Amended Notice
November 15, 2010

Joel I. Klein
Chancellor

The Proposed Grade Expansion of P.S. 206 to a 3-8 School

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

P.S. 206 Jose Celso Barbosa (04M206, or "P.S. 206") is an existing elementary school located at 508 East 120 Street, New York, NY, 10035, in Community School District 4. It currently serves students in third through fifth grade. P.S. 206 is a zoned elementary school that offers a specialized program for students with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) that is not widely available in other New York City schools. In this program, known as ASD Nest, students with ASD are taught in a classroom alongside general education students. Classes are small, limited to 16 students in grades 3-5. Currently, there are no middle schools in Manhattan that offer comparable programs for students with ASD.

On October 29, 2010, the New York City Department of Education ("DOE") published an educational impact statement ("EIS") describing a proposal to expand the grade configuration of P.S. 206, so that the school would serve students in grades 3-8. If this proposal is approved, P.S. 206 would expand gradually, beginning with the addition of three sections of sixth graders during the 2011-2012 school year. P.S. 206 would then grow to serve seventh graders in the 2012-2013 school year and eighth graders in the 2013-2014 school year.

On November 15, 2010, the DOE published an amended EIS, which clarifies certain data concerning the percentage of students eligible for free or reduced price meals, but which does not modify or revise the proposal itself.

P.S. 206 is co-located with P.S. 112 Jose Celso Barbosa (04M112, or "P.S. 112") and River East Elementary School (04M037, or "River East"). P.S. 112 is a zoned elementary school that serves students in Kindergarten through second grade and also offers a Pre-Kindergarten program. The school serves the same zone as P.S. 206 and offers an ASD Nest program for students in Kindergarten through second grade. P.S. 112 students are automatically eligible to enroll at P.S. 206. River East is a District 4 "choice" elementary school, which means that it admits students from any District 4 school zone regardless of where they reside. If seats are available, River East sometimes also admits students from other Districts. River East serves students in Kindergarten through fifth grade. The proposed grade expansion is not expected to affect the enrollment or programs offered at P.S. 112 or River East.

The proposal to expand P.S. 206's grade span was initiated by a grade expansion team composed of

the P.S. 206 principal, other administrators, and teachers, with the support of the school's parents and the broader community. Because there are currently no middle schools in Manhattan that offer comparable programs for students with ASD, P.S. 206's expansion would provide a unique, continuous educational experience and supportive environment for students with ASD, while also providing an additional middle school option for general education students in District 4.

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

The amended EIS can be found on the Department of Education's Web site:
http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2010-2011/Dec2010PEP.htm

A copy of the amended EIS is also available in the main offices of P.S 206, P.S. 112 and River East.

III. Submission of public comment.

Written comments can be sent to D04Proposals@schools.nyc.gov.

Oral comments can be left at 212-374-3466.

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: Gentian Falstrom
Office: Division of Portfolio Planning
Address: 52 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007
Email: D04Proposals@schools.nyc.gov
Phone: 212-374-3466

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

December 1, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.
P.S. 206 Jose Celso Barbosa/P.S. 112 Jose Celso Barbosa/P.S. 37 River East Elementary
508 East 120 Street, New York, NY, 10035

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.

December 14, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.,
Brooklyn Technical High School, 29 Fort Greene Place, Brooklyn, NY 11217