



Notice
January 8, 2015

The Proposed Grade Expansion of the Robert F. Wagner, Jr. Secondary School for Arts and Technology (24Q560) from a 7-12 to a 6-12 School in Building Q891 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 expand Robert F. Wagner, Jr. Secondary School for Arts and Technology (24Q560, “Wagner”) to serve students in grades six through twelve beginning in the 2015-2016 school year. Wagner is an existing secondary school that currently serves students in grades seven through twelve. Wagner serves students in building Q891 (“Q891”) located at 47-07 30th Place, Queens, New York 11101 within the geographical confines of Community School District 24 (“District 24”). Building Q891 also houses an Alternate Learning Center (88Q988, “ALC”) which provides an educational setting for students in grades nine through twelve who are on a Superintendent’s suspension for up to 90 days. Additionally, Middle College High School at LaGuardia Community College (24Q520, “Middle College”), which predominantly serves students in building Q520 located at 45-35 Van Dam Street, Queens, New York 11101 within the geographical confines of District 24, uses a specialty music room in building Q891. Middle College does not use any other facilities in building Q891.

- The DOE believes that this principal-initiated proposal will benefit the District 24 and Queens community. By aligning Wagner’s entry grade with the majority of middle schools and secondary schools in the City, this proposal increases access and creates a more stable environment for students by allowing them to stay at Wagner for their full middle and high school experience.
- Given Wagner’s record of high academic performance, the DOE supports the expansion of Wagner to a 6-12 school.
 - In the 2013-2014 school year, 82% of students graduated high school within 4 years, as compared to the Citywide average of 67% of students graduating within 4 years.
 - Furthermore, in the 2013-2014 school year, Wagner’s middle school grades ranked in the 100th percentile for District-wide and 96th percentile for Citywide English Language Arts (“ELA”) and Math proficiency scores.

- The DOE engaged with the school principal, high school superintendent, District 24 superintendent and District 24 Community Education Council (“CEC”) President throughout the course of the creation of this proposal.
- The DOE will offer the following public engagement opportunities:
 - A joint public hearing to be held at the Q891 building. This meeting is open to the public and attendees are encouraged to provide comment on this proposal as part of the public comment portion of the hearing.
 - Dedicated phone and email lines to accept public comment at any time following the posting of this proposal until 6 p.m. on the day before the Panel for Educational Policy (“PEP”) meeting. Comments can be submitted in any language by calling 212-374-7621 or emailed in any language to D24Proposals@schools.nyc.gov. All comments received at the above noted hearing or through phone or email lines will be addressed by the DOE in an analysis of public comment, which is made available to the public after 6 p.m. on the day before the PEP meeting.
 - PEP meeting at which PEP members will vote on several proposals, including this one, prior to implementation of the proposal. This meeting is also open to the public and attendees are welcomed to provide comment on this proposal.
 - Information on the joint public hearing and PEP meetings can be found on the DOE website at: <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2014-2015/February2015SchoolProposals>.

Wagner is a secondary school that currently admits middle school students in seventh grade using a school-based admissions method that gives priority to students or residents of Districts 24, 25, 26, and 30. Students are admitted to high school using screened and Educational Option admissions methods that give priority to continuing students and students or residents of Districts 24, 30, and 32. If this proposal is approved, Wagner will admit middle school students in sixth grade and will be included in the middle school application process. For the 2015-2016 school year, Wagner will be included in the New Schools Round of the middle school admissions process for sixth grade and will continue to admit seventh-grade students using a school-based application. In the 2016-2017 school year and beyond, Wagner will enroll sixth-grade students through the middle school admissions process, and will no longer admit students in seventh grade through the school-based application.

If this proposal is approved, Wagner will begin serving approximately 50-60 sixth-grade students in building Q891 in the 2015-2016 school year, at which point Wagner will serve approximately 620-690 students in its full grade span of grades six through twelve.

According to the 2013-2014 Enrollment, Capacity, Utilization Report (“Blue Book”), Q891 has a target capacity to serve 655 students. Currently, in the 2014-2015 school year, the building

serves approximately 662 students, yielding a building utilization rate of 101%. Once Wagner has completed its grade expansion, a total of 656-774 students will be served collectively by Wagner, the ALC, and Middle College, yielding a projected target utilization rate of 100% - 118%. Although a utilization rate in excess of 100% may suggest that a building will be over-utilized or over-crowded in a given year, this rate does not account for the fact that rooms may be programmed for more efficient or different uses than the standard assumptions in the utilization calculation. Additionally, this utilization rate includes the maximum number of students the ALC can serve and the students from Middle College who are only in the building at certain times. Thus, the actual building utilization rate at a given time is likely lower than the maximum utilization rate projected above. Building Q891 has sufficient space to accommodate the expansion of Wagner under this proposal.

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/2014-2015/February2015SchoolProposals>.

Copies of the EIS are also available in Wagner’s main office.

III. Submission of public comment.

Written comments can be submitted via email to: D24Proposals@schools.nyc.gov.

Oral comments can be left by phone 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: Annabelle Eliashiv
Office: Office of District Planning
Address: 52 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007
Email: D24Proposals@schools.nyc.gov
Phone: 212-374-7621

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

February 10, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.
Building Q891
47-07 30th Place
Queens, NY 11101

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.

February 25, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.
The Michel J. Petrides School
715 Ocean Terrace
Staten Island, NY 10301