22:10:40 an unfair unsound screening method in a non pandemic year.

22:10:44 Nevermind that New York state has said there's no way to safely

22:10:47 equitably and fairly administer state tests this spring.

22:10:49 But for some reason, this combination.

22:10:51 Of an acknowledged discriminatory policy and an unprecedented health

22:10:54 crisis and a huge budget shortfall has not been enough to convince

22:10:57 decision makers that if something is unjust next year,

22:10:59 it's definitely unjust. Now.

22:11:01 And that we have much more urgent ways we could be spending

22:11:03 those millions of dollars. So let's be clear.

22:11:05 Tonight you pep members get to decide whether our schools emerged from

22:11:09 these crises on a historic new path toward educational justice.

22:11:12 Or if we continue on the shameful road that scholar Paul Gorski calls,

22:11:15 equity, detours.

22:11:17 So for the folks who think delaying justice is practical,

22:11:19 I'm going to share Gorski's description of the most common equity,

22:11:22 detour or pitfall. It's called pacing for privilege.

22:11:24 He says, quote, the pacing for privileged detour coddles,

22:11:28 the people with the least racial equity investment,

22:11:30 while punishing people with the most investment.

22:11:50 The pace,

22:11:52 prioritizes the comfort and interest of people who have the least

22:11:54 interest in progress. He continues in schools, committed to equity.

22:11:58 The time is now we refuse to equivocate on racial justice.

22:12:01 We find the will to implement and hold one,

22:12:03 another accountable to rate to policy and practice changes today

22:12:06 rather than waiting for an elusive consensus pet members.

22:12:09 You decide how you want NYC historians to describe this night vote.

22:12:12 No.

22:12:13 Thank you.

22:12:14 The next.

22:12:15 Speaker is Jamila Wallace. We don't see.
22:12:17 And young Lou.
22:12:18 Promoted a Jane, you.
22:12:19 Is that, you know,
22:12:20 Can I mute yourself?
22:12:22 That's not you then.
22:12:23 I'll move on to [unknown].
22:12:24 Who's also promoted.
22:12:25 Dean.
22:12:27 Okay. We'll keep.
22:12:30 I can, can you hear me, Rebecca? Oh, yes. Now I can.
22:12:35 I'm right here. Live face-time real time on time.
22:12:38 Okay.
22:12:39 Yeah.
22:12:40 So I want to start by saying.
22:12:43 I want to reflect in this space.
22:12:46 On not just collective value.
22:12:50 And one of the 13 principles of the black lives matter
at school
22:12:53 movement.
22:12:54 A week of action. It's coming up first week of
February.
22:12:57 And it's ironic.
22:13:00 Black history month.
22:13:02 And it's the same time when the schools are about to be
reopened.
22:13:05 Unsafely.
22:13:06 For the panel members.
22:13:07 Pet members.
22:13:08 Please vote. No.
22:13:12 Children are more than a score, more than a number,
more than a label.
22:13:15 Gifted and talented.
22:13:17 Not now.
22:13:18 What happens to the rest?
22:13:19 Four children.
22:13:20 Foster parents.
22:13:22 Who cannot afford the rent.
22:13:26 We're behind in our triple play, kind of.
22:13:28 Pay for internet.
22:13:29 Much less test prep.
22:13:30 We're a blocked.
22:13:33 By language barriers.
22:13:37 We are labeled, failing bad, poor developing CSI.
22:13:40 TSI.
22:13:41 We are sick.
22:13:44 Yes, we are anxious.

22:13:46 Fearful of COVID.
22:13:47 Death.
22:13:50 Do you hear me?
22:13:52 Members.
22:13:55 Hold off on the G and T.
22:13:59 Where is it? Quality empathy for the people.
22:14:01 The 99%.
22:14:03 Not at 1%.
22:14:07 That stimulates the Blasio to install two economists.
22:14:10 In education policy.
22:14:14 Both formally of OMB.
22:14:18 One on the PDP one as a first deputy.
22:14:20 Mayor.
22:14:21 The price is wrong.
22:14:22 Not right.
22:14:24 Kind of a member's vote. No, on this contract.
22:14:31 Canceled the test and G and T cancel or high stakes
test for
22:14:36 the rest of the year.
22:14:37 I know you hear me.
22:14:38 You're listening to me.
22:14:42 Black lives matter. It does really matter. And a
challenge,
22:14:44 all the other folks were with their individualistic.
22:14:46 Campaigns to stop it.
22:14:48 Collective value banks.
22:14:49 Thank you.
22:14:54 The next speaker is Chloe Ching.
22:14:57 We promoted a tension. Does that.
22:15:05 If you're here on mute yourself, otherwise we'll move
on to Venus C.
22:15:08 We don't see in the room.
22:15:10 Some content, gene Hong who's promoted as well.
22:15:12 Please unmute yourself.
22:15:17 Who did you call?
22:15:18 Jean. Yeah.
22:15:20 Okay. Sorry.
22:15:23 Hi, my name is Jean Hong and then the co president of
PS.
22:15:28 One 74 in vivo park and I'm a parent of a child and a G
and T program.
22:15:31 At the school and these comments of my own.
22:15:34 I'm urging the panel to vote. Yes.
22:15:35 On approving the G and T testing contract.
22:15:54 Whether or not. You agree with the merits of testing
four year olds?

22:15:56 I would point out that more than half of the test takers last year,
22:15:59 over 17,000, apply for seats for first to third grade.
22:16:02 So please keep in mind that there are many families that are very much
22:16:04 relying on this opportunity to enter the program at the other entry
22:16:07 points. This is not just about four year olds.
22:16:09 I agree with some of the arguments made tonight about how the program
22:16:12 is not equitable. And I'll give you one example.
22:16:14 In Queens out of the seven school districts that we have,
22:16:16 there are only two that have one G and T program,
22:16:18 as opposed to the others, which each have four to five.
22:16:20 The inequity is that families need better access to these programs
22:16:23 because she be an expansion and one in every school.
22:16:25 Currently,
22:16:26 we have a vaccine shortage around which there is there obvious
22:16:29 inequities with who gets to be vaccinated first.
22:16:31 Does that mean we stop giving vaccines out to everyone?
No,
22:16:34 we work towards a solution.
22:16:35 That addresses these concerns.
22:16:36 We don't tear down everything and destroy a program that families have
22:16:39 been relying on all year.
22:16:45 So in Europe, much chaos,
22:16:46 I employ you to improve the contract for the test.
22:16:49 That would be the bright and equitable thing to do in the immediate
22:16:51 moment. Thank you so much.
22:16:52 Thank you.
22:16:54 The next speaker is Colin Madden.
22:16:56 But you've been.
22:16:59 Your audio and video has been enabled. Please meet.
22:17:03 Thank you so much. My name is Keelan Madden.
22:17:05 I'm a New York city public school parent. It's fine.
22:17:14 I want to add my voice to the many passionate and eloquent calls.
22:17:17 That's good students and parents have made against this contract
22:17:20 tonight.
22:17:27 We cannot make this test equitable with little fixes.

22:17:30 Please do not devote precious resources during this ongoing crisis to
22:17:34 a task that we know exacerbate school segregation.
22:17:37 And that the mayor and chancellor acknowledges ineffective.
22:17:50 Please do not expose students,
22:17:52 staff and their families to any unnecessary risk of infection with
22:17:55 this in-person proctored exam during a period of uncontrolled Covance
22:17:59 spread and the rise of a new variant,
22:18:01 the money the city proposes spending on this contract.
22:18:03 And I'm just barely trying to make this test safe.
22:18:06 Could be used to mitigate the trauma and damage.
22:18:08 This pandemic has brought to the majority of New York city public
22:18:11 school students.
22:18:12 Give students wifi.
22:18:13 So that the majority,
22:18:14 the vast majority of remote learning students can access remote
22:18:17 learning gives students with disabilities,
22:18:19 the full supports they are entitled to under federal law.
22:18:23 Give real support to English language learners,
22:18:25 students with disabilities and students in transitional housing,
22:18:28 instead of throwing a handful of those students,
22:18:30 access to a program that excludes so many.
22:18:33 This crisis has been a moral test for all of us,
22:18:35 especially for parents.
22:18:36 It's so tempting to try to go on, like, things are normal,
22:18:38 but things are not normal this year.
22:18:40 We've all been inconvenienced by this pandemic.
22:18:42 But inconvenience.
22:18:45 And disappointment for some small number of families is not a reason
22:18:48 to go ahead. If this inequitable contract.
22:18:50 You have the chance P P members to do the right and equitable thing
22:18:53 today.
22:18:55 You have the chance to show our children that we care about all
22:18:57 children in our city.
22:18:58 Please vote. No. On the Pearson contract.
22:19:00 Thank you.

22:19:01 Thank you Caitlyn.
22:19:04 The next speaker is Victoria.
22:19:08 When Minko your tie?
22:19:10 Hi, I'm here.
22:19:17 I want to speak to, I want to ask the car numbers to vote. Yes.
22:19:20 And my child isn't GNT program.
22:19:24 And I'm an immigrant. I came from very poor country.
22:19:26 And just in your own 17 years ago was six months old daughter.
22:19:28 I worked full time. My husband.
22:19:29 I started full time. I didn't have time to prepare.
22:19:31 Pay somebody to prepare me.
22:19:32 For this test.
22:19:33 They heard about this test from the peak.
22:19:36 My donuts in testing place to just.
22:19:39 Because I heard that it's the only chance to get your child.
22:19:41 Good education in the us.
22:19:43 And she passes the test.
22:19:53 And I think the test is fair because I know people who spend a lot of
22:19:55 money and their kids still didn't pass the test because it's hard to
22:19:58 prepare for you all for this test.
22:20:00 Wanting. Yes. Some.
22:20:04 Kids are not mature enough, but you,
22:20:06 if you expand the number of this program,
22:20:07 they can test the text next year,
22:20:08 when you open more spaces and they will get a chance to get a good
22:20:11 education. I have two daughters in June.
22:20:14 One has graduated from high school this year,
22:20:16 and she has kids from different backgrounds, black Latina,
22:20:18 and she's not Teresa. And she wasn't the school from K to 12th.
22:20:21 I defend this program and I think it's a shame that the United States.
22:20:24 The richest country in the world doesn't have money to put in the
22:20:26 public education to give every child gives them songs, vacations.
22:20:28 There shouldn't be no gifted and talented classes.
22:20:30 Every class should be gifted and talented. The school teeth.
22:20:32 Through 12 shoot.

22:20:33 Gifted and talented. So every child.
22:20:35 And please. Yeah.
22:20:39 Vote. Yes, because if you destroy what's worse.
22:20:42 I don't know what other opportunity I will have.
22:20:43 I don't have money to pay for private school.
22:20:45 I just don't have it.
22:20:46 That's my only chance to get my childhood.
22:20:47 Did you go to education in this country?
22:20:49 Thank you for letting me speak.
22:20:52 Thank you.
22:20:58 The next speaker is a no-show Louis.
22:21:00 Your audio and video has been enabled.
22:21:02 He's on mute.
22:21:06 Nosha.
22:21:18 Oh, I see that you have video, but the audio isn't enabled.
22:21:21 So if you could figure that out, we we'll come back to you.
22:21:23 The next speaker is 10 o'clock.
22:21:25 You're.
22:21:27 Audio and video is.
22:21:29 Being enabled, please unmute yourself.
22:21:44 Jean.
22:21:48 Hello.
22:21:51 Very quietly.
22:21:55 You can speak, speak up or closer to the mic.
22:21:59 Yep.
22:22:04 I want to talk about the vendor. Can't really understand you.
22:22:07 I'm sorry.
22:22:08 Can you hear me now?
22:22:09 Can you hear me now?
22:22:11 Very little.
22:22:13 Can panelists. Can you.
22:22:15 Give me one moment.
22:22:16 No.
22:22:21 You're tapping on it. We heard the tap.
22:22:24 You hear me now?
22:22:25 Yes.
22:22:26 Okay, thank you.
22:22:29 I want to talk about Caleb and Amanda.
22:22:32 Caleb Anderson is a gift of 12 year old.
22:22:35 What was identified and supported by his parents.
22:22:38 And is now in college, studying engineering.
22:22:43 Amanda Gorman was born with an auditory processing disorder.
22:22:45 And had a speech impediment.

22:22:48 Her mother had the ability to send her to private school.

22:22:50 To support a twice exceptional child.

22:22:54 She's the poet Laureate who read her poem.

22:22:56 But last week's presidential inauguration.

22:22:58 Caleb.

22:22:59 Amanda both happened to be black.

22:23:02 How was the DOE identifying?

22:23:04 And supporting.

22:23:06 The countless Caleb's and Amanda's in New York city.

22:23:08 Who don't have the advantages.

22:23:13 Of their namesakes. How many Caleb's into Mendez or lost?

22:23:17 Too crowded classrooms with overwhelm teachers trying to teach

22:23:19 students.

22:23:21 With four grade levels. Fermions.

22:23:22 Expand.

22:23:23 And improve accelerated education.

22:23:26 For all the Caleb's in New York city.

22:23:28 But first vote. Yes. On the G and T test.

22:23:30 Contract tonight.

22:23:31 Thank you.

22:23:36 Thank you.

22:23:41 The next speaker is King now.

22:23:45 We do not see in the room.

22:23:48 Some of the onto Michelle Lee.

22:23:50 Your audio and video is being enabled.

22:23:52 He's unmute yourself.

22:23:57 Hi, can you hear me?

22:24:00 Yes. Okay. Great.

22:24:08 Thank you for taking my comment and thank you Pat numbers.

22:24:10 I believe I wrote to a lot of youth.

22:24:12 So thank you for those who are replying to me.

22:24:14 I'm a public school parent of two children who attend in New York

22:24:16 city, citywide gifted and talented school.

22:24:24 And as you can imagine,

22:24:25 the decision the pep will make tonight will have a huge implications

22:24:28 to our school.

22:24:29 The 3000 families that are already in these programs and the future of

22:24:32 good.

22:24:33 Gifted and talented overall.

22:24:35 I don't need to repeat what most folks said.

22:24:37 I think everyone does agree that the current program in its admissions
22:24:40 policies.
22:24:41 Merit review and scrutiny.
22:24:44 However, as my, my fellow parents had also mentioned,
22:24:47 I think we're all deeply concerned that voting down a contract.
22:24:52 Without creating or communicating a clear plan and what to do with
22:24:55 existing GNT schools who are dependent on this current test enroll,
22:24:58 new students.
22:25:02 And not coming up with the necessary time to explore how to improve
22:25:05 access or determine the best path forward is,
22:25:08 is really not the fair way to go about this.
22:25:14 I think we need to look at the reason why we see these disparities
22:25:18 simply saying that the program is racist is only looking at the end
22:25:21 results of poor decisions.
22:25:22 And I see the problem is, is one of identification and access.
22:25:28 I want to mention that New York is one of eight States that do not
22:25:30 mandate or fund gifted programs.
22:25:32 And only 1.7% of New York state students are identified.
22:25:35 As gifted versus 6.7% nationally.
22:25:38 That is a huge number of students that we're missing out and we're not
22:25:41 nurturing or not reaching their highest potential.
22:26:02 I think that is unfortunate.
22:26:04 And I think that what the DOE is looking to do to expand testing and
22:26:08 identification is really the way they need to go. Finally,
22:26:11 I think people need to ask,
22:26:13 are we saying we don't support accelerated learners?
22:26:15 What is the appropriate way for us to meet their needs?
22:26:17 And I think by shooting down this contract,
22:26:19 we're effectively saying that we don't support.
22:26:21 This group of students, which is really unfortunate.
22:26:22 Thank you.
22:26:24 Thank you.
22:26:25 The next speaker has been a shin.
22:26:27 I see two Shen's. Okay, great.

