

## **EDUCATIONAL IMPACT STATEMENT: 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. Summary of Proposal**

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 30<sup>th</sup> 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 100<sup>th</sup> percentile for District-wide and 96<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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 application 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 application 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. (The concept of target capacity is explained below.) Currently, in the 2014-2015 school year, the building serves approximately 662 students,<sup>1</sup> yielding a building utilization rate of 101%.<sup>2</sup> 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.

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<sup>1</sup> Based on the 2014-2015 Unaudited Register as of October 31, 2014.

<sup>2</sup> All references to building utilization rates in this document are based on target capacity data from the 2013-2014 Blue Book and the 2014-2015 Unaudited Register as of October 31, 2014. This methodology is consistent with the manner in which the DOE conducts planning and calculates space allocations and funding for all schools. In determining the space allocation for co-located schools, the Office of Space Planning will conduct a detailed site survey and space analysis of the building to assess the amount of space available in the building.

## II. Proposed or Potential Use of Building

As indicated above, according to the Blue Book, building Q891 has a target capacity of 655 students. During the 2014-2015 school year, building Q891 serves approximately 613 students in Wagner, approximately 29 students in the ALC, and approximately 20 students in Middle College for a total building enrollment of 662 students.<sup>3</sup> This yields a target utilization rate of 101%.

If this proposal is approved, Wagner will expand to serve approximately 50-60 sixth-grade students in September 2015 at which point it will reach full scale and serve approximately 620-690 students in grades six through twelve. In the 2015-2016 school year, building Q891 will serve approximately 656-774 students across Wagner, the ALC, and Middle College and will have an estimated building utilization rate between 100%-118%.<sup>4</sup>

The current and projected grade spans for Wagner and the ALC in building Q891, if this proposal is approved, are shown in the chart below:<sup>5</sup>

DBN	School Name	Grade Spans	
		2014-2015	2015-2016
24Q560	Robert F. Wagner, Jr. Secondary School for Arts and Technology	7-12	6-12
88Q988	Alternative Learning Center	9-12	9-12

The chart below shows the current and projected enrollment and building utilization for the Q891 building, if this proposal is approved.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Enrollment based on the 2014-2015 Unaudited Register as of October 31, 2014.

<sup>4</sup> The Office of Space Planning plans to create additional instructional capacity in building Q891, thus increasing the capacity of the building. The aforementioned building utilization rate does not take into consideration this additional capacity.

<sup>5</sup> Middle College uses one specialty room in building Q891 for specialty purposes. All students receive instruction in Middle College’s main building, building Q520. The specialty room in building Q891 is not used for students in a particular grade.

<sup>6</sup> Enrollment projections are based on current enrollment and expected number of sections per grade for future enrollment. Actual enrollment will depend on applicant demand.

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**Enrollment and Building Utilization at Q891**


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DBN	School Name	2014-2015 Unaudited Register	2015-2016 Projected Enrollment
24Q560	Robert F. Wagner, Jr. Secondary School for Arts and Technology	613	620 - 690
88Q988	Alternative Learning Center	29	20-60
24Q520	Students from Middle College served in building Q891 <sup>7</sup>	20	16-24
<b>Total Building Enrollment</b>		662	656-774
<b>Utilization<sup>8</sup></b>		101%	100% - 118%

As described in more detail in the Blue Book, which is available at [http://www.nycsca.org/Community/CapitalPlanManagementReportsData/Enrollment/2013-2014\\_Bookone\\_Target.pdf](http://www.nycsca.org/Community/CapitalPlanManagementReportsData/Enrollment/2013-2014_Bookone_Target.pdf), a building's target utilization rate is calculated by dividing the aggregated enrollment of all school organizations in the building by the aggregated "target capacities" of those organizations. Each school organization's "target capacity" is calculated based upon the scheduled use of individual rooms as reported by principals during an annual facilities survey, the DOE's goals for maximum classroom capacities (which are lower than the United Federation of Teachers ["UFT"] contractual class sizes and differ depending on grade level), and the efficiency with which classrooms are programmed (i.e., the frequency with which classes are scheduled in a given classroom).

The most recent year for which target capacity has been calculated for buildings is 2013-2014. The DOE's projected utilization rates for the 2014-2015 school year and beyond are based on the 2013-2014 target capacity, which assumes that the components underlying that target capacity (scheduled use of classrooms, goal classroom capacity, etc.) remain constant. Thus, projected utilization rates for the 2014-2015 school year and beyond provide only an approximation of a building's usage because each of the factors underlying target capacity may be adjusted by principals from year to year to better accommodate students' needs. For example, changing the use of a room from an administrative room to a homeroom at the high school level will increase a building's overall target capacity because administrative rooms in high schools are not assigned a capacity. Holding enrollment constant, this change will result in a lower utilization rate. Similarly, if a room previously used as a kindergarten classroom is subsequently used as a fifth-grade classroom, the building's target capacity will increase because we expect that a fifth-grade class will have more students than a kindergarten class. This is reflected in the fact that the DOE's goal for maximum classroom capacity is higher for fifth-grade classrooms than for kindergarten classrooms. In this example, as well, assuming enrollment is constant, the utilization rate will decrease.

<sup>7</sup> Approximately 16-24 students from Middle College use one specialty room in the Q891 building during three periods in the school day. At times, there are no Middle College students in building Q891.

