SECOND AMENDED EDUCATIONAL IMPACT STATEMENT: The Proposed Grade Expansion of P.S. 23 The New Children's School (10X023) to a K-5 School

I. Summary of Proposal

P.S. 23 The New Children's School (10X023 or "P.S. 23") is an existing early childhood center/elementary school located at 2151 Washington Avenue, Bronx, NY, 10457, in Community School District 10. P.S. 23 currently serves students in Kindergarten through second grade and offers a Pre-Kindergarten program. P.S. 23 is located in building X023.

On October 29, 2010, the Department of Education ("DOE") published a proposal to implement a "grade expansion" so that P.S 23 will serve Kindergarten through fifth grade. This means that P.S. 23 would continue to serve existing students as they are promoted to third grade in the 2011-2012 school year. P.S. 23 would then grow to serve fourth graders in 2012-2013, and fifth graders in 2013-2014, as laid out in the chart below. P.S. 23 would complete its grade expansion in September 2013, at which point it would enroll students in Kindergarten through fifth grade and continue to offer a Pre-Kindergarten program.

School Year	Grades Served
2011-2012	K-3
2012-2013	K-4
2013-2014	K-5

On November 15, 2010, the DOE published an amended EIS, which clarified data concerning the percentage of students eligible for free or reduced price meals, but which did not revise or modify the proposal itself. This second amended EIS clarifies P.S. 23's school performance data and corrects typographical errors, but, again, does not revise or modify the proposal itself.

The DOE strives to ensure that all students in New York City have access to high-quality schools at every stage of their education. Having elementary schools that terminate in different grades (i.e., K-2 versus K-5) creates challenges for students who must leave elementary schools after second grade and move to other elementary schools for third through fifth grades. When P.S. 23 students leave P.S. 23 and attend their zoned elementary school in grade 3, this creates an enlarged enrollment for the zoned school in grades three through five. For students zoned to P.S. 23 for K-2, these students are zoned to P.S. 59 starting in third grade. Elementary schools typically enroll students from Kindergarten to fifth grade (K-5).

The proposed grade expansion will help standardize elementary school grade spans in District 10, giving P.S. 23 students the typical six years in elementary school. Once P.S. 23 serves students in grades K-5 in 2013-2014, fifth-grade students will be able to apply to middle schools through the Middle School Choice process.

In addition, this proposal addresses changing enrollment trends based on recently approved and potential additional rezoning plans. Historically, many students attended P.S. 23 from other overcrowded elementary schools in District 10, including P.S. 8, P.S. 56, P.S. 94 and P.S. 85. However, the construction of new school facilities and certain already approved rezoning proposals have significantly addressed these overcrowding issues. Therefore, fewer students from other District 10 elementary schools will need to attend P.S. 23, and many will return to their zoned elementary school. As this trend continues, P.S. 23's elementary school enrollment will decrease in grades Kindergarten through second grade, resulting in sufficient space in X023 to accommodate the proposed expansion.

Furthermore, the DOE is working with the District 10 Community Education Council ("CEC 10") to change P.S. 23's zone pursuant to Chancellor's Regulation A-185. If approved, P.S. 23's new zone would stabilize enrollment at P.S. 23, P.S. 59 and P.S. 85. At P.S. 23, the current projected Kindergarten enrollment is 128 students. Assuming that the rezoning and grade expansion proposals are approved, P.S. 23's Kindergarten enrollment would be reduced to approximately 70-80 students, and the school would grow to its projected enrollment at scale in 2014-2015 with approximately 425-475 students, or slightly below the school's target capacity of 485 students. No further construction or facilities changes are necessary to implement the grade expansion.

The DOE presented the rezoning proposal to CEC 10 on November 18, 2010. We anticipate that it will be voted on at the CEC 10 meeting on December 16, 2010. The CEC's approval of the rezoning proposal would be contingent on the Panel for Educational Policy (PEP)'s approval of this grade expansion proposal.

Even if the rezoning proposal is not passed, the expected drop in enrollment at P.S. 23 described above will create space in the building and will allow for the school to expand and accommodate students in Kindergarten through fifth grade. The DOE would work with P.S. 23. and P.S. 59 to reach target enrollment levels at P.S. 23 by limiting that school to approximately three sections per grade. This would be monitored by the DOE's Office of Student Enrollment office to ensure that the school has the necessary space to successfully serve all students.