22:26:29 Thank you for raising your hand.
22:26:30 Your audio and video has been enabled. Please unmute yourself.
22:26:32 Yeah.
22:26:33 Good evening, everyone.
22:26:34 Yeah.
22:26:39 In my opinion,
22:26:40 like we show more focusing on expanding rather than eliminating Jen.
22:26:44 For them for like for lower income kids.
22:26:49 It's kind of the only way that they can try to get like more.
22:26:52 Eli colleges and special high school.
22:26:56 Buy four more for the impolite kids was.
22:26:58 Beta families.
22:27:02 They won't be as hard hit by janky elimination.
22:27:05 Cause they are families.
22:27:07 I have four other kind of enrichment for them.
22:27:10 Or even I private schools.
22:27:14 I like for bright kids with fewer resources from family.
22:27:18 And parent engagement.
22:27:19 It will actually probably be.
22:27:22 Defend vantage.
22:27:23 I says like,
22:27:27 Kind of getting more resources. So.
22:27:31 Yeah. I think like anyone who is arguing that eliminating janky.
22:27:35 Come play the field with.
22:27:37 That in may not do it.
22:27:39 Well, we expected.
22:27:43 So, yeah. Thank you for taking my comment.
22:27:49 Thank you.
22:27:53 The next speaker is Tatiana Grossman.
22:27:57 Do we do not see in the room?
22:28:00 So we'll move on to I'd say Rodriguez.
22:28:04 You're on even videos, been the name of the place.
22:28:06 Hello, can you hear me?
22:28:07 Yes.
22:28:22 Everything's good. Okay. So thank you for letting me speak.
22:28:24 I'm hearing and listening and I'm hearing everybody and I'm thinking,
22:28:27 boy, we're talking in circles and we are kind of like,
22:28:29 sort of close to this thing.
22:28:30 And I think we probably should have some type of breakout group and

22:28:33 discuss this because.
22:28:34 Two minutes is not enough.
22:28:35 I'm an ESL teacher.
22:28:36 I know the changes on the part one 54,
22:28:38 relegated me to being the PA the place of a para in the
high school
22:28:41 classroom.
22:28:45 And destroyed my license and I could do much better in
smaller groups
22:28:48 with those cats in particular,
22:28:49 that's one helping kids who are immigrants,
22:28:52 helping kids who should be given some accelerated or
enriched
22:28:55 curriculum.
22:28:56 Is something that could be done at the school level.
22:28:58 If schools were fully funded.
22:29:06 But we have chopped up the schools into small little,
22:29:08 like little boutique schools and it creates a situation
where no one
22:29:12 gets a full and enriched curriculum or opportunities.
22:29:14 So that's something to look at.
22:29:15 The reality is that everybody's arguing what we've been
arguing.
22:29:17 Save a, kid's not going to get a good, good.
22:29:19 Education, if they're not in this program.
22:29:21 So what you're telling is everybody's been getting a
bad education.
22:29:24 So if you're saying that everybody who's not an, a.
22:29:25 Gifted and talented program is going to get a bad
situation.
22:29:28 Then why are you trying to spend \$5 million?
22:29:30 On a small task for a small group of people. I don't
understand that.
22:29:36 So it makes more sense for me to see everybody think
about this real
22:29:39 concretely,
22:29:40 how we have to get right back on the ground and start
fighting to make
22:29:43 sure money is spent correctly.
22:30:03 Let's do some priorities. Let's be grownups.
22:30:05 And let's talk about what it is because everybody's
experienced great,
22:30:08 including empowering teachers in schools and giving
enriched and
22:30:11 well-rounded curriculum for everybody.
22:30:13 Instead of spending money on a private organization to
get a contract,

22:30:16 instead of fixing what needs to be fixed the broken stairs, no tech,
22:30:20 no wifi, no labs, no libraries,
22:30:23 no counselors.
22:30:25 So w w w what are we really talking about?
22:30:27 Are we being selfish if we only want just for us, for our kids.
22:30:30 Think about it, argue for all kids.
22:30:32 Thank you.
22:30:33 Okay, we're going to try to go back to a neutral Louis.
22:30:36 I still only see your camera symbol.
22:30:38 So if you could work out that tech.
22:30:39 We'll try to come back to you.
22:30:40 Let me see my little kicks off and we don't see in a room.
22:30:42 She she's saying.
22:30:43 We also don't seem the room.
22:30:46 See a Utah thing, Robert.
22:30:56 Julia Lee.
22:31:03 Lay off of it. You're there's a Juliet.
22:31:06 Your audio and video has been enabled.
22:31:08 Is that you.
22:31:09 Julia.
22:31:12 Okay.
22:31:16 Move on to Ellie scene.
22:31:20 Ella, your audio and video has been enabled.
22:31:24 Okay.
22:31:25 Can you hear me?
22:31:27 Yes.
22:31:28 Hi.
22:31:31 Panel members. Thank you so much for giving me this opportunity.
22:32:01 I'm here to ask that you approve the contract for Pearson for
22:32:04 this year. I am the parent of a child already in a G and T programs.
22:32:07 And I have seen firsthand how these types of programs can benefit a
22:32:10 child who has a celebrated education needs.
22:32:12 And when I say accelerated education,
22:32:13 I'm not talking about enrichments.
22:32:14 We cannot place a child in general education with evictions and say
22:32:17 that that is the equivalent of a G and T programs. It is not the same.
22:32:20 Every child is different and special in their own. Right.

22:32:22 And that transcends into how a child learns. There is not a.

22:32:25 One size fits all when it comes to how a child learns and what it will

22:32:27 take to help them thrive.

22:32:29 We want to give equal opportunity to every child so they can be

22:32:31 successful.

22:32:32 We should be talking about how to expand the program.

22:32:34 So it's available to more students instead of dismantling the program.

22:32:37 It would be a huge disservice to leave those families scrambling,

22:32:39 to figure out at the 11th hour.

22:32:40 While I understand what the various panel members are agonizing over.

22:32:43 Let's take a step back and remember who we are all here for to support

22:32:46 all students and their distinct learning needs.

22:32:48 Please think about all the families entering kindergarten this

22:32:50 upcoming year,

22:32:51 whose parents are already grappling with the pandemic who've been

22:32:53 waiting for this opportunity,

22:32:55 let's help provide a measure of security.

22:32:56 Let's see.

22:32:57 Help support all children of all learning capabilities, please vote.

22:33:00 Yes. Thank you for taking my comments.

22:33:02 Thank you.

22:33:03 Well, we'll now go back to.

22:33:05 Mylynn Pittcon.

22:33:06 Who's in as a different.

22:33:08 Under a different name.

22:33:09 Your audio and video has been enabled. Please unmute yourself.

22:33:25 Hello, can you hear me? Well, you're kind of soft.

22:33:28 If you could move closer to the mic.

22:33:29 Yeah.

22:33:30 A little bit better.

22:33:31 Speak. If you could speak up, that'd be great.

22:33:33 Okay.

22:33:37 Okay. So what pose, thank you very much for the opportunity.

22:33:40 That's my opinion.

22:33:42 Coming from a country of side.

22:33:43 From a different country.
22:33:45 Again, with the American dream.
22:33:47 American dream.
22:33:49 And working card.
22:33:51 From scratch.
22:33:55 Family, because I believe that the American dream is.
22:33:58 It's real.
22:33:59 But I also believe American dream is not willing to go.
22:34:01 It's only when it continues where everywhere.
22:34:03 And my kids.
22:34:04 Born here.
22:34:05 I teach them about the buyers.
22:34:08 They convene the people kind of opportunities.
22:34:12 It's all about having opportunities.
22:34:14 And your potential.
22:34:18 We heard so many comments tonight about.
22:34:20 Prematurely.
22:34:23 The only working program folks.
22:34:25 Only problem.
22:34:27 Accelerated learning without opening anything.
22:34:29 Alternative.
22:34:31 People talk about how much money are you going to be spent?
22:34:33 Then we hear numbers.
22:34:34 That'd be made up.
22:34:35 Pull the other fair.
22:34:37 And somehow it's a lot of pressure about.
22:34:39 Ruining something, but no offering.
22:34:43 What can we do to make things better?
22:34:45 American dream.
22:34:46 It's where everyone.
22:34:48 Yeah.
22:34:49 Unity's for accelerated learning to achieve your potential.
22:34:53 Everyone. I strongly believe in that, but killing.
22:34:55 The GMT program.
22:34:57 It's not going to benefit anyone.
22:35:03 You know,
22:35:04 nobody will benefit to lose what what's working today.
22:35:07 So I'm all set.
22:35:08 Ruining a breach.
22:35:09 Without doing a new one it's nonsense. So I.
22:35:12 Urge the committee to vote.
22:35:14 For the BSN contract.
22:35:17 To give opportunity to give us time.
22:35:19 To find better.
22:35:22 Programs for accelerated learning.

22:35:23 I'm not running.
22:35:25 Is already in place and whatsoever.
22:35:26 Thank you very much.
22:35:29 Thank you.
22:35:39 The next speaker that we see in the arenas, Carolyn,
22:35:41 that Trento Carolyn, your audio and video has been
enabled.
22:35:44 He's on mute.
22:35:49 Carolyn.
22:35:57 Okay, we'll move on to Mark Fitzgerald.
22:36:00 Your audio and videos being enabled.
22:36:10 Please.
22:36:12 Hi.
22:36:22 My name is Mark Fitzgerald.
22:36:24 I'm a district to public school parent and a founding
member of free
22:36:27 families for real equity in education.
22:36:31 Single tested mission systems,
22:36:32 promote racial and socioeconomic segregation. That is
no secret.
22:36:35 It is an undeniable fact.
22:36:49 Tonight,
22:36:50 you'll have an opportunity to finally begin to rectify
the harm caused
22:36:53 by programs like specialized high schools,
22:36:55 screened middle schools and G and T.
22:36:56 They are inaccurate and unfair and cruel under normal
circumstances.
22:37:00 But downright immoral during the pandemic, the
exorbitant costs,
22:37:03 these tests and programs.
22:37:04 Cost is completely unjustifiable when schools are
operating at a
22:37:08 deficit.
22:37:09 And so many of our students are still without access to
technology and
22:37:12 reliable internet.
22:37:13 Approving the Pearson contract would be approving
blatant
22:37:15 discrimination with a \$5 million price tag.
22:37:23 I want to recognize tonight,
22:37:24 the beautiful young people that spoke Brianna Merrell,
22:37:28 Sophie Graham and Lucas,
22:37:29 Lucas spoke to us so powerfully about equity.
22:37:32 When he asked you to show our students that you see
them.
22:37:35 And that they all deserve a chance.

22:37:37 So I beg you.
22:37:38 Not next year, but right now tonight,
22:37:41 Please do the right thing.
22:37:43 The only thing.
22:37:45 Vote no to the piercing contract.
22:37:47 Thank you.
22:37:48 Thank you.
22:37:49 Gonna move.
22:37:53 Pass these because quickly we don't see.
22:37:56 King Lu Dinara on a Django.
22:38:00 Jennifer HELOC again, Elizabeth Adams.
22:38:04 To not see no room.
22:38:07 And Toko show boat.
22:38:13 Gee,
22:38:14 your audio and video has been enabled.
22:38:15 Please unmute yourself.
22:38:24 Hello.
22:38:25 Do you hear me?
22:38:27 Yes.
22:38:29 Hello.
22:38:35 First, thank you,
22:38:36 everybody here for working so hard to make New York
city a better
22:38:40 place.
22:38:41 For everybody.
22:38:45 It really takes a village to raise children.
22:38:47 We are all raising our children in this beautiful city
together.
22:38:51 I would like older panel member devote. Yes.
22:38:54 To renew gifted and talented testing contracts with
Pearson tonight.
22:38:58 I am a strong believer of early childhood education.
22:39:03 Uplifting and empowerment must start from early age.
22:39:13 Currently,
22:39:15 there are so much less to G and D C's available than
people who want
22:39:18 that quarter of incoming kindergarten students take a G
and T exam.
22:39:23 If we ear.
22:39:26 It's very popular instead of scrapping such successful
in popular
22:39:30 program,
22:39:31 that should be expanded to all the areas throughout
five boroughs in
22:39:34 New York city.
22:39:36 To everybody who might want it.
22:39:37 I live in 500 square feet.

22:39:39 One bedroom apartment with a family of four.
22:39:42 I am not too realized I paid \$25 to download practice tests.
22:39:46 And went over with my daughter on some weekends.
22:39:48 She was able to get, get 99.
22:39:50 Which.
22:39:52 In terms of the testing.
22:39:55 I don't know if that's the best testing way.
22:40:11 But I am sure that there are so many bright kids who would thrive in
22:40:15 GNT, but just state just don't know. And they haven't taken the test.
22:40:19 DOE should do more outreach. Also.
22:40:21 There has been no public dialogue on how valuable gene.
22:40:24 And programs are in.
22:40:25 Please do not make a drastic education changed this year without
22:40:28 consulting with all the people of the New York city who would be
22:40:31 impacted by it.
22:40:32 Please vote. Yes.
22:40:33 To do we knew gifted and talented testing contract with Pearson today.
22:40:37 Thank you very, very much.
22:40:38 Thank you.
22:40:39 The next speaker, we're going to go back to initial Lewis.
22:40:41 Who's now on the phone.
22:40:43 Let's say third, time's the charm.
22:40:44 Please unmute yourself.
22:41:02 Okay. Can I ask if you could to type your question into the Q and a,
22:41:06 and then we can, or comment.
22:41:07 Into the Q and a so that it will be red.
22:41:10 The next speaker.
22:41:13 Is time. Dare.
22:41:14 Who was.
22:41:17 Renamed.
22:41:21 Your audio and video is being enabled.
22:41:23 Please unmute yourself.
22:41:33 Hello.
22:41:35 It's breaking my heart.
22:41:40 She's so many commenters they're trying to erase the existence of
22:41:43 gifted children.
22:41:44 Gifted children are no.
22:41:45 Less real than our special needs children.

22:41:49 In fact gifted children are a special needs population.
22:41:52 We talk about following science.
22:41:54 There is no question in academia.
22:41:56 Whether giftedness exists.
22:42:01 Even though we have imperfect method of identifying it
here in
22:42:05 New York city.
22:42:07 My daughter is gifted.
22:42:11 She has never been prepped for a test.
22:42:18 She has been tested, not only by the DOE,
22:42:20 but by Columbia teachers college and by a private
psychologist.
22:42:30 She attends an all gifted school that operates a year
above grade
22:42:33 level,
22:42:34 but she is particularly gifted in math and there's two
or more years
22:42:37 ahead, depending on the topic,
22:42:38 even approaching algebra in elementary school.
22:42:40 But the fact that she is thriving in GMT.
22:42:42 Does not mean.
22:42:43 She couldn't find any classroom.
22:42:45 There were times when she was literally failing math.
22:42:47 And teachers thought she just doesn't get it.
22:42:50 The truth is that when she is not presented with
material that is
22:42:52 dramatically challenging for her, she shuts down.
22:42:55 She can appear to be listening and engaged,
22:42:57 but these somewhere else entirely.
22:42:59 And this can continue for weeks or even months and
teachers not
22:43:02 realize it.
22:43:04 She needs teachers who understand her unusual needs.
22:43:11 You can provide accelerated curriculum that will engage
her.
22:43:13 Otherwise she is at high risk for failing.
22:43:19 Are there problems with the test, you would disagree
with that.
22:43:28 Does there need to be accessed and identification of
gifted black and
22:43:32 Brown students? Absolutely.
22:43:34 That's a huge problem that needs to be addressed.
22:43:36 But do not eliminate the test.
22:43:37 Which without an alternative.
22:43:39 But effectively kill the citywide.
22:43:41 Gifted programs and possibly kill many other programs.
22:43:45 Thank you.

22:43:48 Okay, we're going to give a no-show.
22:43:50 One more chance, please press star six.
22:43:52 And OSHA too.
22:43:53 Unmute yourself.
22:44:02 Star six.
22:44:06 Okay.
22:44:10 We'll now go to Kamala Carmen.
22:44:14 Your audio and video has been enabled. Please unmute yourself.
22:44:16 Hi.
22:44:18 Hi.
22:44:25 So I'm the parent of an 11th grader and a student who's always
22:44:28 graduated. My name is Kamala Carmen.
22:44:34 And I could write a book and others have about what is wrong with
22:44:37 testing four year olds or how test in G and T programs.
22:44:41 Exacerbate existing issues of class and race.
22:44:44 And as a co-founder of NYC opt out, I could go on for hours,
22:44:48 which I don't have here about the specific problems with Pearson.
22:44:50 But this year,
22:44:51 It's not necessary to bring up any of that.
22:44:53 Because we're in the midst of a freaking pandemic.
22:45:11 When,
22:45:12 when public health experts or counseling us not to leave our homes
22:45:15 except for essential grocery shopping.
22:45:17 How can the DOE as families and teachers to come into school buildings
22:45:20 for the super non-essential action of testing four year olds.
22:45:23 Really it boggles the mind.
22:45:25 I understand that the mayor is bringing intense pressure to bear on
22:45:27 you to vote. Yes.
22:45:28 But it will be on you.
22:45:29 It will be on you.
22:45:30 If a single person dies or develops long-term damage for COVID.
22:45:39 And the time remaining,
22:45:40 I want to respond to the speaker who brought up Amanda Gorman and
22:45:43 overcrowded classrooms.
22:45:44 Amanda Gorman school took a progressive approach to learning,

22:45:47 not a G and T one.
22:45:49 And sorry, my phone just closed down on me,
22:45:51 but I was going to read directly from their website
about what they
22:45:54 did education for us. It's not a merely a race for the.
22:45:57 The accumulation of facts, rather,
22:45:58 a program's challenged students of all ages to build
upon is satisfied
22:46:00 their natural. Yeah.
22:46:05 Curiosity to seek and evaluate information and to use
the information
22:46:09 they acquire to delve deeply and critically into their
studies in
22:46:11 order to creatively apply their skills and knowledge to
real world
22:46:13 pumps.
22:46:15 Our students learn by doing basically New York city has
progressive
22:46:18 schools. We could put a lot more energy to replicating
them.
22:46:20 And if you're complaining about over credited class
sizes.
22:46:23 And advocate for lowering class size that helps all
kids.
22:46:26 Thank you. Thanks.
22:46:30 The next figure is Aida. Assuming you set.
22:46:35 Sorry for the pronunciation, your audio and video has
been enabled.
22:46:49 There.
22:46:51 Aiden.
22:46:59 Okay.
22:47:01 Well,
22:47:05 It's fun. Dare. So I'll go to Tiffany.
22:47:10 Your audio and video is being enabled.
22:47:11 Please unmute yourself.
22:47:16 Hey y'all. Thank you.
22:47:23 First, I just want to recognize the students who spoke
so powerfully
22:47:26 earlier this evening. And if you happen to still be a
hun.
22:47:28 Thank you.
22:47:31 In the middle of this pandemic, black and Brown
students,
22:47:33 family members are dying at a disproportionately higher
rate.
22:47:36 Their family members are being vaccinated at a
disproportionately

22:47:38 lower rate.
22:47:39 We have students,
22:47:40 families and teachers who don't have all the things
they need for
22:47:43 remote learning.
22:47:49 We have cops taking gets temperatures in schools
because we don't fund
22:47:52 nurses.
22:47:53 They're struggling with trauma without the support of
professionals,
22:47:55 because we don't have enough counselors and social
workers.
22:48:02 And despite these facts,
22:48:03 this panel is considering giving a multi-billion dollar
company like
22:48:06 Pearson \$5 million for a racist test.
22:48:09 I say that as a former public school kid who was in G
and T.
22:48:12 You know, the, the personal responsibility,
22:48:13 narratives and exceptionalism tropes used to defend GNT
pits,
22:48:17 parents against each other, as they fight for access to
resources,
22:48:19 everyone should have.
22:48:20 This is another example of putting corporations in
profits over
22:48:23 people.
22:48:24 This is another example of upholding racialized
systems.
22:48:26 Why aren't we spending that money on the things that
will actually
22:48:29 help the holistic health.
22:48:30 And education of the most vulnerable children in our
city.
22:48:33 I'm here to tell the mayor and the chancellor.
22:48:36 That this proposal contributes to the racial and social
inequities in
22:48:39 our city. And the message is simple. Please vote. No.
22:48:41 Thank you.
22:48:43 The next speaker is.
22:48:45 I'm.
22:48:47 Here eight long. We don't see. So I'll move on to Yona.
22:48:50 Jonah, none name.
22:48:51 Your audio and videos for the name of fees.
22:48:53 Hi.
22:48:57 Good evening. Good night. My name is Alanna.
22:49:05 And as I'm sitting here and listening, I just,

22:49:07 I cannot believe this is actually up for debate right now.

