

Dear Parents of the Japanese School of New York:

Last night the PTA Task Force met with about twenty Trustees, assembled through the efforts of Mr. Sato.

During this meeting and our many prior communications, we have appealed to the Trustees sense of responsibility to the students, we have also appealed to their responsibility as financial managers and we have proposed solutions that would eliminate all of the JEI deficit. We have even offered to manage these solutions to ensure their success. We have appealed to their inner sense of doing what it right. We have appealed to their obligation to protect the school as a precious asset acquired for us by an earlier generation of JEI leadership that worked hard for three years and overcame adversity and many issues to secure for us this school campus. We have appealed to their sense of pride and professionalism to correct a bad situation instead of giving up and selling the school. We have appealed to them as Board Members entrusted with the care and education of our children. We have offered solutions to avoid a law suit from the buyer. We have asked the Trustees to consider that without a concrete plan for a future site and cost structure and enrollment, they cannot know if a new site is any more cost effective than the current site. We have asked them not to place future of the school at such risk. Establishing our current school required much higher costs that had been budgeted – any such move assumes far greater risk than staying and fixing the problems that we know well. As far as I can tell, none of these appeals and arguments has made any difference.

Finally, last evening we made a special appeal to their responsibility as Trustees under the law. While we look forward from some indication that this final appeal may have some effect, this may be unlikely.

If the Trustees vote on Tuesday to sell the school, it may be for a reason that Mr. Sato related to the Task Force last month; the Trustees are acting out of anger. There may be many reasons for this anger, but it is certain that no such reasons could be in the best interests of the children. Another reason may be that the Trustees are acting for the benefit of other interests that do not include the children. Ultimately, the truth surfaces from any controversy, so ultimately everyone will see the true motivation of any Trustee who votes to sell the school over such overwhelming opposition from the children's parents. This is one of the great benefits that a free press provides to any society.

If the Trustees vote Tuesday is to sell the school, I will be in touch with you again on Wednesday. In the meantime, I would like to ask you during this long weekend to write letters of the kind you wrote last June. These letters provided everyone with a deep sense of our unfortunate situation. Considerable time has passed – we would appreciate hearing from you again. If you feel like writing to us again, please send us you letters and comments before Monday.

Thank you

Emil F Jachmann
PTA President