II. Proposed or Potential Use of Building

P.S. 23 is located in X023, which has a target capacity of 485 students and a target utilization rate of 119 percent,[1] meaning that the building was over-enrolled in the 2009-2010 school year. Because P.S. 23 will no longer need to accommodate as many students from overcrowded elementary schools in other parts of District 10, starting in 2011-2012, the number of incoming students at P.S. 23 will be lower than in previous years, enabling the school to accommodate its students in grades K-5. P.S. 23's projected enrollment based on the proposed rezoning would decrease from 128 students to 70-80 students per grade. P.S. 23's projected enrollment at scale in grades K-5 is 425-475 students, or slightly below the building's target capacity of 485 students in the 2014-2015 school year.

The DOE projects that P.S. 23 would enroll approximately 3-4 sections of students per grade in grades K-5.[2]

School Year	Grades Served	Projected Enrollment[3]
2011-2012	K-3	385-395
2012-2013	K-4	460-470
2013-2014	K-5	530-540
2014-2015	K-5	425-475

To ensure that there continues to be sufficient space in building X023 for P.S. 23 at its full proposed grade scale, the school would need to closely monitor its Kindergarten enrollment to ensure that it only enrolls students residing in the school's designated geographical zone.

[1] The official target capacity and utilization rates for the 2010-11 school year are not yet available. All references to building utilization rates in this document are based on data from the 2009-10 Enrollment Capacity Utilization Report (the "Blue Book").
[2] The 2010-11 projection for Grade 2 at X023 is 178. The proposal is conservative in that, because there is no basis for an historical discharge rate from Grade 2 to Grade 3, it assumes all Grade 2 students will remain at P.S. 23 for Grade 3. This large cohort will graduate from the school after Grade 5 in 2014, at which time the school will assume regular enrollment in all grades.
[3] Projected enrollment for this grade expansion is based on the anticipated number of incoming Kindergarten students and historical discharge rates in current Kindergarten and grade 1 enrollment at P.S. 23.

III. Impact of the Proposal on Affected Students, Schools, and Community

A. Students

The proposed expansion will allow P.S. 23 students to continue their education at the school and have an uninterrupted elementary school experience for grades Kindergarten through fifth grade.

Families seeking to enroll their children into P.S. 23 for Kindergarten can visit the following website to learn more about eligibility and the DOE's sibling priority policy: http://schools.nyc.gov/ChoicesEnrollment/Elementary

In 2013-2014, P.S. 23 fifth graders will be eligible to apply to middle schools through the Middle School Choice Process. For more information on middle school admissions please visit this website: http://schools.nyc.gov/ChoicesEnrollment/Middle

The DOE does not anticipate that the proposed grade expansion would impact students with disabilities or English Language Learners (ELLs). P.S. 23 would continue to meet the needs of its students with disabilities and ELL students in all grades.

B. Schools

No other schools are co-located with P.S. 23 at X023, so there will be no impact on other schools in the building.

Building X023, which houses P.S. 23, has a target capacity of 485[4] and is projected to enroll 447 students during the 2010-2011 school year.[5]

This proposed grade expansion will increase the number of grades being served by P.S. 23 and would therefore increase the total number of students enrolled in building X023. Building X023 operated above its capacity in the 2009-2010 school year. However, as explained above, the school's registers are expected to decrease as a result of new available capacity at other elementary schools in the district that have had to cap students and send them to P.S. 23 in the past.

According to the 2009-2010 room survey, P.S. 23's building (X023) has 54 total rooms, including 14 administrative rooms, 29 full-size rooms, and 7 half-size rooms. If this proposal is approved, there will continue to be sufficient space to serve students pursuant to the Citywide Instructional Footprint (the "Footprint") after the grade expansion is completed. Please visit the New York City Department of Education website to access the Instructional Footprint, which guides space allocation and use in City schools: http://schools.nyc.gov/NR/rdonlyres/8CF30F41-DE25-4C30-92DE-731949919FC3/87633/NYCDOE_Instructional_Footprint_Final9210TNT.pdf.