22:49:10 You know, in spite of.

22:49:14 The absolute, you know, inequity and.

22:49:26 White supremacy that these tests and these programs are steeped in the

22:49:29 fact that we're having this conversation during a pandemic that is

22:49:33 getting worse and worse in our communities.

22:49:35 When the city is in what? A \$5 billion deficit.

22:49:41 That DeBlasio continues to go on about during his press conferences.

22:49:45 And we're thinking about awarding a contract to Pearson for

22:49:48 \$5 million.

22:49:49 Is just it's wild.

22:49:50 I I'm a teacher. I teach at a,

22:49:53 at a high school at a public school.

22:49:55 In the sound you neighborhood of the Bronx and our community is

22:49:58 struggling. The pandemic.

22:50:07 Has ravaged our community families need food. They need Wi-Fi,

22:50:11 it's wild that kids have to do their work on cell phones.

22:50:13 And so clearly if we can.

22:50:15 You know, give Pearson \$5 million. There is money to rectify this.

22:50:18 But again, it goes back to what other folks have said before.

22:50:20 How are we using our resources? Right.

22:50:22 Who are we? Who are we giving resources to?

22:50:31 And, you know,

22:50:32 for a mayor and a chancellor who talk about equity and black lives

22:50:36 matter, I just I'm speechless.

22:50:41 Members of the PDP, please vote no to this contract.

22:50:43 I know you're under immense pressure, but it it's,

22:50:47 it's just mind boggling.

22:50:48 This is even up for a vote right now.

22:50:49 Thank you.

22:50:50 Thank you.

22:50:52 The next speaker is a Yohanas c'mon.

22:50:54 Your audio and videos been enabled.

22:50:59 He's on mute.

22:51:14 Oh,

22:51:18 Sorry, now your audio and video has been enabled.

22:51:21 Please unmute.
22:51:27 Hi, my name is Johan. Is.
22:51:29 And I'm the parent of.
22:51:33 To a public school students.
22:51:35 My.
22:51:37 My.
22:51:43 Daughter graduated from, from a gifted and talented program.
22:51:45 My son currently attends to gifted and talented program.
22:51:47 I want to just say that.
22:51:52 Couple of things. First of all, my daughter entered in third grade.
22:51:54 So not all students come in as a kindergartner. So there,
22:51:57 there is a lot of families who look.
22:51:58 To enter.
22:51:59 Second first, second, third grade.
22:52:03 I appreciate,
22:52:04 I strongly urged that the pep to vote in favor of the G and T testing contract for this year. I appreciate them.
22:52:10 Both the mayor's and chancellors comments.
22:52:11 But holding the test this year, as well as having a dialogue.
22:52:14 We have families and parents about a revision accelerated program.
22:52:17 Going forward.
22:52:18 Every year, many 25 to 30,000 public school families.
22:52:27 Look to apply for the test and not having a test this year would put a
22:52:31 great stress and great uncertainty on.
22:52:33 The schools that wouldn't have a plan to seek kindergarten.
22:52:36 The kindergarten class this year.
22:52:37 I think the DOE should very seriously take.
22:52:42 Into account,
22:52:43 the input from families who have strongly feel in favor of
22:52:46 accelerated.
22:52:56 Education in New York city.
22:52:57 And I think that accelerated education programs and achieving equity
22:53:01 in public schools are not income incompatible outcome is in that
22:53:03 marriage.

22:53:04 People to think about a situation where you could expand the program.

22:53:07 Instead of having seats for one to 2% have seats for you to 15 or even

22:53:11 20%.

22:53:15 Of the families who were interested in this universal assessment,

22:53:19 multiple on-ramps things along those lines. So again,

22:53:23 I asked the panel to vote in favor of that.

22:53:25 Given an opportunity to have that dialogue and reinvision accelerated

22:53:28 education in New York going forward. Thank you.

22:53:30 Thank you.

22:53:31 The next speaker is, came out, who was renamed from before.

22:53:34 Find your audio and videos, any mold?

22:53:36 Hello, everybody.

22:53:40 It's very nice to hear. Thank you for this opportunity.

22:53:44 I am.

22:53:45 A new immigrant.

22:53:49 I'm a non-English speaker. I have a final means to be privileged.

22:53:53 For my thought, her guessing to the GMT program.

22:54:05 She loved it so much where she attended a zone school.

22:54:08 She started a school sparring and she wants to sleep.

22:54:11 But when she got, after she attended a GNC school,

22:54:13 she's so excited to study, shake up.

22:54:15 Motivated and she is.

22:54:17 Well challenging.

22:54:18 All aspects.

22:54:19 That program is a very good program.

22:54:21 If it's not good.

22:54:22 So nobody will care.

22:54:23 Not enough.

22:54:24 Black-owned across students.

22:54:25 Got into this program.

22:54:27 I want to speak to the community member.

22:54:32 And my fellow new Yorkers, we are part of the community.

22:54:36 So we are not your enemy.

22:54:38 Every kids deserve a chance. These are some resources.

22:54:42 I understand or harder you cry, you know?

22:54:45 You can, I know a lot of other community on others.

22:54:52 Another population of the New York city is suffering. I know that,

22:54:55 but we are not an enemy.

22:54:56 Our kids is also new Yorkers.

22:54:58 They deserve.
22:54:59 Education opportunities.
22:55:01 Designers fit for them.
22:55:08 And the give up, let them reach their full potential.
22:55:11 So I urge the community.
22:55:13 The committee vote? Yes.
22:55:15 And we need a scoring system for the other.
22:55:17 Gifted students. I have another daughter.
22:55:19 I kinda it's own school.
22:55:23 I will not try to get her into the GSE program because
that's too much
22:55:27 for her.
22:55:28 Isn't Genti program is not for everybody.
22:55:31 So if she got in show, I'd be frustrated.
22:55:33 Yeah.
22:55:34 She will be embarrassed.
22:55:36 So.
22:55:38 I will urge you again to vote a yes. Thank you so much.
22:55:41 Thank you.
22:55:43 The next speaker is.
22:55:46 Is Jennifer Fox up.
22:55:50 If you're here, please raise your hand. Cause I do see
a Jennifer.
22:56:01 And if you're not under Jennifer, please write us in
the Q and a,
22:56:04 and now we'll move on to Merissa.
22:56:06 Henriquez your audio and video has been enabled,
please.
22:56:10 Hi, good evening.
22:56:14 Thanks all for the time to speak.
22:56:15 Thank you to all the youth that advocated to the CAC
members that
22:56:19 advocated.
22:56:26 And to the community members who advocated against the
Pearson
22:56:29 contract and even thank you to the other people who
demonstrated the
22:56:34 very important.
22:56:35 Backlash.
22:56:36 Talk about when we are.
22:56:39 We're discussing.
22:56:40 Equal distribution.
22:56:41 Cities that are most are most vulnerable.
22:56:42 And we like to cloud.
22:56:44 And diva.
22:56:51 All these conversations until ones of representation
and democracy and

22:56:55 whether or not we're giving everyone an equal opportunity.
22:56:58 When we know darn well.
22:57:05 Society that equality does not exist unless the institutions that we
22:57:09 pay to uphold our democracy are actually at play and foreseeing those
22:57:13 values.
22:57:14 And what I would like to do is aspire to a democracy that I believe we
22:57:18 do not have because democracy literally translates in.
22:57:22 Our to the people.
22:57:23 Roll.
22:57:27 People and what we're talking.
22:57:30 Here, unfortunately.
22:57:33 I'm sorry.
22:57:36 You're you're kind of breaking up. Maybe turn off their video.
22:57:38 That might help.
22:57:42 Hello.
22:57:43 Hello.
22:57:51 Hello.
22:57:52 Rita.
22:57:59 Hello.
22:58:03 Okay. I think maybe it's faster.
22:58:05 Hello.
22:58:08 Hi.
22:58:11 Yeah.
22:58:12 It's a little better.
22:58:15 Yeah.
22:58:23 We can hear you.
22:58:30 Hello.
22:58:31 Yeah.
22:58:33 Hi.
22:58:35 Can you hear me?
22:58:36 I'm sorry.
22:58:38 Can you okay.
22:58:40 Yeah, I'm gonna finish.
22:58:42 Okay. So.
22:58:44 Essentially, you know,
22:58:55 A call to democracy for the, you know,
22:58:57 and it's not lost on me that I'm talking about democracy to a panel of
22:59:00 appointed people who,
22:59:02 from what I've researched or relatively privileged.
22:59:04 But we, you know,

22:59:05 like it's either going to be about a political performance.
22:59:08 And conjecture.
22:59:10 Of representation or we're actually going to uphold.
22:59:12 Where the citizens.
22:59:13 And working class people of New York city will have to hold you
22:59:15 accountable. So please.
22:59:16 Do your job.
22:59:17 Uphold democracy. Thank.
22:59:18 Thank you.
22:59:22 The next speaker is Jennifer Fox. Who's a rename.
22:59:24 The name J Fox.
22:59:25 Hi, sorry.
22:59:31 I am calling today to urge you to vote yes. On the Pearson contract.
22:59:38 What I feel is being lost here is that there are existing teachers,
22:59:43 educators.
22:59:54 Parents and principals in these programs right now who don't have
22:59:59 another way to admit kids to their programs for next year or
23:00:02 re-imagine this you're asking them to rethink in the middle of a
23:00:05 pandemic where there are public school folks.
23:00:07 Who are just trying to figure everything out.
23:00:09 Like everybody else is in the pandemic,
23:00:11 including ELL learners and their teachers and support staff.
23:00:23 Who really have no other way to admit people into the programs.
23:00:26 And you're asking them to disrupt that I've also not heard a single
23:00:29 GNT advocate tonight saying that these programs are right or
23:00:33 equitable. The way that they currently are. Everybody knows that,
23:00:36 but what we need is a year to plan.
23:00:38 And I welcome the finally,
23:00:40 finally that the DOE.
23:00:45 And the city administration is saying that they're going to do a
23:00:48 listening tour and engage stakeholders in this despite so much
23:00:51 rhetoric about no conversations about us without us.

23:01:24 Live captions provided by Rev.com. For 99% accurate post-meeting transcripts and captions, visit Rev.com. We're enabled to participate in the town halls, or they were not publicized in our communities.

23:01:24 We were not able to start having these conversations about what we can do to improve equity in conclusion in our programs. Give us a year and together I am sure.

23:01:24 That the GNG community, along with the mayor and the DOE can finally sit down and work this out, but we need a year.

23:01:24 Thank you.

23:01:25 The next speaker is.

23:01:27 Well, I'm done.

23:01:28 Who is not here.

23:01:31 We'll go on to why Moya, who is also not here.

23:01:37 So we'll move on to Alexander's son. Your audio and video is enabled.

23:01:40 Hi, thank you for listening to my comments.

23:01:42 I don't make a lot of money.

23:01:44 Oh, I can't afford a private school.

23:01:50 But I was very grateful that my older son who's currently had made the

23:01:53 GNT program and is now in the G and T program.

23:01:56 We prepared by buying about \$20 worth of used books, copied material.

23:02:00 But what I did was I supported my children.

23:02:07 I told him every day after, you know, they go to school.

23:02:09 I grew up with their homework, their preschool work.

23:02:12 I support them. I told them the three things in life.

23:02:15 Or the top three priorities in life, health, family, and education.

23:02:22 So I was very grateful that my oldest son made it in is currently

23:02:25 going there.

23:02:26 Now my youngest son is supposed to take the school test this year.

23:02:29 I hope you will have a chance to take the test.

23:02:30 Just like his older brother did.

23:02:40 Just like the students who spoke earlier on this call,

23:02:42 they had a chance to take the test and go to the school.

23:02:44 The test is for everyone. The test is not for the rich,

23:02:47 it's not for the poor staff for black is not for white it's for

23:02:50 everyone.

23:02:51 And just because I want the best education for my family,

23:02:54 for my children.
23:02:55 Doesn't mean, I have to defend myself as a racist,
23:02:57 as so many people have said on this call.
23:02:58 I was born in New York. I was raised in New York.
23:03:00 I've lived in New York for, for over 40 years.
23:03:07 If this is another thing I'd like to say is if this is
the last test
23:03:10 for G and T program,
23:03:11 how do you can't how do you cancel something without a
renal
23:03:13 replacement?
23:03:14 This invites chaos.
23:03:15 If the DOE was a business.
23:03:17 This would not be acceptable.
23:03:18 I also had a lot of people mentioned about the cost of
this test.
23:03:22 It's relatively little to nothing compared to the NYC
DOE budget.
23:03:35 They have, you know,
23:03:36 millions and millions of dollars for all sorts of
things.
23:03:38 The GMT program. I agree with an earlier comment,
23:03:40 somebody else in Maine is just like the gift and talent
program is
23:03:43 just like a special needs program.
23:03:45 It's just like that. Please vote. Yes. For this
program.
23:03:47 Please vote. Yes, it's great.
23:03:49 It it, my son, my children.
23:03:51 Enjoy the program. Thank you.
23:03:52 The next speaker is.
23:03:54 Kaushik does your audio and video is enabled.
23:03:58 Can you hear me?
23:03:59 Without Reaper.
23:04:01 Yeah.
23:04:04 Let me kind of want to, if you don't mind.
23:04:09 Is that better?
23:04:12 Yeah, you're good.
23:04:13 Okay.
23:04:16 I tire of hearing.
23:04:21 Hearing about her G and T serves only a few,
23:04:23 much of our education serves special needs.
23:04:25 What will we go after next? Will we get rid of ELL?
23:04:28 We get rid of IDPs.
23:04:29 We get rid of district 75.
23:04:33 I tire of hearing a G and T implies some children
aren't better than

23:04:36 others.
23:04:39 That's not what implies implies that some children learn faster than
23:04:43 others and others need help in additional areas.
23:04:45 Todd Sutton.
23:04:46 Earlier this, I see you. See members said all.
23:04:48 Art education.
23:04:49 Make sure all students have what they need.
23:04:50 Do are faster learners have what they need.
23:05:02 Us does not rank well in other countries.
23:05:04 And New York does not rank well. And other States in our country,
23:05:06 we need better education and we need to not hold back.
23:05:10 Kids who learn faster than others.
23:05:11 I tire of hearing how the stag studies have case studies showing at G
23:05:15 and T doesn't work. If there's no such thing as gifted and talented.
23:05:17 I agree with the other person that just spoke. None of no.
23:05:20 No pro and team member pro G and T members were invited to the
23:05:23 [unknown].
23:05:24 None of the parents.
23:05:25 In G and T systems were invited the stag nor principles nor teachers.
23:05:43 I tire of hearing how'd you get antique create segregation for the
23:05:46 past two decades,
23:05:47 we have dismantled G and T programs in the outer boroughs and the
23:05:50 outer parts of the outer boroughs,
23:05:52 where there happens to be a high population of black and Hispanic
23:05:54 students.
23:05:55 Then we're surprised when only 10 bag black students get into
23:05:57 Stuyvesant.
23:05:59 No.
23:06:00 Again, accelerated learners need to be taught early.
23:06:02 We had plenty of studies that show that the age four and five and six
23:06:06 are key moments in childhood development and learning.
23:06:09 And that's when the special ed that's when acceleration education
23:06:11 should take place.
23:06:13 And should be provided afterwards as well,

23:06:14 and a tired being called privileged.
23:06:16 My parents came here with only \$300 in their pockets.
23:06:18 When did it become okay to implicitly?
23:06:20 Explicitly call Asians privileged.
23:06:22 Adjacent.
23:06:23 The next speaker is [unknown].
23:06:25 Ciao.
23:06:27 Your audio and video is the name old.
23:06:29 Let's see Nicole.
23:06:30 Yeah.
23:06:31 Okay.
23:06:32 That's not, you.
23:06:34 I'll go to.
23:06:35 Jessica Holloway.
23:06:40 Your audio and video has been anymore.
23:06:42 Please unmute yourself.
23:06:52 Jessica.
23:07:07 Okay.
23:07:11 We'll move on to.
23:07:12 June.
23:07:16 Hi, this is Jessica. Oh, there you are.
23:07:18 Sorry, it wouldn't let me unmute.
23:07:22 But now I am on muted. Invisible. Hello.
23:07:33 I am a very tired at this point,
23:07:36 parent of a kindergartner and a city-wide G and T
school,
23:07:40 as well as.
23:07:41 A pre-K four year olds who I had planned.
23:07:44 Have take the G and T test this year.
23:07:48 I am not an advocate and this is my first time doing
this kind of
23:07:51 thing.
23:07:57 And I'm here just to essentially reiterate,
23:08:00 I think what Jennifer Fox said earlier, just a few
minutes ago,
23:08:02 but I will say it in any case.
23:08:05 I think there is no question that we need to create
systems that
23:08:08 equitably identify students who have exceptionally high
after June
23:08:11 into insurance.
23:08:12 Sorry to interrupt. Can you just speak up a little bit?
Sorry.
23:08:15 I am dealing with sleeping children. So I'm whispering,
23:08:17 but I will try, I will try harder.
23:08:27 So I think there's no question that we want to create
systems that

23:08:30 equitably identifies students with exceptionally high aptitude,
23:08:33 and then ensure that we have programming to meet the needs of those
23:08:37 gifted learners.
23:08:38 I would agree that the current G and T test is not that system.
23:08:41 It doesn't do so equitably.
23:08:42 And I agree with a lot of the comments that have been made.
23:08:44 About, you know,
23:08:46 as sort of testing our four year old with one single test.
23:08:48 And I think it needs to be changed.
23:08:49 But it's also true that there's no proposed system or process in place
23:08:52 to replace the existing test.
23:08:54 That citywide G and G schools in particular will use to fill
23:08:57 kindergarten.
23:08:58 Seats in those programs.
23:09:14 I think changes needed,
23:09:15 but I hope it could be done in a thoughtful way with a plan in place
23:09:18 that provides stability and predictability for, as Jennifer said,
23:09:20 the educators and administrators for those schools and for the
23:09:23 children are ready in gifted and talented programs and the parents of
23:09:26 those children. And yes, of course, I'm talking about me there.
23:09:28 Mmm. Mmm.
23:09:30 I think that ending the program by not renewing a testing contract
23:09:33 helps us get to our goals in a way that is more equitable when in fact
23:09:36 it would do so in a way that creates more unpredictably.
23:09:39 Instability at a time. It was already too much of both.
23:09:41 Thank you.
23:09:42 Next speaker is.
23:09:43 I was not here.
23:09:45 Hi, Lee is not here.
23:09:51 Do you not see.
23:09:55 Andrew Rosenbaum.
23:10:08 We'll see other trends.

