



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10007

EDWARD SKYLER
DEPUTY MAYOR FOR OPERATIONS

August 26, 2008

Ms. Randi Weingarten
President
United Federation of Teachers
52 Broadway
New York, NY 10004

Dear Ms. Weingarten:

As you know, Mayor Bloomberg announced earlier this year that the City of New York is implementing a comprehensive program to reduce the number and abuse of government parking placards. This program is part of our efforts to reduce traffic congestion, decrease the City's carbon footprint, and encourage the use of public transportation. Accordingly, the City has designated the Department of Transportation (DOT) and the Police Department as the sole issuing agencies of placards for on-street parking. No other agencies, including the Department of Education (DOE), are now permitted to issue on-street parking placards. With respect to DOE, the transition to the new system will be implemented over the coming weeks as follows:

1. DOE currently has 10,007 on-street parking spots allocated by DOT. These spots have been assigned to individual schools by DOE based on the location of the on-street spots and schools. All of these spots will continue to be available for school parking. In addition, DOE has 15,060 off-street parking spots, each of which will also continue to be available for school parking.
2. DOT will produce and DOE will issue 10,007 Agency Authorized On-Street Parking Placards which allow an individual to park in the on-street spaces designated for a specific school. DOE will continue to issue separate placards valid only for access to the 15,060 off-street parking spots.
3. With respect to the recipients of the on-street and off-street placards, principals and the United Federation of Teachers (UFT) Chapter Leaders will decide on one of the following distribution methods: (1) assignment to individual staff; (2) pooling of placards for use each day; or (3) some combination of these two options. If a principal and the UFT Chapter Leader cannot agree, then the UFT

President and Commissioner of the Office of Labor Relations, or their respective designees, will make a final decision.

4. If a principal or UFT Chapter Leader believes: (1) a school deserves additional curb-space allocated for school parking; (2) the number of current on-street spaces was incorrectly counted; or (3) there is additional off-street space that is underutilized, they can appeal to DOT and DOE through the Mayor's Office of Operations.
5. DOT will produce and DOE will issue at least 1,000 additional placards to teachers and staff whose work requires them to visit multiple sites during the course of their workdays, and will also consider requests for placards for teachers that travel between assigned schools. Specific offices and groups for whom these placards are intended include, but are not limited to, the following: Adult and Continuing Education, Citywide Speech Services, Educational Vision Services, Hearing Education Services, Home Instruction, Hospital Instruction, Non-Public Schools, UFT, and some administrative offices. The majority of these placards will be Agency Business Parking Placards which allow an individual to park citywide for three hours at a time (parking meters, etc). The distribution of these placards will be determined by the Chancellor or his designee.
6. The issuance of new placards will start with the beginning of the school year so that the system can be fully in place by October 1. Once the new system has been implemented, violators will be subject to enforcement by the Police Department.
7. The UFT will hold the grievance in abeyance.

Note that with respect to Transit Check, we are already in the process of implementing a program and the RFP that has been put out is due back to the City in September.

Please feel free to contact me at (212) 788-3191 with any questions or additional concerns regarding the transition to the new system.

Sincerely,



Edward Skyler

cc: Joel I. Klein, Chancellor, Department of Education
Raymond W. Kelly, Commissioner, Police Department
James F. Hanley, Commissioner, Office of Labor Relations
Janette Sadik-Khan, Commissioner, Department of Transportation