



Public Comment Analysis

Date: January 17, 2012

Topic: The Proposed Re-Siting of East Brooklyn Community High school (18K673) to Building K860 Beginning in the 2012-2013 School Year

Date of Panel Vote: January 18, 2012

Summary of Proposal

The New York City Department of Education (“DOE”) is proposing to re-site East Brooklyn Community High School (18K673, “East Brooklyn Community”), an existing transfer high school, which serves students between the ages of 16 and 21, who have fallen behind academically and who are more than two years away from graduation. East Brooklyn Community currently serves students in ninth through twelfth grades in building K366 (“K366”) located at 965 East 107th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11236 in Community School District 18, where it is currently co-located with the Science and Medicine Middle School (18K366, “Science and Medicine”) an existing middle school that serves students in sixth through eighth grade. If this proposal is approved, East Brooklyn Community will be re-sited to building K860 (“K860”) located at 9517 Kings Highway, Brooklyn, NY 11212 in Community School District 18 before the start of the 2012-2013 school year. A “re-siting” means a school will be located in a different building than the building in which it is currently located.

K860 is an annex building that currently houses a portion of the students enrolled in P.S. 219 Kennedy-King (18K219, “P.S. 219”), specifically, P.S. 219’s pre-kindergarten and kindergarten students. P.S. 219 is an existing zoned elementary school that serves students in kindergarten through fifth grade and offers a half-day pre-kindergarten program. P.S. 219’s first through fifth grade students are currently served in building K219 (“K219”) located at 1060 Clarkson Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11212. Beginning in 2012-2013, the principal of P.S. 219 has decided that all of the P.S. 219 students will be served in K219 and, therefore, P.S. 219 will no longer occupy any space in K860.

If this proposal is approved, East Brooklyn Community will be re-sited to K860 and will be the only school in K860 beginning in September 2012. In the 2010-2011 school year, K860 had a target capacity to serve 262 students based on its current usage as an elementary school. But, the building only served 120 of P.S. 219’s students, yielding a building utilization rate of 46%. In 2012-2013, East Brooklyn Community is projected to serve 190-225 students, and the estimated building utilization rate would be 73-85%.

The proposed re-siting of East Brooklyn Community is intended to facilitate East Brooklyn Community’s growth in a building where it would be the sole organization. The proposed re-siting to

K860 will allow East Brooklyn Community to remain in District 18 and will not pose a travel hardship for current East Brooklyn Community students as the new location is only 3 miles away from its current location. This proposal will not reduce the number of seats offered at East Brooklyn Community.

The DOE does not currently have any plans for the space in K366 that will be made available by East Brooklyn Community's re-siting.

The details of this proposal have been released in an Educational Impact Statement ("EIS") which can be accessed here: <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2011-2012/Jan2012Proposals.htm>.

Copies of the EIS are also available in the main offices of East Brooklyn Community and Science and Medicine.

Summary of Comments Received at the Joint Public Hearing

A joint public hearing regarding this proposal was held at K366 on January 4, 2012. At that hearing, interested parties had an opportunity to provide input on the proposal. Approximately 37 members of the public attended the hearing and 3 people spoke. Present at the meeting were: Principal of East Brooklyn Community, Patrick McGillicuddy; Principal of Science and Medicine, Ingrid Thomas-Clark; District 18 Community Superintendent Beverly Wilkins; District 18 Community Education Council ("CEC") president James Dandridge; and Science and Medicine's School Leadership Team's representative, Carlton Richardson.

The following comments and remarks were made at the joint public hearing:

1. Multiple commenters stated that they supported this proposal and stated that it would benefit East Brooklyn Community and Science and Medicine.
2. A commenter stated that the proposal made sense because K860, which would otherwise have stood empty, will be utilized when East Brooklyn Community is re-sited there.
3. A commenter stated that keeping East Brooklyn Community in the Canarsie neighborhood is good because it is needed in the community.

Summary of Issues Raised in Written and/or Oral Comments Submitted to the DOE

No written or oral comments regarding this proposal were received during the comment period.

Analysis of Issues Raised, Significant Alternatives Proposed and Changes Made to the Proposal

All comments received at the hearing were in support of the proposed re-siting and, therefore, do not need to be addressed.

Changes Made to the Proposal

No changes have been made to this proposal.