23:10:09 So please raise your hand or write in the Q and a.
23:10:12 Oh, okay.
23:10:20 What's your 10, your.
23:10:22 Audio and video has been enabled, please.
23:10:25 Alright, thank you.
23:10:32 BP for making this time in his very late.
23:10:34 And I appreciate all you do as a parent of three children.
23:10:36 One of whom is taking this test tonight.
23:10:38 Or sorry, this year.
23:10:43 It is important that the opportunity to be given for children who are
23:10:47 going to learn quicker, it's not,
23:10:48 there's no conspiracy theory to make.
23:10:53 Any less opportunity for any other children in the system.
23:10:55 We want all of our fellow students and parents to experience their
23:10:59 special needs and individuals.
23:11:01 Children's education. So it's not that I'm nefariously.
23:11:12 Working against so many other students. It's simply,
23:11:15 we have a child who is very quick to learn and we are happy and
23:11:18 opportunity to give him the opportunity. There's no more to it.
23:11:22 I'm not politically involved in any way.
23:11:23 I'm not as connected as so many PP members are.
23:11:26 And I understand there's been a lot of political politics,
23:11:28 but simply this is the parents speaking.
23:11:30 I just want this opportunity for a child.
23:11:32 And that's all. Thank you for all. Members are staying up so late.
23:11:34 Thank you.
23:11:36 The next speaker is.
23:11:40 [unknown] here. We did not see it in the room.
23:11:43 Solar onto.
23:11:44 Candy.
23:11:47 We do not see.
23:11:52 Let's move onto Meghan Hester.
23:11:56 Your audio and video has been enabled.
23:11:58 Please unmute yourself.
23:12:06 Hi, can you hear me?
23:12:08 Yeah.
23:12:09 Okay. Great.
23:12:13 I'm a white parent with kids in districts, 20 and 22 public schools.

23:12:24 And I want to ask the panel to vote no, on the G and T contracts,
23:12:26 this test screens primarily for privileged not ability.
23:12:29 And when it comes to research evidence,
23:12:30 there's really no serious question about whether that's true.
23:12:32 The question is really whether the panel supports another year of
23:12:35 privilege as a way of dividing kids into classes.
23:12:37 That's what we're voting on tonight.
23:12:39 The most common reason that I've heard tonight for keeping the
23:12:41 contract is that the DOE needs more time that the logistics of
23:12:44 canceling and now are too complicated.
23:12:45 And if you know, history, you recognize that too.
23:13:00 It was what was used,
23:13:01 argue against the abolitionists against women's votes against the
23:13:04 civil rights movement, gay marriage, et cetera.
23:13:06 It's what power always says. When people call for equity,
23:13:08 it's a stall. It's saying that we want equity,
23:13:10 but not until all the details are ironed out,
23:13:13 but that's just not how change happens.
23:13:20 Change is risky. It might be messy,
23:13:22 but it gets us to a more justice system.
23:13:23 So let's recognize that argument for what it is and say, no,
23:13:26 the vast majority of New York city students have been disadvantaged by
23:13:28 racist screening tests a year after year.
23:13:30 And now we're going to maintain that test in order to avoid
23:13:32 inconveniencing a handful of mostly privileged families.
23:13:35 Let's be clear that G and T is not a program to benefit low-income
23:13:38 kids. It's a program that to benefit advantage kids from which a few
23:13:41 low-income kids benefit at a great cost to an enormous number of
23:13:44 low-income kids. And that is not a good equation.
23:13:47 Maintaining this contract and this year sends a loud message that this
23:13:49 administration intends to uphold racial stratification and its final

23:13:53 breaths. And I hope the P P members have the courage tonight.

23:13:55 To vote against it.

23:13:57 Thank you.

23:13:58 Thank you.

23:13:59 The next speaker is Andrew Rosenbalm. Who's a rename.

23:14:03 I just want to briefly offer support in favor of.

23:14:07 Renewing or extending the contract with Pearson.

23:14:13 For the reasons that were shared earlier by a number of other people.

23:14:17 I think that.

23:14:19 I'm fortunate that I have a child that is in the gifted and talented

23:14:22 program has been for.

23:14:23 Last a number of years.

23:14:27 And I think that it's,

23:14:29 it definitely serves a purpose for students.

23:14:32 In terms of challenging them and accelerating there.

23:14:35 They're learning.

23:14:38 In terms of being surrounded in an environment that's supportive with

23:14:42 teachers.

23:14:43 That have special talents too.

23:14:45 To teach the children.

23:14:47 That have those abilities.

23:14:51 And to be supported with other students that are also sharing those

23:14:54 same goals.

23:14:56 And.

23:14:57 You know, thriving in that type of an environment.

23:15:03 So I think it does serve a purpose,

23:15:05 the same way that they're over programs that are offered to support

23:15:09 children.

23:15:10 That you know, have challenges and that, you know,

23:15:13 need extra reinforcement.

23:15:15 Or have different impediments.

23:15:18 You know,

23:15:19 that make it more difficult for them to learn and need supportive

23:15:21 environments.

23:15:22 In, in, you know, on the opposite end of the spectrum.

23:15:27 And I don't think that we would be saying, well, you know,

23:15:29 we're spending too much money.

23:15:31 Yeah.

23:15:33 Afforded to the children that are on that end of the spectrum.

23:15:37 So I don't think it's fair to.

23:15:38 You know, to just to look at it in terms of that, it.

23:15:40 Zero sum game.

23:15:43 And then any money that's being spent in a gifted and talented

23:15:46 program.

23:15:50 Is money that's being taken away or that it's not being spread out

23:15:53 over a, you know,

23:15:54 A majority of other students.

23:15:59 So I just think that that's sort of a fallacy of an argument.

23:16:02 I, I do agree that.

23:16:05 That we were very fortunate that, you know, she qualified.

23:16:16 For the program. And there were a lot of other students that,

23:16:18 that took the test that also were equally qualified.

23:16:21 And unfortunately we're not able to get placement just because of the

23:16:24 sheer numb.

23:16:25 Next speaker is Meghan. The beer.

23:16:27 Megan, your audio and video has been enabled.

23:16:29 Please unmute yourself.

23:16:30 Hi, everyone. You can hear me.

23:16:32 Yes. Great. Thank you. My name's Megan Devore.

23:16:34 I'm a public school parent of three.

23:16:36 Thank you, everyone for your tireless work in intention tonight.

23:16:43 I think that we already know so much that makes it unimaginable to

23:16:46 renew this contract.

23:16:47 White and Asian kids are doubly represented.

23:16:49 Doubly served by.

23:16:50 The program.

23:16:51 Taking up 70% of the seats.

23:16:56 Despite being only 30% of the population, laddering lotteries.

23:17:02 I'll make a new verb, laddering off.

23:17:04 Some leftover seats will not remedy this.

23:17:07 It, it really got my attention to hear someone from the DOE use the

23:17:10 phrase, spare, no expense.

23:17:11 I have never heard that phrase in the context of public schools

23:17:13 before.
23:17:15 And while it's the right idea.
23:17:21 It cannot be applied only to a program serving such a tiny fraction.
23:17:24 Why don't we hear this phrase?
23:17:25 When we talk about all New York city students.
23:17:27 We have to move away from the scarcity model.
23:17:29 The scarcity mindset.
23:17:36 Supporters of GNT who sound very sincere,
23:17:39 have spoken about the program as being a potential Ray of sunshine.
23:17:42 The only way to get your kids a good education.
23:17:44 And this sounds to me like an implicit admission of guilt.
23:18:00 That we are under serving the vast majority of students.
23:18:02 And while I appreciate the honesty,
23:18:04 it is not at all aligned with the DOE stated values of equity and
23:18:07 excellence for all,
23:18:08 because I do not understand why the DOE is pushing to administer this
23:18:11 test. And I really urge panel members. You know,
23:18:13 we don't get to vote for our school board representatives.
23:18:17 In New York city. This is not a coincidence.
23:18:19 The overwhelming majority of school districts under state or city
23:18:21 control serve primarily black and Brown families.
23:18:24 So you panel members have been appointed many by a mayor who has total
23:18:28 control over our city schools. You're in a unique position.
23:18:32 Of power.
23:18:33 And we ask that you please use this power to act in the interest of
23:18:36 the 1 million New York city school students,
23:18:37 not in interest of the political agenda of this outgoing mayor.
23:18:41 Please have the courage to do the right thing. We are counting on you.
23:18:43 Thank you.
23:18:44 Thank you.
23:18:46 The next speaker.
23:18:47 Is maximum Edelman and just one,
23:18:49 your audio and video is been enabled.
23:18:55 And one last reminder to folks.

23:18:57 If you sign up for general public comment,
23:18:58 but do you want to speak to this contract,
23:19:00 please let us know in the Q and a so that we will have
you speak now
23:19:03 during the contracts.
23:19:04 I can speak now.
23:19:05 Okay. Great. Thanks.
23:19:06 Okay.
23:19:08 So none of the speakers against GNC said anything about
quality of
23:19:11 education,
23:19:12 about accommodating accelerated learners are both what
methods they
23:19:14 would use to identify a nurse. I should learn.
23:19:16 So, this is not, this is real learning public
education.
23:19:18 Include the needs of such students and deserves that
their parents.
23:19:20 Such disregard will push the families out of the public
school system
23:19:23 and or out of the city.
23:19:24 Those in a position you must certainly.
23:19:26 I'm not talking on behalf of the minority of poor
immigrant parents.
23:19:28 Provide to get into this program.
23:19:35 BP members please vote. Yes.
23:19:36 On the contract and less focused on the truly equitable
reform of
23:19:38 accelerated education going forward.
23:19:40 That mirrorless crapping the existing system.
23:19:44 Monetary arguments against the test of disingenuous.
23:19:46 If our ability to provide devices,
23:19:47 still students gangs didn't find an extra \$5 million.
23:19:49 During the real trouble,
23:19:50 and nobody has demonstrated this to really be the case.
23:19:52 It's all conjecture.
23:19:53 I know grand stand.
23:19:58 To those who assign blame to the gene T for the
inequities in the
23:20:01 system, you're focusing on a small program,
23:20:03 which doesn't cost anything extra to wrong.
23:20:04 Has a little statistical impact on any measure of
city's school system
23:20:08 as a whole.
23:20:09 Inequities with Engenia.
23:20:10 Another cause,

23:20:11 but a symptom of inequities that exist in society at large.
23:20:13 It's just a mirror. The nutshell.
23:20:14 The looking glass, if you're Missouri.
23:20:17 The same exact inequities exist in all measures of achievement city,
23:20:19 but it shut down every accelerated program tomorrow.
23:20:24 And that you've been given. So persistent residential segregation,
23:20:27 it will still persist all.
23:20:28 You're doing this guest on opportunities for some people while giving
23:20:30 nothing to the rest.
23:20:31 The real reason parents up 10 Virginia is not because they want their
23:20:33 kids get separated.
23:20:34 Think it's a good name for a program. I love Destin. Four-year-olds.
23:20:36 But because they want their kids to thrive academically.
23:20:42 Not the board,
23:20:43 the be subjected to classroom disorder in the city where many schools
23:20:45 fail to educate majority of their students.
23:20:47 So the minimum level of proficiency.
23:20:48 Also positioned to June two did not arise with the pandemic now.
23:20:51 Does that exist in a vacuum as part of the package,
23:20:53 that includes a position to also activity all objective measures of
23:20:55 competence.
23:20:57 And that will inevitably lead to water down curriculum fray around
23:20:59 lack of accountability.
23:21:02 Or to use our chancellors glory moment.
23:21:03 Teslin the middle school algebra for everyone in the Sudan as was done
23:21:06 in San Francisco.
23:21:07 Thank you.
23:21:08 Is this the word no child is born in class were held for wants and can
23:21:11 handle accelerate the circle them.
23:21:12 Yeah.
23:21:13 Speaker is Plaza.
23:21:19 Your audio and video, is that the name of it was Kristin McGee,
23:21:22 but I don't see you here.

23:21:24 So we'll go to Kaiser. Your audio and video has been enabled.

23:21:26 Good evening. My name is Kaiser and I'm a teacher at Ms.

23:21:39 50 in district 14,

23:21:40 I'm not going to spend my time arguing that the G and T tests are

23:21:42 racist and classist or that spending \$5 million on this is immoral,

23:21:46 immoral, especially in the midst of the pandemic and budget shortfall.

23:21:48 Or that the specialized programs in our city only serve to maintain

23:21:51 segregation and white supremacy because you all already know all of

23:21:54 that.

23:21:55 You knew it before tonight and you heard it again tonight.

23:21:58 From parents, educators, elected officials.

23:22:00 And most importantly from the students themselves.

23:22:02 Instead with my remaining time,

23:22:03 I want to talk about the argument for this contract.

23:22:06 Tonight,

23:22:07 the only cohesive arguments we've heard from those who hope you will

23:22:10 vote. Yes. Or that the mayor made a promise.

23:22:12 And that the schools without GNT programs are not good enough or

23:22:15 challenging enough for their kids.

23:22:19 We're all here very late because we cared deeply about our schools and

23:22:23 want to better them for all students.

23:22:25 Which won't happen if those,

23:22:27 with the most power are segregated in elite programs with ample

23:22:29 funding.

23:22:38 And it's true.

23:22:39 The people who these programs serve were promised this our society

23:22:43 continues to make promises that can't be kept except at the expense of

23:22:46 the already marginalized.

23:22:47 And so that's the choice. Each of you has to make,

23:22:50 keep a promise that was made by those in power to those with

23:22:52 privilege.

23:22:53 Or keep the promises of equity and access that you made to all the
23:22:57 students and families in this city.
23:22:59 When you accepted a seat on this panel.
23:23:03 If you vote. Yes.
23:23:04 Please know that you cannot hide behind the mayor's promise because
23:23:07 you have your own promises to uphold.
23:23:19 No, we know that gifted students exist,
23:23:22 but they exist everywhere. Not just in certain communities,
23:23:25 not just an exceptional families.
23:23:26 And we need programs like this in every school,
23:23:29 not accelerated programs.
23:23:30 We need every school to have their own groups of students.
23:23:34 Doing student-centered learning at their own pace.
23:23:37 Thank you.
23:23:39 Thank you.
23:23:40 The next figure is Amal lodging.
23:23:41 No.
23:23:42 Hi there. Can you hear me?
23:23:44 Yes.
23:23:45 My name is Pfizer.
23:23:52 Emily's my child. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to talk.
23:23:55 I urge the pep to vote, to renew the G and D contract.
23:23:58 I have to say I'm shocked by some of the comments and the arguments
23:24:01 made by participants in the first.
23:24:08 So much earlier half of this session,
23:24:10 especially people like Todd Sutton who called GNT a violet white,
23:24:13 white supremacist movement. That was ridiculous and offensive.
23:24:18 To parents of color like me. Who's,
23:24:19 who's an immigrant to this country and who's one child goes to a GT
23:24:22 school and who's one child goes to a regular Janet school.
23:24:25 And I can see the difference in the programs of each.
23:24:30 I advocate for the expansion of G and T programs and advocate for
23:24:34 universal opt out.
23:24:35 All children should have the right to take the G and T test.
23:24:37 Because all children are equally talented.

23:25:01 And I think it's racist to argue that communities of color and black
23:25:04 and Latinx students who would have worse outcomes for the GNT.
23:25:07 We don't,
23:25:08 we can't say that no child is talented just because of the color of
23:25:10 their skin.
23:25:11 I find it offensive that people say that parents and advocates against
23:25:15 the GNT, your rage is misdirected.
23:25:16 You need to direct your anger at the mayor and the chancellor who have
23:25:19 not managed to raise educational standards in NYC.
23:25:22 There are hundreds of G and T programs whose incoming kindergarten
23:25:24 classes.
23:25:25 Are going to be selected through what there's no program in place.
23:25:28 There's no plan in place.
23:25:29 Why haven't G and T parents in school has been asked to participate in
23:25:32 conversations about alternatives and our G and T programs.
23:25:34 The reasons why schools don't have enough remote devices,
23:25:36 why schools don't have adequate heating,
23:25:38 why school outcomes are so low.
23:25:39 Y Y outcomes for communities of color,
23:25:41 predominantly black and Latinx students are so poor. They're not,
23:25:44 these programs were not performing well in the beginning.
23:25:46 And these programs will continue to not perform well.
23:25:48 Even if the GNT is taken away.
23:25:50 Let's not make the GNT escape goat for a system that has not been
23:25:52 working well for communities of color for decades now.
23:25:55 Let's make the program universally accessible so that all students can
23:25:58 Excel because all students are talented. Thank you.
23:26:00 Thank you.
23:26:01 Thank you.
23:26:02 The next speaker is way she.
23:26:04 Your audio and view.
23:26:06 Video has been yes.
23:26:07 Hi. Good evening. Thank you for the opportunity.

23:26:08 You heard a lot of Chianti parenting long speaking today.

23:26:10 It's almost midnight. So it's very important for the parents,

23:26:13 for the community. Otherwise.

23:26:17 It's not going to it. We would not hear from so many of us.

23:26:20 I'm also D and G and T parents. I have three boys, two of them.

23:26:23 Are you the GNT?

23:26:26 At lower left is a wonderful program.

23:26:28 And I heard some of the comments on the GMT program is students.

23:26:31 I feel really heartbroken.

