



FROM THE OFFICE OF MARGARET S. CHIN
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****NEWS RELEASE****

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 12/9/2011

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**Council member Margaret Chin applauds the Department of
Education on their decision to keep P.S. 137 open**

*After expressing her full support for P.S. 137
DOE to implement targeted action program to address school's needs*

New York, NY – Today, Council member Margaret Chin was informed by the Department of Education that P.S. 137 -- an elementary school in Manhattan's Lower East Side -- will remain open, despite being identified by the DOE in this year's progress report as "needing further examination and review" due to poor performance. Over the next few weeks, the school will be evaluated and a targeted action program will be implemented to help the school get on the road to success.

"I am happy that the DOE has demonstrated their commitment to this small, neighborhood school," said Council member Margaret Chin. "Our schools do not need phase-outs, they need support. Principal Rodriguez knows where her school's weaknesses lie, and she has demonstrated a willingness to address those issues in a comprehensive manner. I lobbied the DOE to keep P.S. 137 open and my support for this important part of the Lower East Side community will not wane. We have a lot of work to do but I am confident that with the support of the DOE, P.S. 137's future is bright."

In October, Council member Chin wrote a letter to the DOE urging them to keep P.S. 137 open (see attached letter). The Council member also joined P.S. 137 parents and students for a rally in November (photo attached.). P.S. 137 was the only Manhattan elementary school targeted for phase-out this year.