

**AFFIDAVIT OF MELANIE KOTLER**

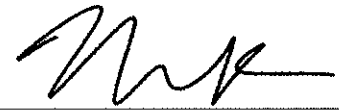
STATE OF NEW YORK     )  
  ) ss.:  
COUNTY OF KINGS        )

MELANIE KOTLER, being duly sworn, deposes, and states:

1. My name is Melanie Kotler and I'm a parent-member of the School Leadership Team (the "SLT") at P.S. 169, which is a K-5 elementary school in Sunset Park, Brooklyn. I have a seven-year-old son who started kindergarten at P.S. 169 in Fall 2020 and will be entering second grade for the 2022-2023 school year.
2. In May 2022, at the SLT meeting I was informed that there was an update on the FY23 budget. At the meeting we discussed the fact that the PEP did not vote to approve the Fair Student Funding formula and subsequently the DOE did not provide a timeline on when the FY23 budget would be released.
3. At the May 2022 SLT meeting we did converse about the possibility of budget cuts but at this point in time this was merely a prediction based on the enrollment projections for the upcoming school year.
4. On June 13, 2022, I was first informed about the approximately one million dollars that would be cut from our school's budget and the potential consequences that would arise from these cuts, including but not limited to, the excessing of teachers and elimination of school programs.
5. On June 28, 2022, I received an email from the principal at P.S. 169 who detailed the extent of the budget cuts and that our school, would in fact, have to excess teachers and other staff from P.S. 169.


- 6. After receiving the June 28, 2022 email from the principal, I was upset about the extensive budget cuts P.S. 169 was facing and wanted to do something to prevent the implementation of these cuts.
- 7. A few days after receiving the June 28, 2022 email, I contacted Leonie Haimson, the Executive Director of Class Size Matters.
- 8. Ms. Haimson informed me that there was a lawsuit that I could get involved in and that is what led me to connect with Laura Barbieri at Advocates for Justice and become a named Petitioner.

Dated: July 26, 2022  
 New York, New York



Melanie Kotler

Sworn to before me this 26th day  
 of July 2022.



Notary Public

**LAURA DAWN BARBIERI**  
**NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF NEW YORK**  
 Registration No. 02BA6394203  
 Qualified in New York County  
 Commission Expires July 1, 2023