

Rudy tells Board of Ed to smarten up on HQ sale

By CARL CAMPANILE
and SUSAN EDELMAN

He wasn't joking — Mayor Giuliani is pressing the Board of Ed to vote next week on putting a "For Sale" sign on its historic but rundown Brooklyn headquarters.

Deputy Mayor Ninfa Segarra, a Giuliani appointee to the board, has introduced a resolution to sell 110 Livingston St. and look for "newer, smaller, smarter" digs.

"I'm don't know why anyone would want to keep it," Segarra said yesterday of the 12-story dinosaur, which new interim Chancellor Harold Levy has called "a pigsty" and "prison-like."

But some board and political insiders questioned the mayor's timing and motives, saying Giuliani has made the school system a punching bag in his expected race for the Senate.

Segarra said she is following up on the mayor's State of the City speech last month, when Giuliani

ripped the Board of Ed bureaucracy and proposed finding it a new home 75 percent smaller.

The resolution — to be considered Wednesday — says, "In anticipation of reductions in central board staff, a new building could be much smaller" than 110 Livingston, plus two nearby buildings, which house a total 3,600 employees.

"Who are the mysterious folks behind these doors? I think it will surprise many when they find out how many people are in there and what they are doing," Segarra said.

Staten Island member Jerry Cammarata, a Giuliani ally, called the proposal a "no-brainer," saying the building would fetch well over \$25 million — and a reorganization could result in cost efficiencies.

Although his two board appointees and Cammarata are lined up, it's unclear whether Giuliani will get the fourth vote needed to pull

off the eviction.

Board President Bill Thompson and Bronx member Sandra Lerner said they aren't against the sale of 110, but are unsure what would happen next.

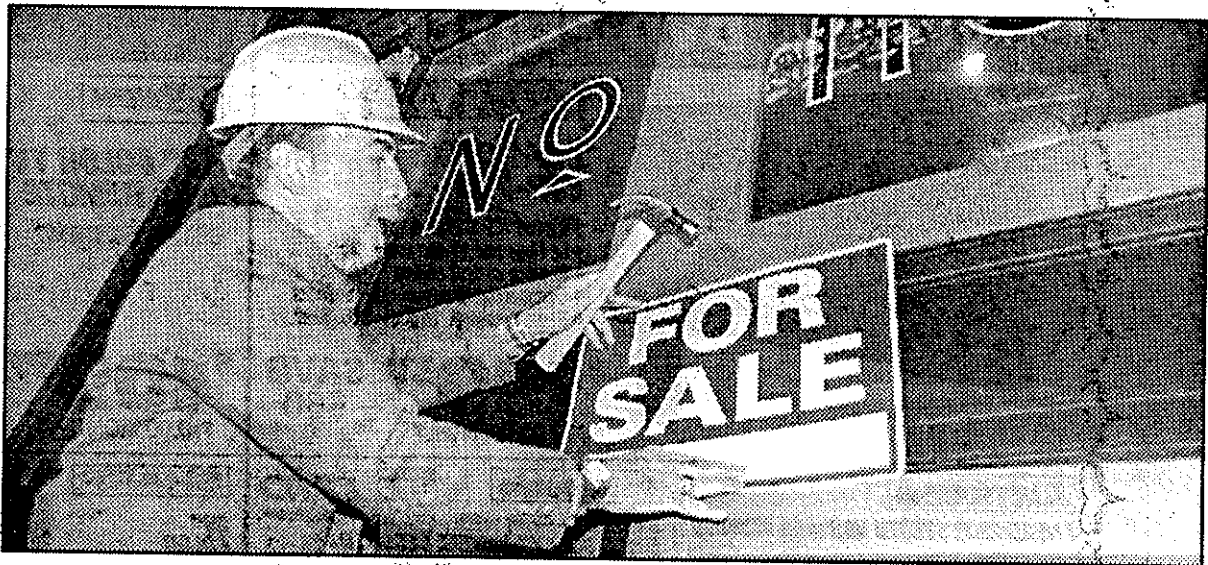
"Is there a plan?" Thompson asked. "What's the cost of a new building? Where's the building? What's the impact?"

"It stands as a political document. It's not tied to anything," he said.

Manhattan member Irving Hamer and Queens representative Terri Thomson, both potential swing votes, could not be reached yesterday.

But real-estate sources are already salivating.

Deborah Beck, executive vice president of the Real Estate Board of New York, said the 75-year-old building would attract "a lot of interest" because of its location in booming downtown Brooklyn, near subways and two new hotel-conference centers.



SIGN OF THE TIMES: Board of Ed member Jerry Cammarata puts up a "for sale" sign at the rundown Brooklyn headquarters, subject to board approval, which is by no means certain. He believes the building could sell for well over \$25 million.

N.Y. Post: Bpliyar Arellano