

**Board of Education.**

CORNELIA F. BRADFORD,  
174 GRAND STREET,  
JERSEY CITY, N. J.

March 8th, 1915.

Hon. George F. Brensinger,  
Commissioner of Finance, Jersey City,  
Dear Mr. Commissioner,

Because of the bimonthly afternoon meeting of the Board of Directors of Whittier House, I shall not be present at the meeting called by you for this afternoon of the City Commissioners and the Board of Education, to decide if possible upon this much mooted question of the site of No. 5 school. I am sorry to be absent, because as chairman of the committee which selected the present location, I am greatly interested..

When I was appointed to the membership of the Board of Education in 1912, No. 9 was assigned me as one of my schools. I was greatly attracted to it. Situated as it is, in the Italian district, I naturally studied its pupils and its surroundings. I found it greatly overcrowded, and soon saw the future was not far distant when to accomodate this congested district, and this already overcrowded No. 9, a new school building would be absolutely imperative. The chairman with others spent much time in searching for just the right location in which to erect the much needed building. To come towards Montgomery Street would not be necessary as School No. 3 looks after the children beyond Montgomery Street. To go towards Cole Street was equally unnecessary because of School No. 32, and so after much talking, many conferences and honest conscientious investigation and planning, the present location was the one finally decided upon as the one best suited in every way, as we thought, for the purposes.

Two reasons then decided us in this matter. First, we saw the congested Italian quarters in this section of the city, the swarming of children in the streets, the lack of school accommodations, both now and for the future, and believing the schools should follow in the immediate wake of population and its needs, we selected the present site. None of us on this committee were seers, but everyone of us on this committee had visions of the growth of

Board of Education.

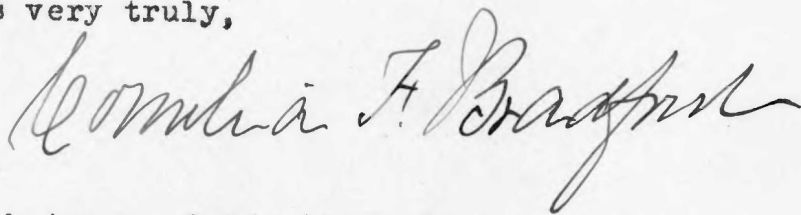
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Jersey City, and we honestly believed that in helping a part of Jersey City to better educative advantages, we were helping the whole of Jersey City, both for the present and the future.

Second, We chose this site because of the Mary Benson Park, just across the street, which could be used as a playground by the school children. School buildings today are considered incomplete with out their playgrounds. In our sincere desire to cause the city as little expense as possible, and yet to consider the good of the school child, we selected this spot opposite the Park.

To recapitulate, the playground, the locating of the school building where it is most needed, and in as close proximity to an already overcrowded school as possible, were our two sincere and honest reasons for selecting the present site.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Cornelia F. Bradford". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "Cornelia F. Bradford".

Ex chairman of Committee for  
Construction of New School No.5.