



Notice
January 8, 2011

Cathleen P. Black
Chancellor

The Proposed Co-Location of a New Public Charter School, Teaching Firms of America Charter School, with Existing School P.S. 308 Clara Cardwell (16K308) in Building K308

I. Description of the subject and purpose of the proposed item under consideration.

The New York City Department of Education (“DOE”) is proposing to site Teaching Firms of America Charter School (“Teaching Firms”), a new public charter school that would serve students in Kindergarten through fifth grade, in Building K308 (“K308”), located at 616 Quincy Street, Brooklyn, NY, 11221, in Community School District 16. Teaching Firms would be co-located in K308 with an existing DOE zoned elementary school that serves kindergarten through eighth grade, P.S. 308 Clara Cardwell (16K308, “P.S. 308”). P.S. 308 also offers one section of full-day pre-kindergarten. A “co-location” means that two or more school organizations are located in the same building and may share common spaces like auditoriums, gymnasiums, and cafeterias.

Teaching Firms has been approved by its charter authorizer, the DOE, and the New York State Board of Regents, to open a new public charter school in Community School District 16 in Brooklyn. The DOE recently approved Teaching Firms’s proposal to open a new charter school that would serve students in kindergarten and first grade when it first opens in 2011-2012 and would subsequently add one grade per year until it serves up to 342 students in kindergarten through fifth grade at full scale. Teaching Firms will provide a preference to District 16 students in its charter school lottery application process.

If this proposal to site Teaching Firms in K308 is approved, Teaching Firms would be co-located with P.S. 308 in K308. In 2011-2012, the first year of the proposed co-location, Teaching Firms would enroll approximately 57 students in kindergarten and 57 students in first grade. In 2012-2013, Teaching Firms would expand to serve approximately 57 students in second grade, with a combined K-5 enrollment of 171. Teaching Firms would then add one grade of approximately 57 students each year until 2015-2016, the final year of phase-in, when it would achieve “full scale” and serve approximately 342 students in kindergarten through fifth grade.

K308 has been identified as an under-utilized building, meaning it currently has at least 300 seats available. In 2009-2010, the most recent year for which audited data is available, the building served 719 students in kindergarten through eighth grade and in one full-day pre-kindergarten section, and had a capacity to serve 1,213 students, yielding a target building utilization of 59%. Although the building has the capacity to serve 1,213 students, in 2010-11, K308 only served 636 students in kindergarten through eighth grade and 13 students in one full day pre-kindergarten section for a total of 649 students, which yields an estimated utilization rate of 54%.

In 2015-16, when Teaching Firms completes its expansion and achieves full scale, K308 would serve approximately 880-920 students, which yields an estimated utilization rate of 76%.

II. Information regarding where the full text of the proposed item may be obtained.

The Educational Impact Statement can be found on the Department of Education's Web site: <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2010-2011/Mar12011Proposals>

Copies of the EIS are also available in the main office of P.S. 308.

III. Submission of public comment.

Written comments can be sent to D16Proposals@schools.nyc.gov.

Oral comments can be left at 212-374-0208.

IV. The name, office, address, email and telephone number of the city district representative, knowledgeable on the item under consideration, from whom information may be obtained concerning the item.

Name: Benjamin Taylor
Office: Division of Portfolio Planning
Address: 52 Chambers St
Email: D16Proposals@schools.nyc.gov
Phone: 212-374-0208

V. Date, time and place of joint public hearings for this proposal.

February 8, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.
P.S. 308 Clara Cardwell
616 Quincy Street
Brooklyn, NY 11221

Questions about the proposal can be directed as indicated in section IV above.

Speaker sign-up will begin 30 minutes before the hearing and will close 15 minutes after the start. To request interpretation services, please contact Mr. Taylor at the e-mail address or telephone number above.

VI. Date, time and place of the Panel for Educational Policy meeting at which the Panel will vote on the proposed item.

March 1, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.
Brooklyn Technical High School
29 Fort Greene Place
Brooklyn, NY 11217