23:26:33 I want to speak up. First of all,

23:26:34 to address the privilege this community,

23:26:36 the GNT parent community is not privileged.

23:26:38 As you can hear from others. They're very sincere.

23:26:40 A lot of them are immigrants. Most of them are immigrants.

23:26:42 I have not heard or found in my five years and changed the program.

23:26:46 Anyone spending thousands of dollars preparing for the test.

23:26:48 Most of them spend less than \$30.

23:26:54 And it's the kid is the kid that did the test.

23:26:56 They have to sit through 45 minute test.

23:26:58 To answer 70 plus questions to get tested.

23:27:00 And enough scores to go.

23:27:01 Going to the program, they just need.

23:27:03 They have the focus and they need.

23:27:04 More help.

23:27:06 And the more celebrated system.

23:27:09 Education, and it is just a special meat.

23:27:20 So it's not a privileged program. Secondly,

23:27:22 it's not the cause of segregation.

23:27:23 New York city is segregated because of the real estate market because

23:27:26 of the neighborhood. School is not one to blame.

23:27:28 And also we can't change our skin skin color.

23:27:30 Nor did the students in the gen T or parents of the change program.

23:27:35 We're not racist. We can change our skin color.

23:27:38 We just focus and really care about our kids education.

23:27:40 So we support them and then help them get into the program.

23:27:42 They think they need.

23:27:45 Third about the risk. Yes, I know coder's going on and it is.

23:27:50 Dangerous to go outside, but we want in-person learning.

23:27:53 And this is just like one extra day.

23:27:55 Extra an hour.

23:27:56 In-person education. So I don't think the risk is outrageous.

23:27:59 Relatively.

23:28:00 So.

23:28:03 I think we just really need to expand the program instead of taking

23:28:05 away.

23:28:06 The opportunity for it.

23:28:07 For our children.

23:28:09 Please.

23:28:10 Yes.

23:28:11 Thank you.

23:28:12 The next speaker is.

23:28:14 Anthony.

23:28:18 Feliciano.

23:28:22 Anthony your audio and video has been enable things.

23:28:25 For yourself.

23:28:27 Good evening, everyone. I know it's late at night.

23:28:31 I won't repeat what most people have said.

23:28:38 I want to let my voice and support.

23:28:39 I'm also just state committee person for the 74th assembly district.

23:28:42 But more importantly, I'm a parent.

23:28:43 On the lower East side.

23:28:44 Have a 10-year old boy and.

23:28:46 I want to support.

23:28:48 A no vote to the person's contract.

23:28:51 So they get into the exam.

23:28:54 Put out there.

23:28:58 To think that simply enough to make sure that it's dark.

23:29:00 Under representative students.

23:29:02 Make up the same portion of gifted programs.

23:29:05 They do in general population. And just during this span,

23:29:11 Shows us that there is a gap in communication gap in understanding

23:29:13 sometimes care.

23:29:15 About what it really means to have an anti-racist system.

23:29:18 And education system, and we need to look at them very clearly.
23:29:21 Testing during this time.
23:29:22 Exacerbate inequities.
23:29:23 For emission products.
23:29:25 What you already heard widely known to have desperate in camp.
23:29:28 How can by race.
23:29:30 And we can further increase racial achievement gaps.
23:29:32 I want to.
23:29:38 Go through that.
23:29:39 Just we have to deal with the root cause of imbalance in the academic.
23:29:41 Achievement of folks.
23:29:42 And our community particular committees.
23:29:47 He's of color,
23:29:48 but I still think it's educational malpractice to make a decision
23:29:50 about with gifting.
23:29:51 It's not based on one test score.
23:29:53 Or one item.
23:29:56 We have several pathways. I would ask that you think about that.
23:30:00 There are plenty of assets and talents and expertise.
23:30:02 That can provide alternatives.
23:30:03 And has done it for quite awhile. So to say that there has not been.
23:30:06 Particularly black.
23:30:07 Indigenous people of color.
23:30:08 Not given ideas in the past.
23:30:09 It's an insult.
23:30:14 And we I'm asking you not just to, not to do the right thing,
23:30:17 but to do the anti-racist.
23:30:18 Thank you.
23:30:19 Thank you.
23:30:22 The next speaker is.
23:30:24 Crystal Migliore.
23:30:27 Priscilla.
23:30:28 All of your audio and videos.
23:30:29 Hi.
23:30:31 Okay, hold on. Hi.
23:30:32 Hi, can you see me?
23:30:35 Yes, I mean, is Kristen.
23:30:52 Only receipt. I thank you for this opportunity. My knee,

23:30:55 I am the child of South American immigrants. I grew up
in sunset park,
23:30:58 Brooklyn, and I'm very aware of the challenges,
23:31:00 immigrant families and people of color face,
23:31:02 and the product of public education all the way through
my masters
23:31:05 from Hunter college.
23:31:10 And that value public education. Very, very much.
23:31:12 I have two very different children.
23:31:14 My daughter is in a G and T class, and she's always
been advanced.
23:31:18 And while I've been proud of her academic achievements,
23:31:19 she also suffers from anxiety, perfectionism,
hypersensitivity,
23:31:22 and asynchronous development.
23:31:24 Which are all typical of gifted and talented children,
anxiety.
23:31:27 Anxiety is her only diagnosis.
23:31:28 She has an experience.
23:31:30 She had an experience in private pre-K three program
where the teacher
23:31:32 who was not put to deal with her knees and this results
in lasting
23:31:35 damage that only now five years later, she's beginning
to overcome.
23:31:37 Without her G and T teachers have special training to
deal with these
23:31:39 types of two E behaviors.
23:31:40 I do not know how we would've been able to make it
through elementary
23:31:43 school thus far.
23:32:01 Gifted and talented is a very different type of special
need.
23:32:03 And I want to emphasize that because I feel like this
is absolutely
23:32:05 overlooked and not acknowledging it,
23:32:07 that not acknowledging that would be a disservice to
the subset of
23:32:10 students. Well,
23:32:11 I support changes to G and T and recognize the concerns
of everyone
23:32:14 opposed to it is valid.
23:32:15 I am non-confident that removing the G and T program
will help solve
23:32:18 the systemic issues that have long been rampant within
the education
23:32:21 system.

23:32:22 It does not enough to cancel GNT with only a plan to create a plan.
23:32:25 There needs to be a definitive plan in place to ensure that the
23:32:28 education system is fair before removing the current G and T program.
23:32:31 I'm afraid the program will dissolve and nothing will change.
23:32:34 I urge you to continue the contract for at least this year,
23:32:36 as promised while you begin to create a more equitable system.
23:32:38 And more equitable and systemic changes and also to include parents in
23:32:42 the discussion. Also,
23:32:43 our zone school is very homogenized and my daughter's class is the
23:32:45 most diverse because children from different neighborhoods are in the
23:32:48 class. Thank you.
23:32:49 Thank you. Thank you.
23:32:50 Mmm. Mmm.
23:32:51 Just double check stuff.
23:32:52 Not my colleagues,
23:32:53 but we do not have any followers.
23:32:56 Here your audience.
23:32:58 It's.
23:32:59 Yeah. Okay.
23:33:00 I think my computer must be tired.
23:33:01 I don't see anyone. There is no one.
23:33:06 Sign up in the language rooms and I do not see any callers.
23:33:09 The one follower.
23:33:11 I had is not here anymore.
23:33:12 So I'm just double checking.
23:33:19 Yes. Yes, my colleagues. Okay.
23:33:21 We have reached the end of the folks who sign up for contracts.
23:33:23 Right.
23:33:25 Right.
23:33:26 Thank you, Rebecca.

Vanessa Leung (Chair): Thank you, everybody for your comments.

23:33:35 I wanted to actually first start with a question to just clarify what

23:33:41 this contract is.

23:33:42 That the Pearson contract specifically what this is and how that's

23:33:46 related to.
23:33:47 Gifted and talented programming in the city.
23:33:49 Chancellor or.
23:33:52 No Charlotte, if you.
23:34:03 Sure. So one thing that I want to just clarify,
23:34:06 because I think if it's come up during certain of the
public comments,
23:34:10 and then I believe that.
23:34:11 I don't know if the chancellor wants to jump in or a
deputy chancellor
23:34:13 Josh wall, because also on, and I believe.
23:34:15 Deputy trans or Linda Chen.
23:34:18 But the, the value, this was noted,
23:34:20 but the value of the contract is the \$1.6 million that
set forth.
23:34:33 In the request for authorization,
23:34:35 it is tied to the larger program, a cost,
23:34:38 which is the approximate \$5 million that has been
stated.
23:34:41 But I just wanted to clarify that because I believe at
that did come
23:34:43 up a few times.
23:34:44 Did others really just jump in to clarify.
23:34:46 This is just for the testing for this year.
23:34:49 Gifted and talented programs are intact.
23:34:53 That is correct. It's for the initial testing this
year.
23:34:55 Okay.
23:34:56 Thank you.
23:34:58 I'm going to ask. I know.
23:35:01 My fellow panel members. I Mmm.
23:35:05 Just actually what it takes kickoff with my comments
this evening.
23:35:08 So, if you can in and dealt.
23:35:13 All right.
23:35:15 It's a, it's a, it's been a long night.
23:35:18 Anticipating a fourth.
23:35:21 Straight sleepless night for me.
23:35:22 Any past.
23:35:25 Nights, I've really poor through emails and articles.
23:35:29 Bouncing what this test this year means.
23:35:33 With what the possibilities are for tomorrow.
23:35:37 But really reflecting on the values and principles that
guide me.
23:35:40 So I need to.
23:35:45 Share that I need to vote no. On the Pearson contract.

23:35:51 Approaching this, I started with what message we are sending.

23:35:53 If we were to go forward with this test.

23:35:57 That under this global pandemic, we would say.

23:36:00 That despite knowing the flaws.

23:36:03 That this is not best practice to testify.

23:36:05 The road.

23:36:09 We should not be putting our youngest learners through such high

23:36:11 stakes testing.

23:36:12 We are saying that this is essential.

23:36:15 And that this is.

23:36:23 Your only opportunity to ensure your child's path to success,

23:36:26 that we would uphold this sense of competition for a scarce commodity.

23:36:30 Instead of the public good.

23:36:35 I believe our youngest learners need in person learning.

23:36:37 They need that.

23:36:38 And it's wise that the city has invested to ensure that that can

23:36:41 happen safely.

23:36:42 That is essential for our youngest learners.

23:36:44 Like given that we're still in a pandemic.

23:36:46 And a new.

23:36:49 More transmissible variance emerging that pushes the percentage of

23:36:52 herd immunity, even higher.

23:36:54 That these next couple of months,

23:36:55 we need to continue to be super vigilant masking.

23:36:58 I even double masking.

23:37:01 Keeping true to our bubbles and limiting our activities to what is

23:37:04 essential.

23:37:05 Testing four-year-olds was never the right way.

23:37:07 And.

23:37:10 Brian most, if not all experts would agree.

23:37:16 And during a time of such risk and uncertainty,

23:37:18 I cannot consciously support that this is a good use of the city's

23:37:21 money and time.

23:37:29 I'm concerned about the message that's being interpreted around

23:37:31 the final year of the test and,

23:37:33 and the arguments that are being used to uphold this test.

23:37:35 These arguments are steeped in white supremacy and anti-blackness.

23:37:38 Despite every expert saying that our single test process is flawed.

23:37:40 I, I was shocked.

23:37:42 Okay. Maybe I was not really shocked.

23:37:43 To get a message from a parent to argue for the tests that red.

23:37:59 Many Asian parents are academically focused,

23:38:01 including those from lower SES backgrounds. However,

23:38:04 they want their kids to attend prestigious colleges and we'll spend

23:38:07 money on test prep and tutors for the G and T and other entrance

23:38:10 exams.

23:38:12 This would not apply to black and Hispanic families who have different

23:38:14 values.

23:38:15 This is a clear example to me,

23:38:17 of the racist rhetoric we need to fight against and the fact that we

23:38:20 need to work to ensure integrated and equitable learning spaces.

23:38:23 That's the model minority is steeped in anti-blackness.

23:38:25 It's been used as a weapon to justify the oppression of black,

23:38:28 Latin X and indigenous communities.

23:38:32 But also to erase the struggles within the diverse Asian American

23:38:36 community, particularly our low and working poor.

23:38:43 Many who are not even thinking about GNT or had been scared to believe

23:38:48 that this is the only one path to success.

23:38:50 And that opportunity has to be hoarded.

23:38:52 I know for the parents who are concerned about the losing of this test

23:38:54 this year.

23:38:56 Wait,

23:38:57 we should not have a system that you should have to worry or fear that

23:39:00 your child's path to success relies on the single test.

23:39:02 At such a young age and for this one year,

23:39:06 That I hope that you could see that there will still be so many

23:39:08 opportunities for your child this upcoming year and years to follow.

23:39:11 And to all those parents that wrote our,

23:39:13 spoke about the fears and advocated for this test.
23:39:23 I actually have every confidence that you will advocate
for your child
23:39:28 and partner with your kindergarten first grade to third
grade
23:39:30 teachers, to ensure that your child will be inspired.
23:39:33 And challenged to learn every day.
23:39:35 But given this global pandemic, the events we saw in
DC,
23:39:37 the trauma that so many of our communities are facing.
23:39:39 I need to center.
23:39:45 My decision on those most marginalized.
23:39:46 And that includes the so many Asian American students
who are living
23:39:49 in survival mode.
23:39:50 Is struggling with poverty language barriers.
23:39:52 And Eurasia the many that have not had access to GNT.
23:39:55 I'm reminded of.
23:39:56 The amount of time.
23:40:00 And energy that's been spent on thinking about this GNT
program
23:40:03 decision.
23:40:04 But yet some of our most marginalized students.
23:40:08 Our English language learners and our students with
disabilities are
23:40:10 struggling with tremendous barriers.
23:40:12 And if scene.
23:40:18 Much of the progress they had made before the pandemic
slipping away
23:40:20 and our mandatory ELA assessments needed to help
identify the supports
23:40:23 they need have been weighed.
23:40:24 I cannot support at this time,
23:40:26 the continued emphasis on high stakes testing.
23:40:28 A scarcity mindset and think this is good for our kids.
23:40:31 So I will be voting no on this piercing contract.
23:40:36 But I, I'm still committed to the re imagining that can
go forward.
23:40:39 And committed to seeing that done. And since there's so
much interest.
23:40:47 I welcome that feedback.
23:40:48 I believe in creating challenging and inspiring
learning
23:40:50 opportunities.
23:41:02 For our young people,
23:41:03 we can do so much better than what we have right now.

23:41:05 And ensure we move away from seeing public schools as a limited
23:41:08 commodity that we must compete for.
23:41:09 We can do better to support those that need to be challenged in
23:41:12 certain areas and whose gifts need to be nurtured.
23:41:15 We can provide that for more kids.
23:41:16 Looking at models like school-wide enrichment.
23:41:18 I invite bold thinkers who care about the city and every child.
23:41:26 Who will not give up on our public schools and want to invest in
23:41:29 transforming our schools into integrated inclusive and equitable
23:41:33 spaces that challenge all our learners and her chair, their curiosity.
23:41:36 I'm not giving up on our public schools and want to see it work for
23:41:39 everyone.
23:41:40 And a system that is truly for the public. Good.
23:41:42 Thank you for letting me speak, Pam member shepherd.
Thomas Sheppard: Okay.
23:41:52 So Charlie on, I just want to,
23:41:55 I had a whole thing written out that I was just going to.
23:41:59 Really kind of go through the points of this,
23:42:00 but I think parents and the community tonight kind of two to one.
23:42:10 Spoke to why renewing this contract is not a good idea.
23:42:14 So I'm not going to go there.
23:42:15 What I am going to say to you is thank you.
23:42:19 Thank you so much for standing in the face of what's wrong and doing
23:42:24 what's right.
23:42:26 All of us.
23:42:29 Well more so you guys cause I'm elected, right.
23:42:32 But more so you guys have been just under enormous pressure.
23:42:37 To approve this contract.
23:42:39 And I just want to say, thank you.
23:42:46 I stand with you. I support your decision to,
23:42:49 I support your decision to vote. No on this contract.
23:42:52 And, you know, that's two knows upfront. So.
23:42:55 What I will challenge.
23:42:58 The rest of this panel to do is exactly the same thing too.

23:43:02 Vote no on this contract because you know, what's wrong.

23:43:04 Right.

23:43:10 A member, a member of the community spoke earlier and said,

23:43:13 you know, if a house is on fire,

23:43:16 Right. Like, we don't call the architect for renovations, right?

23:43:20 Like we put out the fire.

23:43:22 So, what I will ask, all of you to do is vote your conscience, right?

23:43:31 Vote the way that, you know, the,

23:43:34 in the way that represents your personal values and your beliefs.

23:43:38 And again, cheerly on. Thank you for.

23:43:40 Thank you for, for your position. Thank you.

23:43:42 Remember shepherd.

23:43:43 Pan member Angelo.

Larian Angelo: Thank you.

23:43:48 I'm first of all, I want to think.

23:43:52 The members of the panel and the members of the community.

23:43:56 Put an enormous amount of time and thought.

23:43:58 Expect a lot of time here.

23:44:00 Talking with us.

23:44:01 On both sides.

23:44:03 And.

23:44:06 No, I'm going to say that.

23:44:10 Finding a way to enrich education for all students.

23:44:14 Is a difficult task.

23:44:25 And it's difficult for both.

23:44:26 I think a policy and an operational perspective and also a funding

23:44:30 perspective, but certainly from a policy and operational perspective.

23:44:33 The chancellor, the first deputy mayor and the mayor, I assume.

23:44:37 Home or all committed to making this last gifted and talented test for

23:44:40 four year olds.

23:44:43 And the chancellor's also talked about being committed to modify the

23:44:47 program.

23:44:48 Two two as soon as possible.

23:44:50 In check with diversity.

23:44:55 I heard many parents tonight.

23:44:58 Talk about their senior decision.

