



Amended Notice
December 1, 2010

Joel I. Klein
Chancellor

The Proposed Grade Truncation of P.S. 126 Dr. Marjorie H. Dunbar (09X126) to a K-5 School

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

P.S. 126 Dr. Marjorie H. Dunbar (09X126, “P.S. 126”) is an existing elementary school, located at 175 West 166th Street, Bronx, NY 10452, in Community School District 9. It currently serves students in Kindergarten through sixth grade and offers a Pre-Kindergarten program.

On October 15, 2010, the Department of Education (DOE) published an Educational Impact Statement (EIS) describing a proposal for a “grade truncation” of P.S. 126, which would mean that the school would no longer enroll sixth graders after the 2010-2011 school year.

The DOE strives to ensure that all students in New York City have access to a high-quality school at every stage of their education. Having elementary schools that terminate in different grades (i.e., K-5 versus K-6) creates unequal levels of access for students based simply on the year they exit elementary school. Middle schools typically enroll students beginning in sixth grade, and P.S. 126 students have the option to apply to start middle school as sixth graders. Currently, however, most P.S. 126 students transition to middle school for seventh grade, at which point they are limited to the few middle schools which still have available seventh grade seats.

P.S. 126 is the last elementary school in District 9 to serve grades K-6. The proposed grade truncation will help standardize middle school application and entry grades in District 9, giving all P.S. 126 students access to the same range of middle school options as their peers throughout District 9.

After receiving feedback from community members, the DOE has determined to re-examine the proposal to truncate P.S. 126. This means the proposal may be revised or withdrawn.

- If this proposal is *revised*, a revised EIS describing the proposed changes will be published and filed, and will also be made available in the P.S. 126 main office. A new joint public hearing to discuss the revised proposal will be scheduled.
- If this proposal is *withdrawn*, the proposed grade truncation will not be considered by the Panel for Educational Policy (PEP) this school year. P.S. 126 would continue to enroll sixth graders after the 2010-2011 school year.

As a result of this re-examination, the joint public hearing originally scheduled for November 22, 2010 was cancelled, and the proposal will not be considered by the PEP at its meeting on December 14, 2010.

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

The 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 EIS is also available in P.S. 126's main office.

III. Submission of public comment.

Written comments can be sent to D09Proposals@schools.nyc.gov.

Oral comments can be left at 212-374-5159.

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.

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