[4] The official target capacity and utilization rates for the 2010-11 school year are not yet available. All references to building utilization rates in this document are based on data from the 2009-10 Enrollment Capacity Utilization Report (the "Blue Book").
[5] These enrollment figures, including those for the 2010-11 school year, are projected and unaudited at this time. Audited enrollment figures for the current school year will not be available until February 2011.

C. Community

In the immediate geographic area surrounding P.S. 23, there are several schools serving elementary school students:

School	Address	Grade Span	Target Capacity	Target Utilization (%)
P.S. 59 The Community School of Technology	2185 Bathgate Avenue, Bronx, NY 10457	K-5	583	80
P.S. 85 Great Expectations	2400 Marion Avenue, Bronx, NY 10458	K-5	887	100
P.S. 159 Luis Munoz Marin Biling	2315 Washington Avenue, Bronx, NY 10458	K-5	176	124

P.S. 59 shares a school zone with P.S. 23 and many of the students who graduate from P.S. 23 in second grade currently transition to P.S. 59 for grades three to five. This proposal means that P.S. 59 would no longer receive an influx of third-grade students, and the school's registers would decrease accordingly. The pending rezoning proposal would result in an increase in the size of P.S. 59's incoming classes. P.S. 59 will be able to support this level of enrollment throughout the elementary school grades because of the increased capacity created by P.S. 23's grade expansion.

The rezoning plan assumes that the expansion at P.S. 23 will be approved, so the CEC's approval of the rezoning plan would be contingent on the PEP's approval of P.S. 23's grade expansion.

P.S. 85 has a school zone adjacent to the school zone shared by P.S. 23 and P.S. 59. In recent years, P.S. 85 has not had sufficient capacity in its school building to accommodate all of the incoming students from its zone and many have attended P.S. 23 as a result. While this grade expansion proposal will not have a direct impact on P.S. 85, the related rezoning proposal will serve to decrease the size of P.S. 85's zone and each of its incoming classes in future school years. If approved, these new school zones will enable P.S. 85 to better serve all of its zoned students, will provide greater clarity to families in the area, and will create greater stability in the enrollment at P.S. 23 and P.S. 85.

P.S. 159 is an elementary school that does not have a school zone. The school serves bilingual students from the immediate area and no changes to its enrollment policies are planned; P.S. 159 will continue to admit incoming students as it has in the past. Because of the unique service group who attend the school, it is not anticipated that P.S. 159 will be impacted by this proposal or the related rezoning proposal.

The proposed expansion of P.S. 23 to serve K-5 is one of the current efforts to standardize elementary school grade spans in District 10. For example, last year a proposal to truncate the grades served at P.S. 246 to K-5 was approved by the PEP at its December 17, 2009 meeting. This year, the DOE has proposed a grade truncation at P.S. 360, and the grade reconfiguration of several other District 10 elementary schools are under consideration for proposal.

Building X023 has a target capacity of 485 students and a target utilization rate of 119 percent[6], meaning that the building was over-enrolled in 2009-2010. Because P.S. 23 will no longer need to accommodate as

[6] The official target capacity and utilization rates for the 2010-11 school year are not yet available. All references to building utilization rates in this document are based on data from the 2009-10 Enrollment Capacity Utilization Report (the "Blue Book").

many students from overcrowded elementary schools in other parts of District 10, starting in 2011-2012, the number of incoming students at P.S. 23 will be lower than in previous years, enabling the school to accommodate its students in grade 3 and eventually serve students in grades K-5. The projected Kindergarten enrollment at P.S. 23 is expected to decrease from approximately 128 students to 70-80 students per grade. The projected enrollment of P.S. 23 at scale in grades K-5 is projected to be 425-475 students, or slightly below the school's target capacity of 485 students. Since P.S. 23 will accommodate its zoned students in more grade levels, it will have less space to accommodate students from other District 10 school zones.

It is expected that fewer out-of-zone students will attend P.S. 23 from other overcrowded elementary schools in District 10 because of the construction of new facilities and already approved rezoning plans. For example, the P.S. 94 Annex opened in September 2010, which has helped to relieve some overcrowding in District 10. Additionally, an elementary school rezoning implemented in September 2009 impacted the following schools and also helped stabilize elementary enrollment in District 10: P.S. 8, P.S. 46, P.S 56, P.S. 86, P.S. 246, P.S. 340, P.S. 54 and P.S. 20.

