

LOCAL 372

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF LOCAL 372
Board Of Education Employees
DISTRICT COUNCIL 37 AFSCME AFL-CIO

Santos Crespo Jr., President

PRESS ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 19, 2011

Contact:

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What: Local 372 New York City Board of Education Employees along with Assemblyman William Scarborough, from the 29th Assembly District and several parent and community groups, will be holding a press conference to protest the layoffs of school aides, parent and community coordinators, health aides and family workers within the borough of Queens.

Where: P.S. 15 - Jackie Robinson School
121-15 Lucas Street, Queens, NY 11413

When: Friday, September 23, 2:00 PM

Why: As our members are returning to their jobs bureaucrats at the Department of Education are preparing pink slips and layoff notices for nearly 800 school aides, parent and community coordinators, health aides and family workers. All will be at work in September and if the Department of Education has its way, all will be gone by October. Most of those job losses would be felt in East New York, Brownsville, Williamsburg, Washington Heights, and the South Bronx; Communities which are already in need for enhanced social services and suffering with higher unemployment rates.

At a time when school enrollments, dropout rates, reports of school violence, bullying, substance abuse and truancy are rising, the Department of Education plans to remove the very people who provide the basic, necessary and crucial services needed to keep our children safe, focused and ready for the classroom.

Our members, our children, our teachers and our communities cannot afford to allow this to happen.

Over the course of the past three years our union and schools have suffered the loss of more than 1,600 school aides/health aides alone. If you add in our cafeteria staff, loaders and handlers, SAPIS, bookkeepers, and other workers we have lost more than 2,200 men and women since 2008.

Our children, our teachers and our communities deserve better. We will not go away silently.

Who:

- *Assemblyman William Scarborough, 29th Assembly District
- *Santos Crespo Jr., President – Local 372
- *All the members of the City Council, Assembly and Senate Queens Delegation (Invited)
- *NYC Parents Union
- *CEP-CEP: Coalition for Public Education / Coalición por la Educación Pública
- *GEM: Grassroots Education Movement
- *Class Size Matters
- *The MANY: The Mothers' Agenda NY
- *NYCORE
- *NY Charter Parents Association