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Blogging From the Five Boroughs

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No More Kindergarten Waiting List at 2 Village Schools

By *SEWELL CHAN*

Updated, 4:52 p.m. | The waiting list for kindergarten at two of New York City's most celebrated elementary schools, [Public School 41](#) and [Public School 3](#) in Greenwich Village — which had [stirred anger among parents](#) — is no more.

The Department of Education announced on Friday that it had reached a lease agreement with Greenwich House, which will provide classroom space at 27 Barrow Street for pre-kindergarten students in Greenwich Village, next year.

“This agreement is the result of work by parent activists, local elected leaders, and the D.O.E. over the past two weeks to rapidly identify and secure a site in the neighborhood to accommodate parents who had been placed on waiting lists,” the City Council said in a statement on Friday.

In a sign of how politically touchy the issue had become, a list of elected officials provided statements applauding the deal, including the Council speaker, Christine C. Quinn; United States Representative Jerrold L. Nadler; the Manhattan borough president, Scott M. Stringer; State Senator Thomas K. Duane; Assemblywoman Deborah J. Glick; Councilwoman Rosie Mendez; and Councilman Alan J. Gerson.

Rebecca Daniels, president of Community Education Council District 2, wrote in a letter to parents on Friday: “This is a tremendous relief to the parents of the Greenwich Village school neighborhoods. It is just the beginning but, still, quite a relief, indeed.”

But Ms. Daniels also wrote that “overcrowding is prevalent throughout District 2” and added:

We need to all know that these conditions cannot continue. 2010 looms large. Many schools are bursting and the education of District 2, that we are all so proud of, is at risk. Neighboring schools are at capacity. Next year's kindergartens are a large population as well. We need to be prepared.

Still, she called the decision to rent the space on Barrow Street “a very good solution.”
