

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

September 13, 2002

The Honorable Joe Allbaugh
Director, Federal Emergency Management Agency
500 C Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20472

Dear Director Allbaugh,

We are pleased to learn that your agency appears close to approving a substantial part of the New York City Department of Education's claim for lost instructional time resulting from the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001.

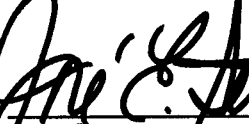
Recent press reports indicate that FEMA may provide between \$70 million and \$80 million to reimburse the Department for this purpose. While we are extremely pleased to hear of this development, and we want to thank your agency for continuing to work in good faith with the City to achieve resolution of this aid request, we would urge you to consider providing the full amount of Mayor Bloomberg's original request of \$103 million.


We also would like you to consider other areas of unmet need affecting the City's school system that were part of the City's request. For example, we are concerned that there has been a delay in the disbursement of \$40 million for addressing the mental health needs of the students, and that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services may be delaying this request. In addition, the New York City Department of Education's request for \$3 million in reimbursement because of lost lunch sales was denied as was its request for \$1.9 million for transportation costs that were incurred following the terrorist attacks. We believe that these requests are reasonable and should be addressed as quickly as possible so that the school system can move forward.

We thank you for your attention to these matters and look forward to hearing from your office at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

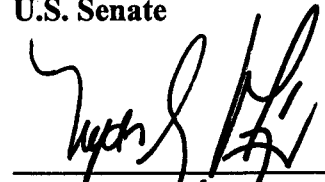

CAROLYN B. MALONEY
U.S. Congress


JOSÉ SERRANO
U.S. Congress


CHARLES E. SCHUMER
U.S. Senate


JERROLD NADLER
U.S. Congress


MAURICE HINCHEY
U.S. Congress


NYDIA VELÁZQUEZ
U.S. Congress