

Closing Arguments for the T Hearing
Submitted April 25, 2008 by Ms. Janet Shepherd
for the New York City Department of Education

It is the belief of the Department of Education that T brought a knife to school and realized that this was an inappropriate action. It is also our belief that he been provided the services on his suspension plan at the suspensions sites.

Ms. KM testified to receiving the rules and regulation during the intake process (p.94, 125)

There has been testimony from the supervisor of ALC 53, Mr. Karp that he witnessed T trying to drop the knife on the floor demonstrating his knowledge that this was an inappropriate item to bring to school. (2/6/08 p.774,778). T testified to that the knife he brought to school was his (2/6/08 p. 273, 274)

It is the belief of the Department of Education that T has been provided services at the suspension site according to his suspension plan.

Mrs. Gauthier-Francois from ALC 53, testified that not only does he receive his mandated counseling but is provided with additional counseling based on his needs. Additionally, he is provided additional indirect counseling through community circle. (2/6/08 p. 697)

Mr. Gasparino from ALC 53, testified that he has been providing resource room services to T 2/6/08 p. 735)

Mr. Gasparino has tried to meet T's needs in reading and math during his time at the suspension site. In his testimony he discussed T's weaknesses and the methods he attempted to use to address them.

There has been testimony from the site supervisor from ALC 53 Mr. Karp. He testified to the fact that T has been receiving his services(2/6/08 p.774, 844). T had good and bad days but began to have fewer incidents and was making progress (2/6/08 p775) 817

Mr. Karp also testified to the fact that they tried to work T as best they could (2/6/08 p.787).

It is also the belief of the Department of education that T received his the services outline in his suspension plan while attending Queens Middle school .There has been testimony from Mrs. Morrison-Brailsford regarding the services he is being provided (2/13/08 p.625, 629, 632, 636)

He has been provided resource room services since September. Mrs. Morrison- Brailsford also testified that these service are being provided by a special education teacher (2/13/08 p.654)

There has been testimony that although the students do not take books home, they are utilized in the classroom.

Ms. Corrine Kitchen from Queens Middle School testified that she is providing

counseling services to T (2/13/08 p. 655, 656).

Among the topics she discussed in dealing with T is anger management, positive and negative issues as well as test taking skills (2/13/08 p. 658, 659).

According to Ms. Corrine Kitchen T has demonstrated his ability to be a leader and make appropriate choices (2/13/08 p. 659, 660)

He has also demonstrated that he has the ability to control his behavior (2/13/08 p. 664,665,667).

T also demonstrated his ability to use right judgment when he made the decision to speak with Ms. Gauthier-Francois when he thought he might be in danger (3/27/08 p. 704).