Moreover, historically, the "discharge rate" at P.S. 23 in Kindergarten and first grade is higher than most schools. This is because many students attend P.S. 23 because there is no space for them at their zoned school, and many of these students return to their zoned school after they finish one year at P.S. 23. Approximately 50% of Kindergarten students are discharged after they finish Kindergarten at P.S. 23. Approximately 45% of first grade students are discharged after they finish first grade at P.S. 23.

There are currently no Community Based Organizations (CBOs) in the X023 building.

P.S. 23 offers ZUMBATONICS for Children, Dance, and Physical Education as extracurricular programs. These programs are not expected to be impacted by the expansion.

P.S. 23 offers the following academic programs: Students of Temporary Housing (academic after- school program), Title III Academic Afterschool Program for English Language Learners, and a Reading & Math After School Program. These programs are not expected to be impacted by the expansion. With the expansion at P.S. 23, extracurricular programs such as softball, soccer, cooking and scrap booking may be offered at the school.

P.S. 23 currently operates two sections of a full-day Pre-Kindergarten program. Barring unforeseen circumstances, we expect Pre-Kindergarten to continue being offered at P.S. 23.

This proposal is not expected to impact the ability of community members and organizations to obtain school building use permits at X023.

IV. Enrollment, Admissions and School Performance Information

The only directly impacted school in this proposal is P.S. 23.

Admissions Data

Current Admissions	Pre-K: Standard Universal Pre-K Admissions K-2: Zoned
Admissions after Grade Reconfiguration is Completed	Pre-K: Standard Universal Pre-K Admissions K-5: Zoned

Enrollment Data

School Year	Grades Served	Projected Enrollment[7]
2010-2011	K-2	447
2011-2012	K-3	385-395
2012-2013	K-4	460-470
2013-2014	K-5	530-540
2014-2015	K-5	425-475

Demographic Data[8]

Percentage Students With Disabilities (2009-2010)[9]	31%
Percentage English Language Learner Students (2009-2010)	19%
Percentage of Students Eligible for Free/Reduced Meals (2009-2010)[10]	91%

[7] Projected enrollment for this grade expansion is based on the anticipated number of incoming Kindergarten students and historical discharge rates in current Kindergarten and grade 1 enrollment at P.S. 23.
[8] Data regarding the percentage of students with disabilities and ELL students were taken from the audited October 31, 2009 register of students.
[9] Students with disabilities as percentage of total students. This count does not include SETSS or students receiving speech or language services.
[10] This school participates in the Universal School Meals Program, which means that students do not need to fill out the annual eligibility form in order to receive free or reduced meals. The data reflects the most recent year in which the school collected forms from students, which was not more than 4 years ago.

School Performance Data

	2008-2009	2009-2010	Website
Progress Report Scores	N/A	N/A	http://schools.nyc.gov/SchoolPortals/10/X023/AboutUs/Statistics/default.htm
ELA Score (% Level 3 and 4)	N/A	N/A	http://schools.nyc.gov/SchoolPortals/10/X023/AboutUs/Statistics/default.htm
Math Score (% Level 3 and 4)	N/A	N/A	http://schools.nyc.gov/SchoolPortals/10/X023/AboutUs/Statistics/default.htm
State Accountability Status	N/A	N/A	http://schools.nyc.gov/SchoolPortals/10/X023/AboutUs/Statistics/default.htm
Average Attendance	90.93%	91.15%	http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/data/stats/attendance

V. Initial Costs and Savings

P.S. 23 will receive a one-time award of approximately $12,320-13,920 during the first year of the grade expansion to help offset the costs of materials, such as new furniture and supplies, needed to support the additional grades. This figure is estimated based on current funding allocations awarded to schools undergoing grade expansions, and is subject to some annual variation. Going forward, annual replacement of furniture and other materials needed at the school will be funded out of the school's general supply budget, as is the case with all schools citywide.