23:45:02 To have their kids take this test.
23:45:07 And,
23:45:08 and how they're counting on it and they're counting on it because.
23:45:11 The assumption was there was a test.
23:45:13 And it's important to them.
23:45:16 And so I think it's, it's very hard.
23:45:18 To, to judge.
23:45:24 How do you balance both sides? I also, by the way, did not here.
23:45:28 Or see anyone who was arguing for this test.
23:45:31 Struck me as particularly.
23:45:34 Privileged. I heard a lot of immigrants and, and, and.
23:45:38 You know, folks that were just obviously not very privileged.
23:45:43 My inclination is to vote in favor of the contract.
23:45:46 I will do that.
23:45:47 Because I think.
23:45:48 Can't.
23:45:55 Have people assume something's going to happen and then pull it back
23:45:58 at the last minute. So that's.
23:46:00 I'm thinking.
23:46:07 Vanessa. Yes.
23:46:09 Alabama coming Yanni. Okay.
Isaac Carmignani: Yeah. So, so like,
23:46:14 Panel member Angelo. And everyone who's spoken here.
23:46:21 There's there's a lot. That's that's wrong.
23:46:23 No question about that.
23:46:28 There's no question. That's when I first learned that we were testing.
23:46:32 Four and five-year-olds was many years ago.
23:46:34 When I was working on.
23:46:45 Trying to get a middle-school pathway for parents who have been
23:46:47 promised in a city-wide G and T program industry 30,
23:46:50 that they were going to have GNT going through.
23:46:52 And this goes back to the Bloomberg years.
23:46:54 And I was stunned. I was shocked. We do assess.
23:47:00 Young children. It's done all the time,
23:47:02 but this is a formal test and it's really hard to imagine.
23:47:06 Doing that.
23:47:07 Two one so young. So that's one thing that's clearly wrong with us.
23:47:10 And.

23:47:26 Additionally there's a lot. And I think everyone, and this is a point,
23:47:30 seems to be a point of agreement across the board.
23:47:32 For most people who've spoken to this, that the.
23:47:36 There's something wrong with the whole system,
23:47:38 not just the assessments.
23:47:39 But also the lack of access.
23:47:41 We're talking about a very small percentage of our students.
23:47:44 Very small.
23:47:45 And.
23:47:47 Someone brought up an interesting point.
23:47:49 If there is this question of equity, everyone is raising it.
23:47:52 Then maybe these.
23:47:57 Maybe these aren't such a bad programs.
23:47:59 Maybe we might need a reassessment or re-imagining and maybe even an
23:48:03 expansion.
23:48:04 But that's not going to happen tonight.
23:48:07 And we do have the parents that are counting on this as,
23:48:11 as panel member, Angela mentioned.
23:48:13 And that's also goes through my mind. And so for me,
23:48:15 I'm personally comfortable with.
23:48:20 Maybe not totally comfortable, but willing to vote. Yes.
23:48:24 On this one.
23:48:27 Contract. In other words, if it comes up again, it's a no for me.
23:48:29 And that would be on record.
23:48:30 Because.
23:48:34 If we haven't re-imagined this, then we're just saying.
23:48:38 We're, we're not putting our money where our mouth is.
23:48:43 And that's one reason why I was so interested in seeing some
23:48:46 accountability dates.
23:48:50 A plan,
23:48:51 a written plan engagement with the panel engagement with the G and T
23:48:55 folks.
23:48:56 Because I think part of what blew this up.
23:48:57 Was, it was partial engagement.
23:48:59 And, you know, going back.
23:49:00 You know, a couple of years back.
23:49:09 I don't like the, the,

23:49:10 the innuendos that gets thrown around that someone is racist.

23:49:13 If they have a point of view one way or the other.

23:49:15 I see a lot of these parents and many of them in Queens.

23:49:17 I don't see them as privileged.

23:49:19 There's many of them who are not trying to prep their children.

23:49:22 They are.

23:49:25 They have been led to believe that this is.

23:49:27 The best and maybe the only pathway.

23:49:29 To success with their children.

23:49:31 And that's probably a bit.

23:49:35 Black and white thinking.

23:49:41 And we have, I've had long discussions with,

23:49:43 with Michael Craft Manhattan, Manhattan rep.

23:49:46 About all these high school programs that are really, really good.

23:49:48 That.

23:49:49 We only end up talking about.

23:49:51 The specialized high schools.

23:49:57 And so we need to broaden this conversation and change the way we talk

23:50:01 about it, but that having been said,

23:50:02 I'm not sure I want to.

23:50:04 And this, for those who were already planning on it.

23:50:08 I do believe it could be done safely. We have schools open safely.

23:50:12 So whatever's being done. There should be done here.

23:50:19 I was a little disappointed that we don't have an online option.

23:50:21 That seems so backward for this day and age.

23:50:24 But.

23:50:25 That's another problem.

23:50:28 So the other thing I would say lastly to this is.

23:50:32 Clearly this contract.

23:50:36 Has risen to the level where a lot of people are aware of it.

23:50:39 And.

23:50:45 This may or may not be a good thing,

23:50:47 but the DOE certainly does not limit who can.

23:50:53 Who can, who can use that system.

23:50:54 So that could be something for parents to think about.

23:50:56 As far as equity side.

23:50:57 In any event that's, that's where I'm at at this point.

23:51:01 And,

23:51:02 but I respect deeply respect any opposing viewpoints in
whichever way

23:51:06 it goes tonight.

23:51:07 Is how it will go and we'll move on.

23:51:09 Thank you.

23:51:18 How a member of the Island.

23:51:21 Like to speak, please, if possible.

23:51:23 It's of course Panama.

23:51:26 Oscar. Thank you. So.

Lori Podvesker (Policy Chair): Wow.

23:51:30 So much to say.

23:51:35 So much has been so well said.

23:51:39 Both by members of the community and.

23:51:47 Charlie on I to echo what a panel members,

23:51:50 Shepard had said much respect.

23:51:52 And.

23:51:53 Aside from.

23:51:55 The obvious.

23:51:59 I want to say that what has shaped.

23:52:04 My vote the most tonight is my personal experience.

23:52:09 It parenting and the 18 year old with developmental
disabilities.

23:52:11 The last.

23:52:13 10 11 months. And what has been like.

23:52:17 And that.

23:52:27 And I'm going to own this, right?

23:52:28 Is that my emotional capacity and bandwidth is not what
it typically

23:52:34 is.

23:52:36 And that shapes.

23:52:38 My vote as well. Meaning.

23:52:40 I had enough. I have had enough.

23:52:46 Of business as usual,

23:52:48 because this is not typical times and I cannot
consciously vote in

23:52:53 favor.

23:52:54 For this.

23:52:55 I also will say that there's part of me that is angry,

23:52:59 that this has taken up so much of our time.

23:53:07 When we're really talking about 2000 seats,

23:53:10 and I want to be clear that I'm not minimizing anybody
else's

23:53:13 experiences or feelings.

23:53:15 And it's never cool to compare.

23:53:17 One group suppression to another.

23:53:18 I wholeheartedly feel that and believe that.

23:53:20 But I will say that.

23:53:22 There's a huge difference and further advancing.
23:53:25 2000 children.
23:53:26 From.
23:53:30 Educating 300,000 students.
23:53:33 Receive special education services.
23:53:35 And.
23:53:50 That is enough of a reason for me to vote? No, and I hope,
23:53:54 I really hope that the DOE in city hall can come up with a plan to
23:53:58 engage parents with students with disabilities. That is parallel.
23:54:06 Two parents of kids in GED programs on how we can do this better
23:54:11 together and how we can work next to each other and how we can
23:54:15 communicate effectively and how we could talk about.
23:54:18 The social and emotional impact of everything that is going on and how
23:54:22 it interferes with education.
23:54:24 Let let's talk about that stuff.
23:54:25 There's also part of me that is very resentful,
23:54:28 that there is even the idea of talking about diversifying.
23:54:37 Diversity initiative within the G T program when district 75 as a
23:54:42 whole 25,000 students were never included in one city wide initiative
23:54:46 on diversity.
23:54:47 Nor any district wide initiatives on diversity.
23:54:50 It's not okay.
23:54:51 Is not okay. And I'm no longer going to pretend.
23:54:53 Not pretend, but, you know, honestly,
23:54:55 Personally I've been at.
23:54:57 On the panel since the beginning of this administration.
23:55:00 And.
23:55:02 You know, I'm in it for the long game and I've needed to.
23:55:08 Go along with certain things in order to be at the table to be a voice
23:55:12 that represents.
23:55:13 Families of students with disabilities.
23:55:20 And I watched and I listened and I've learned so much,
23:55:23 especially about the funding aspect.
23:55:24 Cause I think in the advocacy world,
23:55:26 we don't pay enough attention to that.

23:55:27 But that being said,

23:55:28 I'm in it.

23:55:29 Whatever it takes.

23:55:30 But that's no longer the case. I can no longer.

23:55:32 Be complicit in any way.

23:55:36 And, and, and that's all I got. So thank you for letting me share.

23:55:55 And NASA.

23:56:03 I had a member Dillingham. I'm sorry.

Deborah Dillingham (Queens Representative): So I'm going to read something. Okay, please.

23:56:11 But I just want to tell you.

23:56:14 I am totally conflicted.

23:56:22 Here before I start.

23:56:24 So you might hear the tale of two cities coming out after me,

23:56:28 but I'm going to read.

23:56:29 So first off, I just want to thank the students for speaking.

23:56:36 Tonight.

23:56:37 I was really taken with their stories and.

23:56:46 They touched my heart and soul.

23:56:47 Having actually told someone at the DIA we,

23:56:50 one of the exact same stories today.

23:56:54 So I've lived what the students are living with.

23:56:58 People that I know.

23:57:03 Who didn't get into the program or work accepted into the program and

23:57:07 still didn't get into the program.

23:57:09 Did get into the program and we're happy.

23:57:16 So I I've seen all sides of this program and also like Laurie.

23:57:23 I have a student with disability, with a disability,

23:57:25 with a language processing issue.

23:57:28 And no one, no one cared to find out what his talents were.

23:57:33 And those of you who've heard me speak before.

23:57:35 No, that he is.

23:57:37 In school, studying film.

23:57:46 And has been honored several times and I have a classical guitar has

23:57:52 did a ad.

23:57:53 Another school and those talents would never be defined.

23:58:05 By the gene test G and T tests we're talking about tonight,

23:58:09 but those talents have taken them to the top places in
academia and in
23:58:15 performance.
23:58:16 And then of course I have a, another child too.
23:58:27 Test it into GMT.
23:58:28 So I'm really conflicted here because I see the pros
and cons of
23:58:32 different programs. I also spent like 20 minutes
looking.
23:58:35 For heads of corporations who had dyslexia.
23:58:38 As we were talking tonight and you know, it's pretty
amazing.
23:58:42 And most of this.
23:58:46 People were never in G and T program.
23:58:48 So tell all the parents out there G and T is not the
answer.
23:58:56 This is not sometimes.
23:58:58 I just think it's the big race to nowhere because as
families,
23:59:02 if you are behind your students,
23:59:08 As parents and you help them realize their potential,
23:59:12 whatever it is, they will succeed.
23:59:14 So you don't need this GNT program for that to happen.
23:59:19 But I realized that the marketing of this program
suggests otherwise,
23:59:24 then it is necessary for you to be in this program to
achieve.
23:59:27 In the New York city public school system,
23:59:29 my on family is evidence that that is not the case.
23:59:33 So now I'm going to read to you my.
23:59:35 Borrow perspective on this.
23:59:37 Which.
23:59:41 Differ somewhat from what I just said. So.
23:59:48 Tonight I do represent the borough of Queens and RBP
Donovan Richards.
23:59:54 In our borough,
23:59:56 there has been an overwhelming support for accelerated
learning.
00:00:03 And despite the number of programs we have looking at
our population
00:00:07 of advanced learners, along with the size of our
borough.
00:00:09 Our students are far from being served equitably.
00:00:14 Our borough president campaigned on the expansion of
GNT hearing.
00:00:18 People's call for inclusion.
00:00:20 Believing in an access and equity for all students,

00:00:23 regardless of color.
00:00:24 For socioeconomic level.
00:00:25 Our borough of learners' needs attention.
00:00:30 And the gene T is one of many programs needing support and expansion.
00:00:37 Much of, we had said this evening as well. We,
00:00:40 what has been discussed throughout the last few weeks?
00:00:42 In fact, as I stated before,
00:00:45 One of our young speakers shared his story this evening.
00:00:52 And I was really taken by it because it was a multifaceted story of
00:00:56 privilege.
00:00:59 Surrounded by segregation, exclusion, isolation, and displacement,
00:01:03 all within the same school walls.
00:01:05 And you are absolutely right.
00:01:08 I speak to you this student,
00:01:10 and it was hard and it was heartfelt coming from.
00:01:13 A student who consents what equality and inclusion actually is.
00:01:24 Is something we certainly have to address focusing on how we,
00:01:29 how we service the need of accelerated learning.
00:01:31 Identifying gifts and talents, talents in each and every student.
00:01:34 And focusing on the many passions student have.
00:01:37 Also, as I said before, the L sat.
00:01:43 Which is one of the tests we use will not necessarily find that next
00:01:47 great artist.
00:01:48 Nor musician or film director.
00:01:50 It may not identify a kid with a processing issue.
00:01:53 Who goes on to be the head of a corporation.
00:02:02 So thank you for confirming some of what I've seen and believe in as a
00:02:05 parent and a community leader.
00:02:08 G and T is just one program and those,
00:02:10 the qualifies should receive the seat.
00:02:12 And receive the same benefits regardless of where they lived.
00:02:20 At the same time,
00:02:21 I want to acknowledge that we have incredible students who need the
00:02:23 same level of attention and programming.
00:02:25 Despite their learning needs.
00:02:27 Finally, I can say discussion of G and T is happening.

00:02:32 Probably more discussion has occurred in the last week,
00:02:35 then probably in the past year.
00:02:37 With your help and your voices, there will be
significant changes.
00:02:49 In the borough of Queens,
00:02:50 we aim to lift up all students and meet their needs,
00:02:53 whether it be through GNT, specialized services, arts,
programming,
00:02:57 sports, et cetera.
00:02:58 Our borough we'll fight for expansion of services and
resources for
00:03:01 all children.
00:03:02 I have to say tonight, I am not voting on a G and T
program.
00:03:08 Rather,
00:03:09 I will vote to follow through on a decision made by the
leader of our
00:03:12 city.
00:03:14 I don't believe children should suffer.
00:03:16 And I do believe something was promised two families in
the city.
00:03:20 And that is how I'm looking at this evening.
00:03:22 Thank you.
00:03:26 Thank you, Pam.
00:03:30 Am I going him? Any other panel members? Penmen?
00:03:34 Remember Lennon.
00:03:36 Thank you.
Gary Linnen: Good evening.
00:03:40 I know it's been a long night road.
00:03:42 Belabor the point.
00:03:55 Just like dab as with many other individuals at
definitely came into
00:03:59 this meeting over the past couple days, conflicted. I
mean,
00:04:01 one of the I've been on this panel for years and I
would say this is
00:04:05 by far been one of the hardest decisions.
00:04:07 Then I personally had to make,
00:04:08 and I think as well as all of us that have been here
for some time,
00:04:11 we've been through some arduous.
00:04:12 I decision.
00:04:14 In this space. I came in thinking that, you know,
00:04:17 from a practical standpoint, while I, as a product of
JNC programs,
00:04:20 I get it. I love it.
00:04:21 At the end of the day,

00:04:22 I don't see anything wrong with the GNC experience.
00:04:25 I do have an issue with the fact that it's inequitable.
00:04:27 And that by far has always been my stance on it.
00:04:36 And I've been working closely with the mayor's office
and everyone has
00:04:39 to try to get something that, for me, I felt good with.
00:04:42 And in order to be able to say I was comfortable with
voting yes.
00:04:45 Knowing that we had a plan.
00:04:46 Tonight changed that for me.
00:04:47 And as I mentioned with folks, was that.
00:04:53 Like I was all for it. The plan is great.
00:04:55 I think we've done a great job and I want to, you know,
00:04:57 honestly give kudos to Dean,
00:04:59 to Josh and to the rest of the team of putting
something on paper.
00:05:02 Because I think you really,
00:05:03 really did a great job at making sure that we have a
plan on how do we
00:05:06 do something going forward.
00:05:07 But what stood out to me that I have not seen in the
four years.
00:05:10 Was that we had over 20 representatives from CC.
00:05:13 Across the city to speak out against this.
00:05:23 And again,
00:05:24 we all know the CC can either be with us or they can be
against us.
00:05:27 And I've never seen in over four years that many CC
members speak out
00:05:31 against something.
00:05:32 Which tells me that from the community's perspective.
00:05:35 That they're not with.
00:05:36 And these are individuals that have many more meetings
than we do.
00:05:39 And I need to honor their, their space.
00:05:45 I also want to honor the fact that we had a number of
different
00:05:47 parents and students that came up to talk about their
personal
00:05:50 experiences, that that are 100% valid.
00:05:52 And what I took from there is that there's a lot of
miscommunication
00:05:55 around it.
00:05:56 Is this ideology as if we're getting rid of something
that we all,
00:05:59 I think we can all agree.
00:06:02 That there's value behind the differentiating,

00:06:05 the learning for our young folks and making sure that they get what
00:06:07 they need. So we can tap into that.
00:06:11 At the core,
00:06:12 the way in which that we do that we need to go ahead and just
00:06:14 reimagine what that is. And so I appreciate the re-imagining plan.
00:06:17 That's been put forth and I stay in 100% behind it.
00:06:19 But I will say that me personally, in voting on my conscious.
00:06:22 And voting what I heard and what really resonated is when Lucas,
00:06:25 Hayley.
00:06:26 Literally said, please see me.
00:06:27 The fact that you have a young individual, that's an [unknown].
00:06:31 75 school. That again, it's constantly overlooked.
00:06:34 Because he does not fit the profile.
00:06:39 We're doing a disservice and we have literally been, you know,
00:06:41 Toting this line of equity.
00:06:43 For well over a year.
00:06:46 We can't let off.
00:06:53 You know, the pressure off the gas now to say, Oh,
00:06:55 just for this one time,
00:06:56 we'll get to allow ourselves to go ahead and just, you know,
00:06:58 think about it a little bit differently.
00:06:59 If we were going to be about it in the very beginning,
00:07:00 we need to continue to be about it.
00:07:08 And my conscious was literally bothering me this entire time.
00:07:11 And so for me, it's going to be a no for this vote.
00:07:13 And I recognize it's going to be additional work that needs to happen,
00:07:16 but I am committed.
00:07:17 To make sure that I will be a part of that compensation because I'm
00:07:19 voting. No, and I know I'm shaking it up.
00:07:21 For you as, and if this does not.
00:07:29 You know, fully carried through.
00:07:30 I'm still committed to make sure that we figure out something,
00:07:32 but am I conscious today? Right now? I have odds,
00:07:35 but I just can't after today's commentary from our audiences.

