

# Rudy cool as Levy mulls bid to get rid of 'interim'

By CARL CAMPANILE  
and ROBERT HARDT JR.

The Board of Education expects Interim Schools Chancellor Harold Levy to say tomorrow whether he wants to become the full-time chancellor — and Mayor Giuliani did not immediately reject the idea.

Board President Bill Thompson said the seven board representatives would meet with Levy "regarding his intentions to pursue the permanent position." Levy declined comment yesterday.

Giuliani reserved judgment when asked whether the board should

extend Levy's six-month contract.

"I think he and the board have to make a decision and I think that any comments by me right now would be premature," the mayor said.

Levy seemed to have softened up key allies of Giuliani — Staten Island Borough President Guy Molinari and Board member Jerry Cammarata — even though the mayor had

opposed his initial selection.

Molinari, who met with Levy last week, said, "I was favorably impressed. He's attacked the job with a vengeance."

Levy was hired as the interim chancellor to replace Rudy Crew in a controversial 4 to 3 vote.

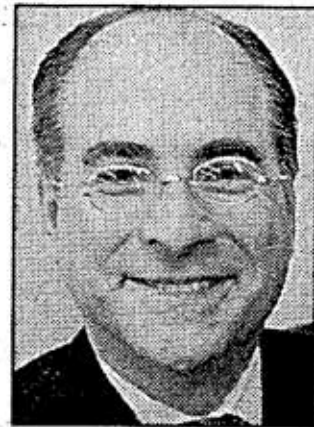
Cammarata — a Molinari appointee — opposed Levy's selection. Shortly thereafter, he said hiring Levy as the permanent chancellor would be a wasteful charade because the board was spending \$160,000 on a national search. But yester-

day, Cammarata was listening.

"If the chancellor is, in fact, putting his name in the hopper, it gives us a chance to review all the resumes and potentially close the process," he said.

Cammarata — while not endorsing Levy — said the acting schools boss was "working very, very hard and very, very diligently."

Board member Ninfa Segarra — a Giuliani ally — noted the board would have to change its policy to hire Levy because it hasn't made interim school bosses



**HAROLD LEVY**  
Decision due tomorrow.

full-time chancellors. She has complained that Levy looks like he's campaigning for the job, which has discouraged other candidates from applying.

Levy still appears to have majority support of the board — albeit slim. Queens board member Terri Thompson — who provided the crucial swing vote to hire Levy — has praised his tenure.