VI. Effect on Personnel Needs, Costs of Instruction, Administration, Transportation and Other Support Services

A. Personnel Needs

Some current P.S. 23 staff positions may be excessed due to declining enrollment in Kindergarten through second grade, as described above. However, over the course of the remaining expansion, P.S. 23 may need to hire or re-hire additional teachers during each year of the grade expansion. The precise number of excessed positions for the 2011-2012 school year will be determined once annual enrollment projections are released in the spring of 2011. Similarly, the number of new positions created to serve elementary students will be determined based on annual enrollment projections available as the school grows to serve those grades. It is worth noting that teachers working in elementary schools typically hold a 1-6 common branches license. The school will continue to hire appropriately licensed and credentialed teachers to work with its students as it expands to serve elementary students.

Administrative staff and non-pedagogical positions at P.S. 23 may also be added over the course of the grade reconfiguration. Those decisions will be made at the school level based on need and budgetary considerations.

B. Cost of Instruction

Most funding in school budgets is allocated on a per-pupil basis. For each student no longer on the Kindergarten and first grade roster, the school is expected to receive approximately $4,059.71 less annual base funding. These estimates are based on current Fair Student Funding (FSF) per capita allocation levels and are subject to annual variation. FSF covers basic instructional expenses and FSF funds may, at the

school's discretion, be used for to hire staff, purchase supplies and materials, or implement instructional programs. As the total number of students enrolled grows, the overall budget will increase accordingly, allowing the school to meet the instructional needs of its larger student population.

In addition, FSF awards supplemental allocations on a per pupil basis for students who have additional needs and therefore cost more to educate. For example, during the 2010-2011 school year, schools received an additional $1,623 per pupil for each English Language Learner they enrolled. It is difficult to project the total supplemental funding that P.S. 23 will receive with its change in size because future students' achievement levels and needs cannot be predicted for each of the next three years, but the school will be awarded supplemental funding for higher-need students according to the same formula as all other schools citywide, ensuring that funds are in place to meet those students' needs.

As with all other schools citywide, P.S. 23 may receive additional "categorical" funding based on student characteristics and needs. For example, federal Title I funding is awarded to schools based on the proportion of low-income students they enroll. P.S. 23 is currently a Title I school. Assuming that the school continues to meet Title I criteria, the school's Title I funding award would grow as the school population grows.

While schools do receive supplemental support for students with disabilities through Fair Student Funding, that only represents part of the funding provided to support those students. Schools are budgeted to meet the needs of their students with disabilities as defined by their Individualized Education Plans (IEPs). As P.S. 23 expands, funding will continue to be provided to meet the needs of all students with disabilities in accordance with their IEPs.

Please note that increased or reduced per capita funds allocated to the school as a result of this proposal do not represent net/incremental system costs. All dollar amounts are based on FY10 allocations and are subject to annual variation based on adjustments to the DOE's overall operating budget.

C. Administration

P.S. 23 may hire school supervisory and/or administrative personnel as needed as a result of its grade expansion.

D. Transportation

Transportation will be provided according to Chancellor's regulation A-801: http://schools.nyc.gov/NR/rdonlyres/21A1B11A-886B-4F74-9546-E875EE82A14C/40303/A801.pdf. There will be no change to existing transportation practices at P.S. 23 due to this proposal.

E. Other Support Services

Other support services will continue to be provided consistent with citywide policy.

VII. Building Information

Building	X023
Type of Building	Elementary School
Year Built	1992
Overall BCAS rating	2.51
2009-2010 Target Building Utilization	119%
2009-2010 Target Building Capacity	485
FY 2010 Maintenance Costs	**Labor:** $10,378.49 **Materials:** $1,934.33 **Maintenance and repair contracts:** $11,251.23 **Service contracts:** $4,642.20 **Custodial operations costs—Materials:** $5,524.47 **Custodial operations costs—Custodial Allocation:** $209,696.98
FY 2009 Energy Costs	**Electric:** $116,674.21 **Gas:** $84,113.28 **Oil:** N/A
Projects completed during the current or prior school year	HVAC Replacement
Projects proposed in the capital plan	Heating Plant Upgrade
Accessibility of the building	Functionally fully programmatic accessible
Building attributes	Annex, Art Room, Auditorium, Cafeteria, Computer Room, Gymnasium, Library