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NYSCEF DOC. NO. 26

## **AFFIDAVIT OF TAMARA TUCKER**

STATE OF NEW YORK ) ) ss.:

COUNTY OF NEW YORK )

TAMARA TUCKER, being duly sworn, deposes, and states:

- My name is Tamara Tucker. I reside at 90 La Salle Street, Apartment 7F, New York, NY 10027.
- I am a parent of two New York City public school students, ages eight and six. My children attend P.S. 125, The Ralph Bunche School, located at 425 West 123rd Street, New York, NY 10027.
- 3. On or about June 13, 2022, I was first informed about the budget cuts that my child's school would be facing due to the FY23 budget.
- 4. I first heard of the budget cuts from the principal at P.S. 125 who informed me that she had found out about the budget cuts on or around June 3, 2022.
- 5. My principal communicated to me her anxiety and concern regarding the budget cuts because she was not sure how she would be able to hire the teachers and staff needed for the 2023-2024 school year.
- My principal also informed me that she planned to tell teachers, parents, and staff of the budget cuts at the next SLT meeting which occurred on or about the second week of June 2022.
- After I found out about the budget cuts I immediately reached out to Anna Minsky, a local education activist. Ms. Minsky informed me of that there was an upcoming PEP vote on the budget and that I should attend.
- 8. On June 23, 2022, I attended the PEP vote on the budget. I, along with

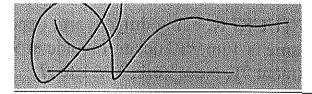
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approximately 70 other parents and teachers, spoke up about the egregious budget cuts but the FY23 budget was still approved.

- 9. After I attended the June 23, 2022 PEP meeting, I attended the City Council Education Committee Hearing on June 24, 2022. At the hearing I heard District 6 Representative Gale Brewer speak about the budget cuts which emboldened me to see if there was anything more I could do to prevent these cuts.
- 10. Following the June 24, 2022 City Council Education Committee Hearing I began to reach out to numerous elected officials including but not limited to District 7 Representative Shaun Abreu and District 6 Representative Gale Brewer.
- 11. After being denied any meetings or substantive information regarding the budget cuts, I got in contact with Laura Barbieri at Advocates for Justice who informed me about the lawsuit challenging the unlawful budget process to which I joined as a petitioner.

Dated: July 26, 2022 New York, New York



Tamara Tucker

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

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Notary Public

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