

Dear Mr. Sakamoto
President, Japan Educational Institute

November 1, 2005

A PTA delegation met with Mr. Sato of the Consulate General last week. Mr. Sato was truly exceptional in his willingness to actually listen to the parents and to speak frankly. Both sides took careful notes and the PTA hopes that the content of the discussion will encourage you to suspend the sale of the Greenwich school, in particular:

- JEI financial reserves will last for 6 – 8 years.
- JEI has not done a good job over the past couple of years.
- The JEI Board should include parents and teachers.
- The primary reasons why the Trustees insist on selling the school are:
 1. The core JEI group of Trustees is very angry because the parent's opposition was inappropriate in manner and protocol.
 2. The Trustees are afraid of a law suit from WFHA, although some among the JEI leadership have heard the opinion that while WFHA is using threats as leverage against JEI, an actual lawsuit would be a major embarrassment to them.

Mr. Sato pointed out many mistakes that he thought the PTA had made, but these were mistakes in communication, not in substance. Regarding JEI, Mr. Sato felt that they had tried to do well, but obviously the reasons cited above are not compelling reasons to sell the school. I understand that you are under immense pressure to sell the school quickly and that you have postponed your intended retirement as JEI President in order to conclude a sale. But if JEI concludes the sale it will cause JSNY irreparable harm. Your valuable service to JEI will be overshadowed by a legacy of unprecedented division and distrust within the JEI community fueled by the parents' disappointment with and anger at JEI's management and decision making.

Please accept my appeal to suspend the sale of the school and immediately initiate a partnership with the PTA to solve all issues. The parents are committed to working with JEI to fix all of the fiscal problems and to support such solutions and assist JEI in executing such solutions. The parents can be great partners; they are trying to provide the best education for their children.

There is still time to work together for the best interest of the children. Please call me today if you accept my appeal to work with the PTA. As you know, there are New York government enforcement agencies interested in the approval to sell the school. This week the parents will begin taking steps that will lead to inquiries. The JEI record, including the activities of Mr. Matsumura, will be scrutinized. The American and Japanese press certainly will cover these events. JEI's conduct over the past couple of years will not look good, and this will reflect poorly on the reputations of the well-known Japanese companies who will be readily recognized as the real powers behind JEI decision-making.

Sincerely

Emil F. Jachmann
President
PTA of the Japanese School of New York
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cc Mr. Sato