00:07:39 And again, I'm aligned with Vanessa.

00:07:41 That's my sentiments. Thank you.

00:07:42 Thank you. Pema linen.

00:07:43 PEM member prep price.

Kathy Park Price: Thank you.

00:07:51 Although the name of our body is the panel for educational policy.

00:07:55 It's rare that we shape policy,

00:07:57 unless it comes to us in the form of contracts and other

00:08:00 predetermined.

00:08:01 Agenda items.

00:08:02 So that's a major reason that that educational policy isn't more

00:08:06 influenced by this panel.

00:08:07 And I know from my experience on the.

00:08:08 That contracts go through a very rigorous process within the DOE

00:08:12 system.

00:08:13 From legal to programming, to budgeting.

00:08:16 I have no doubt that this contract is competitively priced.

00:08:20 For example.

00:08:21 I believe that we're the pet.

00:08:26 Play an important role is because we're outside of that system where

00:08:32 here, but we're here.

00:08:33 Because we're invested in how that systems are.

00:08:36 Or 1.1 million students.

00:08:39 The contract approval process.

00:08:41 Although as many.

00:08:52 You know,

00:08:53 as many people have pointed out that we are appointed by the mayor,

00:08:56 for example,

00:08:57 and there is a big difference between being appointed and elected.

00:09:00 When I served on CC 15.

00:09:02 For two diff two terms. I was elected.

00:09:12 Elected. It might've been seven and nine people,

00:09:16 literally seven to nine people. But I knew that I served,

00:09:19 I was accountable to the 25,000 some students and,

00:09:23 and the families and teachers.

00:09:24 It of district 15.

00:09:26 And here. Yes. Although I am appointed.

00:09:29 The pep is also independent of the DOE.

00:09:31 And I always remind myself with that.
00:09:33 The value I see in the independence is that.
00:09:40 I'm not looking at this decision from a business perspective or
00:09:43 looking across the political landscape and kind of gaming it.
00:09:53 I am looking at this from a values perspective.
00:09:55 And that's what I feel that work I'm called to do so aligned with many
00:10:00 of the values expressed by panel members LAN.
00:10:03 Shepherd PUD Vesper.
00:10:04 And linen.
00:10:05 I will be voting no on this contract to administer the G and T tests
00:10:09 this year.
00:10:10 Thank you.
Shannon R Waite: Thank you, Pam and pork pies. Pen, a member weights.
00:10:13 Thank you, Shirley.
00:10:17 And thank you to my colleagues.
00:10:21 It should not be a secret that I have a lot to say.
00:10:23 So I'll try to say it quickly.
00:10:24 I see a Janeel.
00:10:40 I do want to start just by sort of grounding the conversation because
00:10:44 there's been a lot of discussion.
00:10:45 And I think that I recognize there are some misunderstandings about
00:10:49 some vocabulary being used.
00:10:50 So the 10th grade teacher and they just can't help.
00:10:53 But sort of centering us with some shared definitions.
00:10:55 So I just want to clarify that when you hear words like white
00:10:59 supremacy,
00:11:00 White privilege.
00:11:01 Privilege.
00:11:02 In general, people are not talking about white people.
00:11:05 I'm not talking about no, one's talking about Deb.
00:11:08 No, one's talking about Laurie.
00:11:09 No, one's talking about Lindsey.
00:11:10 Right. Like, no, one's talking about Charlotte.
00:11:13 Or other folks who might identify as white.
00:11:19 What folks are referring to are the systems and structures.
00:11:23 That.
00:11:25 Perpetuate and sustain an equities.

00:11:44 And the reason why that matters for folks who are unclear about why

00:11:47 white supremacy keeps coming up is because I don't remember the caller

00:11:51 who talked about it,

00:11:52 but someone spoke earlier on and they talked about witnessing the

00:11:57 reality of what happens.

00:11:59 At the nation's capital and how shocking that was for all of us.

00:12:02 And I just want you to understand that a good majority of the folks

00:12:05 who spoke out tonight are telling us as a panel.

00:12:08 So now I'm talking to my colleagues.

00:12:09 That what they are witnessing with a yes.

00:12:11 Vote to this contract is New York city.

00:12:14 White supremacist.

00:12:16 Sort of like mountain top here.

00:12:22 And so I just want to be clear that racism in and of itself is not a

00:12:27 sort of isolated individual thing. And I think that that is.

00:12:31 That's that is what allows the division as opposed to really affords

00:12:35 us the ability to have unity.

00:12:36 And have shared discussions about it.

00:12:40 When folks look at an approach,

00:12:42 racism from a perspective of that's a bad person, you are a racist.

00:12:46 I have to tell you that that really detracts from the larger issue,

00:12:49 which is truly the systems and structure.

00:12:51 So saying things like gifted and talented education.

00:13:01 Or say, no, not, I won't say education because we know, I mean,

00:13:04 I've had conversations with national experts. So, you know,

00:13:06 to address some of the cover, some of the discussions tonight about.

00:13:09 Oh, alternatives. Aren't real.

00:13:10 A real vibe, viable options, or we know that.

00:13:31 You know, testing four year olds there's research, there is not,

00:13:34 there is not,

00:13:35 I've had conversations directly with the executive director of the

00:13:38 national center for talented youth. And you could look it up.

00:13:41 You can go online at the national G and T website.

00:13:44 Depth can tell you what the actual name of it is.

00:13:46 You can see studies for yourself.

00:13:48 The research is on this side of that memo.

00:13:50 That's the department of education.

00:13:51 In July.

00:13:52 Right that we learned about last Friday.

00:13:54 And the reality is the research is on this side that says testing

00:13:58 children at a young age, particularly for, is not optimal.

00:14:07 We've heard five. We've heard that in some systems,

00:14:10 they test a little earlier and there are things that can be explored,

00:14:13 but I want to just concur with my colleagues and say that to the

00:14:17 families who have sent us emails and who tonight have expressed sheer

00:14:21 desperation because you have been.

00:14:23 You have been targeted to believe that if your child doesn't get into

00:14:26 this one special program.

00:14:27 You have lost all hope that is not accurate.

00:14:29 It's not accurate. And I just, I really do want you to know that.

00:14:32 And I want you to know that I think I can speak for all of my

00:14:34 colleagues. When I say that we hear you.

00:14:36 And we don't want, well,

00:14:37 let me say that Shannon weight doesn't want you to think that my votes

00:14:41 tonight is.

00:14:42 To disrespect or dishonor what you said.

00:14:44 My vote tonight is to vote with my conscious,

00:14:46 because at the end of the day, I got to get to sleep.

00:14:48 Whenever that is.

00:14:50 This morning.

00:14:51 And I have to look at myself in the mirror.

00:14:54 And I have to live with the fact I have to live with the outcome of

00:14:58 this vote.

00:15:08 Right.

00:15:09 And so I just wanted to ground that and specifically,

00:15:13 because I felt like there were a lot of personal assaults on

00:15:16 Taj Sutton, a black woman, and as another black woman,
00:15:20 I cannot sit here and allow folks to just.
00:15:29 Drag her through the mud,
00:15:30 particularly because I see the work that she's doing
with young people
00:15:34 and motivating them. And I witnessed how she's been
attacked.
00:15:37 I've witnessed how the young people have been attacked
by some people
00:15:41 who've gotten up on these calls tonight.
00:15:42 By people that we hear for months on end,
00:15:45 who show up with t-shirts that say cut outside is anti-
Asian and is a
00:15:48 racist.
00:15:49 Who have gotten up?
00:15:50 And utilize their positions on CEC's for personal.
00:15:54 Gain.
00:15:55 So P two position and push their platform forward.
00:15:58 Right.
00:15:59 And so I feel like I would be remiss if I didn't
address those things.
00:16:03 And so I want to just.
00:16:06 Now, now that I've done the vocabulary lesson. Right.
And, and we've,
00:16:09 we've established that.
00:16:10 I want to share that 21 years ago.
00:16:12 It'll be 22 this year on April 25th.
00:16:15 Four 49 and 52 seconds. Am.
00:16:17 I learned a poem.
00:16:22 That really grounds what I want to challenge my
colleagues tonight.
00:16:34 On the pep and the poem was actually written from a
male perspective
00:16:39 of course, but I've changed it around. Cause that's how
I learned it.
00:16:42 And it's called some, they said it couldn't be done.
00:16:44 And it goes, somebody said that it couldn't be done,
00:16:46 but she was a truck over applied, but maybe it
couldn't,
00:16:48 but she'd be the one who wouldn't say so until she had
tried.
00:16:50 So she buckled right in with a bit of a grin with a
trace.
00:16:52 With the trace of her grin on her face. If she where'd,
she hit it,
00:16:54 she started this thing and she tackled the thing that
could not be

00:16:56 done. And she did it.
00:17:05 Somebody said, Oh, you'll never do that.
00:17:06 Or at least no one has ever done it,
00:17:08 but she took off her coat and she took off her hat.
00:17:09 And the first thing we knew she'd begun it with the
lift of her chin
00:17:12 and a bit of a grin without any doubting acquitted.
00:17:13 She started to sing as he tackled the thing that could
not be done.
00:17:16 And she did it.
00:17:17 There are thousands to tell you it cannot be done.
00:17:19 There are thousands to prophesy failure.
00:17:21 There are thousands to point out to you one by one,
00:17:23 the dangers that just wait to assail you,
00:17:25 but just buckled in with a bit of a grind.
00:17:26 Just take off your coat and go to it.
00:17:27 Just start to sing as you tackle the thing that could
not be done and
00:17:29 you'll do it.
00:17:30 And please forgive me for the stumblings because it's
been a long time
00:17:33 that I had to learn that.
00:17:34 But I say that I share my colleagues sentiments.
00:17:38 When.
00:17:43 I talk about the heartbreak that we witnessed this
evening. You know,
00:17:45 this is not a sort of, there are no winners here
tonight, right?
00:17:48 Like there's just, you know,
00:17:51 Right. And there's wrong.
00:17:52 And I know that there,
00:17:53 there are colleagues that I have who feel differently.
00:17:56 From me though. It does not. I do not take.
00:18:00 I don't, I'm not joyful.
00:18:02 About the fact that there are parents who may walk
away.
00:18:05 If the vote does not go the way they hope.
00:18:12 And feel like they've been all hope is lost in the sky
is falling.
00:18:16 This is the department of education.
00:18:17 If what we have witnessed with the over the last seven
days.
00:18:26 If anything like is remotely reminiscent of the
tenacity of city hall
00:18:32 to ensure that this test goes forward.
00:18:34 This little vote tonight will not change that.
00:18:36 So I want to say that.

00:18:38 Like Tom.

00:18:47 I have something written out, so I'm not gonna read all of it.

00:18:50 I will share though,

00:18:51 that I feel like we found ourselves in this specific position tonight

00:18:55 because of politics and that this vote is very political.

00:18:57 And, you know, I've had conversations with every.

00:19:01 Kendall member with the exception of the most two recent appointees.

00:19:07 And I can say that I believe, I know that, you know,

00:19:10 whether people will say it on the stage or not most panel members do

00:19:13 not agree with this contract.

00:19:15 And.

00:19:29 Many people feel like they are choosing to support the lesser of two

00:19:32 evils. And unfortunately I cannot,

00:19:33 we have discussed a number of concerns.

00:19:35 We understand that the program attached to this contract,

00:19:38 I think every like tons of people have already said it for me.

00:19:41 And so you should be clear when I say it.

00:19:43 For me.

00:19:50 I cannot separate the fact that the program attached to the contract

00:19:55 is rooted and it undergirds a white supremacist structure that is

00:20:00 operationalized to this day.

00:20:02 And it continues to do what it was born to do.

00:20:04 It was born to segregate. It was born to get privileged too.

00:20:07 And while that may not be what, it's,

00:20:09 what in our minds today in our two.

00:20:11 2021 minds today.

00:20:13 We'd like to think that because we like to think of ourselves as this

00:20:15 great progressive blue city.

00:20:17 That voted that bad man out.

00:20:19 And in the midst of the pandemic,

00:20:20 we are putting forward a contract to ask families, all families,

00:20:23 the ones who have made the Herculean effort of prepping their kids for

00:20:26 a test.

00:20:27 Of Mr. Pandemic.
00:20:30 And families who live in Moss side generational homes,
00:20:32 and don't want to take their,
00:20:33 won't send their child to school to get the in-person
learning.
00:20:35 They so desperately want them to have.
00:20:37 But.
00:20:39 They wouldn't be taken advantage of the system.
00:20:41 If they took their four year rolled out to take a test
or their
00:20:43 eight-year-old out to take a test.
00:20:45 They can track COVID are asymptomatic and go back home
and kill
00:20:47 grandma.
00:20:48 Cause that's what y'all are asking us to do.
00:20:53 And so I think that it's really important.
00:21:02 Just generally in terms of people. And then, you know,
00:21:04 we like to talk about this isn't, this isn't politics,
00:21:08 or it's not personal.
00:21:14 I hate to say this, but the person a lot of hate to say
it is true.
00:21:16 The person's very political and the political is
personal.
00:21:19 So as a black woman and a mother of two beautiful,
00:21:21 brilliant black girls, I cannot in good conscious
support a policy.
00:21:24 That the department of education itself has identified
as
00:21:27 discriminatory against black and Brown children.
00:21:29 When I was sworn in.
00:21:33 I vow to serve as an advocate and to be a guardian and
to be a steward
00:21:37 of all our public schools and our children and a voice
for all of our
00:21:40 families.
00:21:52 I cannot support a program that the dot the department
of education's
00:21:56 own internal memorandum has indicated already
discriminated against
00:22:01 black Brown, indigenous, Asian, native,
00:22:05 Hawaiian, Pacific Islander.
00:22:06 And Latin X children prior to COVID.
00:22:08 And since we know that roughly something somewhere
around 75% of those
00:22:12 families are not sending their kids to in-person
learning.

00:22:15 Because they're scared because they have been the most impacted those
00:22:18 communities have been the most impacted by COVID.
00:22:21 I can't in good, conscious support that, and I don't understand.
00:22:23 I too. Don't understand why we're here. Well,
00:22:25 I do understand why we're here. I think I'm saddened that we are here.
00:22:34 But that's exactly what the department of education is asking me to
00:22:37 do.
00:22:38 You are asking me to vote for a program that was developed in response
00:22:43 to white flight in the 70s.
00:22:45 From this very same public school system.
00:22:46 And it was intentionally created to attract, you know,
00:22:49 the families that it has attracted the white upwardly mobile families
00:22:52 back into the school system.
00:23:01 And the response tonight is if you don't support this vote on this
00:23:06 program to night,
00:23:07 you risk those same families that we drew back to the city.
00:23:11 With this segregation is program.
00:23:12 They may leave.
00:23:16 Unfortunately for me, that's not compelling enough.
00:23:18 When I think about the department of education and city halls request
00:23:22 to approve this contract, I'm mindful of.
00:23:24 Brown V board of education.
00:23:26 Which I'd like to remind all of our pants.
00:23:34 My colleagues on the panel.
00:23:35 One us that separate educational institutional faculties are
00:23:39 inherently unequal.
00:23:40 So while this administration did not create this racially segregated,
00:23:43 gifted, and talented system,
00:23:48 It's inherited it and it is it's problem.
00:23:50 And it perpetuates exacerbates the tale of two cities.
00:23:53 And we are now presented with the opportunity of whether or not we are
00:23:57 going to.
00:24:01 Center families sent you the most vulnerable as Charlie young has

00:24:03 suggested as PA panel Minner panel member pod Bester has suggested

00:24:08 thinking about, you know, [unknown].

00:24:10 75 families. I haven't heard anything about [unknown].

00:24:14 89, but read something in the press about them and how they are being

00:24:17 impacted negatively during COVID it's COVID. And so,

00:24:20 you know,

00:24:22 I feel like this administration actually has an opportunity to make

00:24:24 good on the promise outside of just toting around you PK.

00:24:33 And so I think that administering the gifted and talented test in

00:24:38 a regular year is probably already discriminatory and unlawful.

00:24:42 And then this year,

00:24:43 I am particularly concerned about civil rights and educational rights

00:24:47 violations.

00:24:48 Because we are facing a global pandemic.

00:24:55 And as a city, you know, appointed city official,

00:24:59 I would just want to make sure that I am not in violation of,

00:25:02 you know, approving.

00:25:04 And discriminatory.

00:25:05 A contract.

00:25:26 And so admits this particular global pandemic coupled with the

00:25:29 economic challenges facing the city. So quote,

00:25:31 the department of education, I can't, you know,

00:25:34 support a test that has not resulted in fair access for low income

00:25:37 students, particularly blatant lack next children,

00:25:40 black and Latin X students represent 65% of the kindergarten class,

00:25:43 but only 37% of students testing and 17% of the students who qualify

00:25:47 for those programs.

00:25:48 And for those who think that this is because they teach their kids

00:25:51 about family education and health.

00:25:53 And they support there.

00:25:54 They're children and they care and they love,

00:25:57 I want to share that Lac Latin X and indigenous

00:26:00 Pacific Islander Asian.

