



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

March 4, 2019

Mr. Joseph Belluck
SUNY Board of Trustees
State University Plaza
353 Broadway
Albany, NY 12246

Dear Mr. Belluck:

I am writing to state my opposition to the application by KIPP Beyond Charter School to open a 5th to 8th middle charter school in Community School District 3 (CSD3) in Manhattan. My Congressional district includes a large part of CSD3 and I join the Community Education Council 3 (CEC3) in opposition to the application by KIPP Beyond Charter School to open a middle school charter school in CSD3.

The NYC Department of Education, in consultation with CEC3, parents and community advocates, approved the District 3 Middle School Diversity Plan in June 2018, which was the first district-wide plan of its kind in New York City. The plan reforms middle school admissions policies in the school district by reserving 25 percent of its school seats for students from low-income families with lower academic performance. This diversity plan is an important step in ensuring our public schools are continuing to improve and becoming more equitable for our city's families. Allowing KIPP to open a new charter school in the district before the diversity plan has been fully implemented (which is scheduled to commence in the 2019-2020 school year) would make it difficult to evaluate the results and efficacy of these reforms.

Additionally, I note that CSD3 is already home to 17 public middle schools and 5 charter schools who are already vying for a limited number of students who all begin their enrollment in 6th grade. KIPP's plan to open enrollment in the 5th grade would siphon off students from the elementary schools and adversely affect enrollment in the existing middle schools. CSD3 already has very good middle schools and a range of options for parents, adding another charter middle school is not wanted nor needed in the district.

REPLY TO:

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
2109 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-5635

DISTRICT OFFICE:
201 VARICK STREET
SUITE 669
NEW YORK, NY 10014
(212) 367-7350

DISTRICT OFFICE:
6605 FT. HAMILTON PARKWAY
BROOKLYN, NY 11219
(718) 373-3198

I urge you to heed the concerns of the parents, community leaders and elected officials in CSD3 and reject KIPP Beyond Charter School's application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jerrold Nadler". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J".

JERROLD NADLER
Member of Congress