



Notice
March 6, 2015

**Department of
Education**

Carmen Fariña, Chancellor

The Proposed Co-Location of New Visions Charter High School For Advanced Math and Science IV (84QTBD), with Existing Schools August Martin High School (27Q400) and Voyages Prep – South Queens Transfer High School (27Q261) in Building Q400 Beginning in the 2015-2016 School Year

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

The New York City Department of Education (“DOE”) is proposing to co-locate a charter high school, New Visions Charter High School for Advanced Math and Science IV (84QTBD, “AMS IV”), that will serve students in grades nine through twelve in Q400, with August Martin High School (27Q400, “August Martin”), an existing district high school that currently serves students in ninth through twelfth grade, Voyages Prep – South Queens Transfer School (27Q261, “Voyages South”), a transfer high school serving students in grades nine through twelve, and an Alternate Learning Center (88Q995, “ALC”), which provides an educational setting for students in grades nine through twelve who are on a Superintendent’s Suspension for up to one year, beginning in the 2015-2016 school year. Q400 is located at 156-10 Baisley Boulevard, Queens, NY 11434 within the geographical confines of Community School District 27 (“District 27”). 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.

The DOE is partnering with school leaders, staff, families, and community partners of August Martin through the School Renewal Program. As a part of the School Renewal Program, August Martin will adopt a Community School model beginning in the 2015-2016 school year. While we do not expect this potential co-location to impact any tailored ancillary services, extended instruction time, or other additional resources August Martin may receive as a result of the School Renewal Program and the school’s designation as a Community School, the DOE will re-evaluate the space allocations outlined in the attached Building Utilization Plan (“BUP”) after August Martin’s particular community school model has been developed.

New Visions for Public Schools (“New Visions”) is the charter management organization for AMS IV. Pursuant to recent amendments to the Education Law which provide certain new and expanding charter schools with access to facilities, New Visions has requested co-located space for AMS IV’s ninth through twelfth grades within a DOE facility.

In addition, building Q400 houses the following community based organizations: King of Kings, Life Camp, Relationship Abuse Prevention Program (“RAPP”), and Counseling for Mediation Services (“CMS”).

In November 2012, the New York State Education Department (“SED”) authorized AMS IV to serve students in ninth through twelfth grades. AMS IV was originally approved by the SED to serve students in ninth through twelfth grades in districts in Brooklyn. New Visions has informed the DOE that it has applied for a charter revision to serve students in District 27. For the purposes of this proposal, it is assumed that SED will approve New Visions’ application. AMS IV will offer a rigorous academic program and prepare students for post-secondary work in math and science. As previously mentioned, New Visions is the charter management organization for AMS IV. According to New Visions, New Visions schools provide all students, regardless of their previous academic history, the highest quality education in an atmosphere of respect, responsibility and rigor. The schools ensure that graduates have the skills and content knowledge necessary to succeed in post-secondary choices by engaging students, teachers and administrators in learning experiences that allow risk-taking, embrace multiple attempts at learning, cultivate students’ imaginative and creative abilities, and celebrate achievement. Students at AMS IV will gain the tools to succeed in college and careers. The school will offer core courses including math, science, English, art, and physical education for all students, as well as Advanced Placement and college-level courses. AMS IV will provide students with a foundation for career paths in engineering, medicine, research, and forensics.

AMS IV will admit students through a lottery application process, with admissions preference given to residents of District 27 and then to siblings that apply in the lottery to attend ninth grade at AMS IV.

If this proposal to open and co-locate AMS IV in Q400 is approved, students will have access to an additional high school option in Queens. AMS IV will open in Q400 for the 2015-2016 school year and will serve 115-140 students in grade nine, adding one grade level every year until reaching its full grade span of ninth through twelfth grades in the 2018-2019 school year, when it will serve approximately 460-560 students.

According to the 2013-2014 Enrollment, Capacity, Utilization Report, Q400 has the capacity to serve 1,931 students. During the 2014-2015 school year the building is serving 906 students, yielding a building utilization rate of 47%. This means that the building is “under-utilized” and has space to accommodate additional students.

If this proposal is approved, in 2018-2019, when AMS IV is fully phased in the building, AMS IV is projected to serve approximately 460-560 ninth through twelfth grade students, August Martin is projected to serve an estimated total of 630-670 ninth through twelfth-grade students, the ALC is projected to serve an estimated total of 60-80 ninth through twelfth-grade students, and Voyages South is projected to serve approximately 230-270 ninth through twelfth-grade students. Voyages South is currently phasing in and will reach full scale in the 2015-2016 school year. Combined, there will be approximately 1,380-1,580 students served in Q400, which yields a projected utilization rate of approximately 71%-82%. Thus, there is sufficient space in Q400 to accommodate Voyages South, August Martin, the ALC, and AMS IV.

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

An Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”) and BUP describing the proposal is available at <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2014-2015/April2015SchoolProposals>.

Copies of the EIS and BUP are also available in the main offices of August Martin, Voyages South, and the ALC.

III. Submission of public comment

Written comments can be sent to D27Proposals@schools.nyc.gov.

Oral comments can be left at 212-374-7621.

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: Dean Guzman
Office: Office of District Planning
Address: 52 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007
Email: D27Proposals@schools.nyc.gov
Phone: 212-374-7621

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

April 17, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.
August Martin High School
Q400 Building
156-10 Baisley Boulevard
Queens, NY 11434

Questions about the proposal should 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.

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

April 29, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.
M.S. 131
100 Hester Street
New York, NY 10002