00:26:07 We do those things to what our children, we love our children to,
00:26:09 we care about our babies. Some of us, you know,
00:26:12 not people like myself to the caller who talked about how many of the
00:26:15 people on the panel are privilege. I do recognize mine.
00:26:17 I don't have to do this,
00:26:18 but there are plenty of parents who love their babies so much.
00:26:20 They work two and three jobs for them.
00:26:22 They checked out the groceries that you ate.
00:26:24 All throughout this pandemic.
00:26:25 They delivered the Amazon boxes to your door.
00:26:28 That you ordered for your kid?
00:26:29 During this pandemic.
00:26:30 And I think that those families do love,
00:26:32 appreciate cherish and care about their kids.
00:26:34 I also want to say that, you know, Audra Lord.
00:26:38 Oh, before I get there,
00:26:39 I want to now say specifically to my colleagues who are the BPRS.
00:26:46 I think Tom and someone else had it on the head when they talked
00:26:49 about.
00:26:51 You know, the pressure and panel member,
00:26:53 pod Vester talked about it in the daily news.
00:26:55 The pressure that has come with this vote.
00:26:58 And I just want to say to you all, then I'm with you.
00:27:01 I think it is unconscionable.
00:27:10 The amount of pressure that has been placed on us, on you all,
00:27:12 you know, I'm looking, I'm getting hit up and Twitter, my inbox.
00:27:16 Bye.
00:27:21 Press and media people asking me if I can confirm whether or not you
00:27:25 all have been threatened in your BPS have been threatened with a
00:27:28 reduction of services.
00:27:48 You know,
00:27:50 potentially not granting your burrows access to vaccines or cutting
00:27:53 off funding for the rest of this particular administration.
00:27:56 And while I can't confirm that the fact that it's in the press,
00:27:59 it gives me pause.

00:28:00 And so I just want to say that I would ask you to vote your conscience

00:28:04 if you can. And if you can't, I will vote for you.

00:28:08 I would love for you to stand with me.

00:28:09 I recognize that for me.

00:28:12 You know, I'm a mayoral appointee, and I also,

00:28:15 it's not lost on me that I sit in the seat.

00:28:17 Because another black woman who took a stand against a particular

00:28:21 policy, that there was a lot of pressure for voted against that.

00:28:24 And I sit in her seat.

00:28:25 So in the event that someone else is sitting here next month,

00:28:29 No that I voted our conscience for us.

00:28:32 And finally, I will say that in the words of Audre Lorde,

00:28:35 the master's tools will never dismantle the master's house.

00:28:38 So for everyone who's on the fence and talking about,

00:28:40 let's give them more time.

00:28:42 I can tell you.

00:28:49 That my final closing remarks around not being able to do this is

00:28:53 because I voted like,

00:28:55 like the people who we probably making fun of that kept the former

00:28:59 occupant of 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue in.

00:29:02 And talking about how those folks were voting against their interests.

00:29:04 Last year,

00:29:05 I voted against my interest when this very same contract came up.

00:29:08 And I then was told that they needed another year.

00:29:11 And they just didn't have the time in a normal year.

00:29:13 They couldn't make it happen in a normal year.

00:29:15 They needed more time.

00:29:16 Pre COVID.

00:29:17 And yet here I am again.

00:29:19 Right now.

00:29:20 In the midst of the pandemic.

00:29:22 And somehow miraculously, within the last seven days.

00:29:29 We have been able to actually legislate policy to panel member park

00:29:33 prices points.

00:29:34 Because of our judiciary responsibilities.

00:29:36 With regard to this contract.

00:29:41 And we haven't been able to wield that amount of our own authority.

00:29:46 In the almost three years that I've sat on this panel.

00:29:49 So I would say that.

00:29:57 So the folks who asked me to vote for this, I can't, you know,

00:30:01 I think that Rafael Lina hit it.

00:30:04 The nail on its head.

00:30:05 I was asked last year to vote for slavery one more year.

00:30:07 And I did it then.

00:30:11 And look where it's gotten.

00:30:12 So I'm unfortunately going to be a no.

00:30:15 And I would invite all who can.

00:30:18 To join me.

00:30:19 Thank you.

00:30:20 Thank you.

00:30:23 I remember wait.

00:30:25 Panel member.

00:30:26 Henry.

Eric C. Henry: Good morning.

00:30:36 I would say at this point,

00:30:41 I want to thank everyone for a or B.

00:30:44 Emails.

00:30:45 The techs, the calls.

00:30:47 That I've had, it's been a extremely.

00:30:53 Rigorous and spirited discussion around this particular topic.

00:30:56 I want to echo Dr. Waite sentiment.

00:30:59 That she made early on.

00:31:10 And that this test is not the, be the be all end,

00:31:13 all that will determine a child's academic success.

00:31:18 I can speak for myself.

00:31:21 As being an African-American male that was raised in the poorest

00:31:24 congressional district in the United States.

00:31:26 Raising the public school system.

00:31:27 Who had.

00:31:29 Rather.

00:31:30 Rather pronounced.

00:31:31 Educational deficits.

00:31:37 That I was able to overcome with the supportive, you know, a very.

00:31:42 A very hard working school staff in a very supportive family.

00:31:45 That was a blur.

00:31:49 [unknown] and graduate into more matriculated.

00:31:53 Magnet programs within the department of education.
00:31:55 And excelled.
00:31:57 You know, academically from Belmont now.
00:32:05 As someone who's worked with children with special
needs in the
00:32:08 New York city public school system.
00:32:09 Personally.
00:32:10 And professionally in my capacity as an attorney.
00:32:21 I think we all know that there are disparities within
the educational
00:32:25 system that cross race class economics.
00:32:29 I think the DOE has acknowledged.
00:32:30 These disparities.
00:32:32 And if there's anything that we can say,
00:32:34 it's that this.
00:32:36 This debate along with the break that's happened with
specialized high
00:32:41 schools.
00:32:42 Over the past couple of years.
00:32:43 Have served those forcing functions to really take a
harder look.
00:32:46 At what it means to allocate resources, equitably.
00:33:03 All our New York city public school students.
00:33:05 I think that this is actually an opportunity for us to
capitalize on
00:33:09 the fact that we realize collectively that these, that
these systems,
00:33:12 these systemic systems need to be equalized for all of
New York city
00:33:16 public school students.
00:33:17 That being said.
00:33:18 Aye.
00:33:20 The fact that GMC is an antiquated system.
00:33:22 Parents should be allowed the opportunity to have their
children sit
00:33:25 for this examiner safe and secure environment.
00:33:28 And couched in the fact that.
00:33:33 Read read need to be able to equalize the resources for
our public
00:33:38 school students.
00:33:40 I'm going to vote. Yes. For this contract of limited
duration.
00:33:45 And I want to echoes Laurie sentiments in that.
00:33:48 We need to.
00:33:54 Have this longer, broader, more provocative,
00:33:57 more substantive discussion.
00:33:58 About.

00:34:00 Eliminating GMT and making sure that all of our students.

00:34:05 No matter what educational level, no matter what their background,

00:34:08 no matter what the position in life.

00:34:09 Have the opportunity for all of the resources that are afforded.

00:34:14 Two individuals that may go through the GMT program.

00:34:17 I look forward to being a part of those discussions.

00:34:20 Even in my new position here on the pep.

00:34:22 So, thank you.

00:34:23 Chair.

00:34:27 The young and that's how I'm going to.

00:34:29 Vote.

00:34:30 This event.

00:34:32 Remember Henry.

00:34:34 Right. Any other panel members?

00:34:39 Why did you make any comments or Hey, Oh, Penn, a membership home.

Geneal Chacon (Bronx Representative): Okay.

00:34:51 We're all in the morning. So I'll keep it brief to the point.

00:34:53 I try not to.

00:34:56 Keep repeating what everyone already said. I think it's.

00:34:59 It was very clear.

00:35:03 About how everyone with the, from the students.

00:35:06 So the.

00:35:08 Elected officials to CCS.

00:35:11 Two families.

00:35:17 And panel members and even the department of education.

00:35:26 I think we can all agree that we are all looking forward to the,

00:35:32 as I call it.

00:35:33 The rebirth.

00:35:34 Of what a GMC should look like if it.

00:35:37 Is to exist.

00:35:39 Right.

00:35:40 I think.

00:35:46 Putting my personal feelings aside because.

00:35:51 Everything everyone said on this board right now.

00:35:55 As, as, as Dr. Wade said,

00:35:58 Shepherd said Vanessa started off [unknown].

00:36:02 And everyone.

00:36:05 I am with you. That's how I personally feel as well.

00:36:08 Right, but I am just one person.

00:36:11 And I am.

00:36:13 The Bronx borough appointee.
00:36:25 And I do have my families that are also reaching out.
00:36:28 And I have families who came today and some are saying,
00:36:31 even though it might not be a lot, because we.
00:36:38 If there's one bottle has been fighting this fight
since 2017.
00:36:42 Let me, let me inside this a little bit, 2017,
00:36:45 when no one was highlighting this issue, but the Bronx
and Brooklyn.
00:36:49 It was us.
00:36:53 And we did a whole research and we went out there and
we did what DOE
00:36:56 is ready to do now.
00:36:57 So we have been focused from day one about the
inequities and
00:37:00 injustices and unfairness.
00:37:03 Of this program for our community.
00:37:07 We have been fighting this fight and no one was ready
to listen.
00:37:10 No one was ready to fight alongside us.
00:37:12 So we have fairly relieved that we are finally here.
00:37:15 We are very red,
00:37:16 very relieved that over 300 people are ready for the
fight tonight.
00:37:19 We are very relieved.
00:37:21 That we are moving forward and we welcome that. So
kudos to you.
00:37:25 Shadow chancellor Carranza for taking that step.
00:37:27 Cause we welcome it.
00:37:31 My panel members, I will be right beside you.
00:37:34 In the future.
00:37:43 Of making sure that the much needed advocates,
00:37:46 voices are being considered and our voices as well are
going to be
00:37:50 considered.
00:37:51 In this very, very, very.
00:37:53 Important.
00:37:54 Process.
00:38:03 We don't want to say it's going to happen today and it
does not
00:38:05 happen. So trust and believe,
00:38:07 or my parent advocates on the line business,
00:38:09 something greatly that I'm looking for for to make sure
that everyone
00:38:11 is.
00:38:13 Voices are heard in it.
00:38:14 Just as we did in 2017.

00:38:15 Now.
00:38:16 Going back to parents reaching out. I represent the Bronx.
00:38:20 We have parents that are.
00:38:21 Do away with the tests.
00:38:22 It is not.
00:38:23 The right thing to do in the middle of a pandemic.
00:38:34 They all right, but then you'll have some families also on this side,
00:38:37 say, what am I going to do? You are,
00:38:39 you do not have any options for me. What now?
00:38:45 As on a borrower pointy,
00:38:46 I have to considerable size as a borrower pointy.
00:38:48 I have to always make the best decision for.
00:38:53 All of the Bronx,
00:38:54 all of the families and not putting anyone out of their position, any,
00:38:57 you know, making them.
00:39:12 Without hope that is not well,
00:39:15 we have gone since we have been on the spec,
00:39:17 we have always fought for any, any families,
00:39:19 whether or not they're for or against. We have four for our families,
00:39:22 as long as I've been on this path.
00:39:23 That's what I have done with screw utilization.
00:39:25 It doesn't matter the topic.
00:39:26 So annual CNAs.
00:39:28 I have to say putting my personal feelings aside and my individual
00:39:32 volts of what I would vote.
00:39:34 I have to say that as a Bronx borough appointee, I am going to vote.
00:39:37 Yes.
00:39:38 Thank you, Pam and Misha Kahn.
00:39:40 Any other panel members wanted.
00:39:41 To make any comments this evening, if not 8:00 AM.
00:39:44 And glass.
00:39:45 Making sure. No one. Okay.
00:39:49 Okay.
00:39:52 So I am.
00:39:55 When T actually now.
00:39:57 Move to vote.
00:39:59 On the resolutions.
00:40:03 Alright, so.
00:40:11 Secretary. Nathan,
00:40:12 could you please note any recusals related to these contract items?

00:40:16 Yes.
00:40:23 Panel members,
00:40:24 Angelo and Carmen Yani are recused from items nine and
10,
00:40:28 and therefore will not be voting on resolutions for.
00:40:31 Okay.
00:40:32 Thank you.
00:40:33 I'm sorry. I need to add that myself to item number
four.
00:40:37 As a recusal.
00:40:38 Who's that.
00:40:40 [unknown] sorry.
00:40:50 Sorry. I wasn't able to identify that,
00:40:52 that entity until just recently. So.
00:40:54 Apologize for that.
00:40:55 Thank you.
00:40:59 Okay.
00:41:01 Secretary.
00:41:07 Could you please now take a roll call,
00:41:09 vote for each resolution regarding approval of
contracts.
00:41:12 Sure.
00:41:19 The first roll call though is for resolution regarding
approval of
00:41:23 contract items, one seven and eight.
00:41:26 I will call out.
00:41:27 Panel members' names and indicate your vote.
00:41:30 Larry and Angelo.
00:41:40 Panamera Angelo.
00:41:42 Thank you. You have to unmute.
00:41:45 Yeah.
00:41:49 It is.
00:41:59 Peter [unknown].
00:42:00 Drella.
00:42:03 So those items. Yes.
00:42:07 Isaac Carmen Yani in favor.
00:42:10 Chanel Checon.
00:42:11 In favor.
00:42:13 April Chapman.
00:42:15 In favor.
00:42:17 Debra Dillingham.
00:42:24 I remember Dillingham.
00:42:25 You need to unmute.
00:42:31 Natalie Green Giles.
00:42:33 In favor.
00:42:35 Eric Henry.
00:42:37 In favor.

00:42:39 Michael Craft.
00:42:40 And safer.
00:42:41 Vanessa Liam.
00:42:43 In favor.
00:42:44 Gary Lennon.
00:42:48 Savor Cathy park price.
00:42:50 Paper.
00:42:51 Laurie put Besky.
00:42:53 For the best girl. Sorry.
00:42:55 In favor.
00:42:57 Thomas Shepherd.
00:42:59 In favor.
00:43:01 And Shannon are wait.
00:43:03 In flavor.
00:43:09 So that is 15 votes in favor.
00:43:11 No opposed.
00:43:22 The second roll call vote is for the resolution regarding approval of
00:43:25 contract items two through four and item six.
00:43:28 I will go call the panel members in order again.
00:43:30 Larry and Angelo.
00:43:32 You have to unmute.
00:43:40 Peter.
00:43:45 Callen Drella.
00:43:49 You need to unmute yourself.
00:43:57 Sorry about that. I said, as to item number four,
00:44:00 I'm I recused myself.
00:44:01 This is I, this is.
00:44:03 So.
00:44:06 Contract items two through four and six.
00:44:08 Right. So.
00:44:10 There's just a number for.
00:44:12 You as separate vote on? Yeah, we got, Oh,
00:44:16 Again, I'm sorry about that. But.
00:44:18 I can't.
00:44:22 Can you approve the others and yes. Yes.
00:44:25 And then yeah.
00:44:26 Ever accused on item four, correct.
00:44:28 Okay.
00:44:29 That's what you're saying. Got it perfectly fine.
00:44:31 Okay.
00:44:34 Isaac PERMA.
00:44:35 What's late.
00:44:37 I'm a nanny.
00:44:40 That's okay. In favor.
00:44:44 Janell Checon and favor.
00:44:47 April Chapman.

00:44:51 April you're muted.
00:45:00 I'm sorry. I was distracted for a moment. Could you please once again,
00:45:03 just tell me what I'm voting on now. Sure. This is.
00:45:05 Items two through four and six.
00:45:07 Yes, I vote in favor of that thing.
00:45:09 Sure.
00:45:10 Debra Dillingham.
00:45:11 And they run.
00:45:12 Natalie Green Giles.
00:45:14 In favor.
00:45:16 Eric Henry.
00:45:19 Michael Craft.
00:45:27 I don't remember craft.
00:45:30 You're muted.
00:45:33 Sorry.
00:45:34 In favor.
00:45:37 Vanessa Lee young in favor.
00:45:39 Gary Lennon.
00:45:42 And saver Cathy park price.
00:45:44 In favor.
00:45:45 Laurie put desker.
00:45:47 Hey, Thomas Shepherd.
00:45:49 In favor.
00:45:50 Shannon. Wait.
00:45:52 Favor.
00:45:56 So on that, on items too.
00:46:02 Contract items two, three, and six. The vote is 15 and favor.
00:46:12 No opposition for contract item three,
00:46:15 there was one recusal and 14 in favor. No opposed.
00:46:19 Number four.
00:46:20 Number four GT number four. Yes.
00:46:21 Number four. So two, three of.
00:46:23 Yeah.

VOTE: Okay. The third roll call vote is for the resolution regarding approval of contract item five.

Larian Angelo.

Yes.

Peter Calandrella.

My vote is no.

Isaac Carmignani

In favor.

Geneal Chacon.

In favor.

April Chapman.

No.

Debra Dillingham.

Yes.

Natalie Green Giles.

I'm going to vote in favor.

Eric Henry.

In favor.

Michael Kraft.

In favor.

Vanessa Leung.

Opposed.

Gary Linnen.

Opposed.

Kathy Park Price

Oppose.

Lori Podvesker.

No.

Thomas Shepherd.

Opposed.

And Shannon R Waite.

No.

00:47:49 I have seven votes in favor and eight votes opposed. So that is not passed.

00:48:14 The fourth role call vote is for the resolution regarding approval of

00:48:17 contract items nine and 10.

00:48:18 And here there are two recusals.

00:48:21 Council member Angela and council member coming on him.

00:48:26 So.

00:48:31 Cater Talon. Drella.

00:48:42 You're muted.

00:48:46 I'm sorry, did you hear me? I said, I I'm sorry. I approve.

00:48:48 Sorry. I didn't hear you.

00:48:50 Oh, it's okay.

00:48:51 I'm Janell. Checon.

00:48:53 And favor.

00:48:55 April Chapman.

00:48:57 Favor.

00:49:00 Debra Dillingham.

00:49:03 I'm really sorry, but what are we voting on?

00:49:07 It is items nine and 10.

00:49:11 Resolutions for. Okay. I approved.

00:49:14 Natalie Green Giles.

00:49:16 In favor.

00:49:18 Eric Henry.

00:49:20 In favor.