



Notice  
May 13, 2011

Dennis M. Walcott  
Chancellor

## **The Proposed Grade Truncation of P.S. 160 Walter Francis Bishop (28Q160) to a K-5 School**

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

P.S. 160 Walter Francis Bishop (28Q160, “P.S. 160”) is an existing elementary school located at 109-59 Inwood Avenue, Queens, NY, 11435, in Community School District 28, in Building Q160 (“Q160”). P.S. 160 currently serves students in kindergarten through sixth grade in addition to a pre-kindergarten program. The Department of Education (DOE) is proposing to truncate P.S. 160’s sixth grade beginning in September 2012, which would mean that the school would no longer enroll sixth graders after the 2011-2012 school year. Next year, fifth and sixth graders would enroll in middle school for the 2012-2013 school year through District 28’s Middle School Choice process. This change is supported by the P.S. 160 principal.

If this proposal is approved, at the close of the 2011-2012 school year, all fifth and sixth graders who meet promotional standards would graduate from P.S. 160. In September 2012, these students would enter middle school as sixth and seventh graders, respectively. Beginning in 2012-2013, P.S. 160 would serve students only in kindergarten through fifth grade and would continue to offer a pre-kindergarten program. From that time forward, P.S. 160 students would participate in the middle school choice process during fifth grade and move on to middle school for sixth grade.

Middle schools typically enroll students beginning in sixth grade, and P.S. 160 students have the option to apply to start middle school as sixth graders. P.S. 160 students who wait until sixth grade to apply to middle school are limited to those schools that still have available seventh-grade seats. In particular, there are several unzoned, choice middle schools in District 28, and those schools rarely have open seventh-grade seats, which become available only if sixth graders leave the school. As a result, students who remain at P.S. 160 through sixth grade will have fewer options than their peers who start middle school a year earlier.

This proposed grade truncation will help standardize middle school application and entry grades in District 28, giving all P.S. 160 students access to the same range of middle school options as their peers throughout the district.

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

The Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”) can be found on the Department of Education’s Web site: <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2010-2011/June2011Proposals>.

Copies of the EIS are also available in P.S. 160’s main office.

### **III. Submission of public comment.**

Written comments can be sent to [D28Proposals@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:D28Proposals@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: Drew Patterson  
Office: Division of Portfolio Planning  
Address: 52 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007  
Email: [D28Proposals@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:D28Proposals@schools.nyc.gov)  
Phone: 212-374-7621

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

June 14, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.  
P.S. 160 Walter Francis Bishop  
109-59 Inwood Street  
Jamaica, NY 11435

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.**

June 27, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.  
The High School of Fashion Industries  
225 West 24<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10011