<sup>8</sup> All references to building utilization rates in this document are based on target capacity data from the 2013-2014 Blue Book, the 2014-2015 Unaudited Register (as of October 31, 2014). This methodology is consistent with the manner in which the DOE conducts planning and calculates space allocations and funding for all schools. In determining the space allocation for co-located schools, the Office of Space Planning conducts a detailed site survey and/or space analysis of the building to assess the amount of space available in the building.

If this proposal is approved, Wagner will receive its baseline allocations pursuant to the Citywide Instructional Footprint (“Footprint”). More details about space are available in Section III.B of this EIS. Please visit the DOE’s Web site to access the Footprint, which guides space allocation and use in City schools: [http://schools.nyc.gov/NR/rdonlyres/961D691C-641D-4918-9798-8BA2C0A761FF/0/DOEFootprint\\_91114newlogo.pdf](http://schools.nyc.gov/NR/rdonlyres/961D691C-641D-4918-9798-8BA2C0A761FF/0/DOEFootprint_91114newlogo.pdf).

It is expected that building Q891 will continue to house the ALC and that Middle College will continue to use its specialty room in building Q891. There are currently no other proposed uses or plans for building Q891. Any future significant changes to school utilization in Wagner will be proposed pursuant to Chancellor’s Regulation A-190, as applicable.

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

#### A. Students

If this proposal is approved, Wagner will serve students in grades six through twelve beginning in the 2015-2016 school year. Wagner will begin admitting students through the middle school admissions process and will continue to admit high school students through the Citywide High School Admissions Process, described in greater detail below. If approved, this proposal will give middle school students an opportunity to attend Wagner for the entirety of their middle school education in the Q891 building. High school admissions priority will be given to continuing eighth-graders from Wagner.

#### *Impact on Current and Future Students at Wagner*

If approved, this proposal is not expected to impact the educational programming available to students currently attending Wagner. Future students, however, will have the opportunity to attend Wagner for their full middle and high school experience. Wagner will continue to serve general education students and students requiring special education services, including students currently enrolled in Integrated Co-Teaching (“ICT”) classes and students receiving Special Education Teacher Support Services (“SETSS”). Wagner will also serve students who require Self-Contained special education (“SC”) classes. Students with disabilities will continue to receive services in accordance with their Individualized Education Programs (“IEPs”). IEP services are tailored to meet the individual needs of the students with disabilities currently enrolled and, as such, may vary from year to year. In addition, students classified as English Language Learners (“ELLs”) who are enrolled at Wagner receive English as a Second Language (“ESL”) services. All current and future students enrolled at Wagner will continue to receive all mandated special education and/or ELL services if this proposal is approved.

Wagner currently offers the following extra-curricular activities, sports, special programs, and partnerships:<sup>9</sup>

- **Extra-curricular Activities and Clubs:** After-school tutoring in all subject areas, Arista/National Honor Society, United Student Organization, Table Toppers (Board Game Club), Yoga, Robotics, Chess Club, Art, Computer Club, Gardening Club, Gaming Club, Student Government, Yearbook, SAT Preparation, and Chinese Calligraphy

<sup>9</sup> Based on school-reported data as of December 15, 2014, the High School Directory, available online at: <http://schools.nyc.gov/NR/rdonlyres/4D4B4545-68D1-405E-A2B9-177D9F39563D/0/20142015HSDQueens.pdf>, and Wagner’s school page, available online at: <http://www.rfwagner.org/home>.

- **Sports:** Boys Soccer, Girls Soccer, Girls Volleyball, Girls Golf, Co-Ed Wrestling, Girls Basketball, Boys Basketball, Boys Volleyball, Boys Golf, Girls Tennis, Girls Softball, Boys Baseball, CHAMPS
- **Special Programs:** Earth Science Regents and Integrated Algebra Regents in 8<sup>th</sup> grade, accelerated programs, theater, music
- **Partnerships:** Liberty Partnership, Carnegie Hall

The DOE does not anticipate that this proposal will impact the current extra-curricular activities or partnerships at Wagner. Wagner will continue to offer extra-curricular programs based on student interests, available resources, and staff support for those programs. The proposed grade expansion will not impact those opportunities, but the way the programs are configured within the building may be subject to change. For example, some activities may need to share classroom space, or the scheduling of these activities may change as a result of greater demands on the available space during or after school hours. Students will continue to have the opportunity to participate in a variety of extra-curricular programs though the specific programs offered at a given school are always subject to change. That is true for any City student as all schools modify extra-curricular offerings annually based on student demand and available resources.

### *Enrollment Impact on Future Middle School Students*

This proposal will impact Wagner's current admissions methods for middle school. Moreover, if this proposal is approved, Wagner's middle school enrollment will increase by 50-60 students. Wagner is a screened school that currently enrolls middle school students through a school-based application, with a priority for students of Districts 24, 25, 26 and 30. If this proposal is approved and Wagner offers sixth grade, Wagner will begin to admit students through the middle school application process and will be open to Queens students and residents. Wagner will continue to offer a priority for students and residents in Districts 24, 25, 26, and 30.

Through the middle school application process, students are offered the opportunity to apply to a range of middle schools within their district, and/or schools with borough-wide or Citywide eligibility, including Wagner if this proposal is approved. Students may also choose to apply to a number of schools that manage their own admission process. Information about all of these options is printed in each district's Middle School Directory which can be found at <http://schools.nyc.gov/ChoicesEnrollment/Middle/Publications/default.htm>. Please note that this directory is updated yearly. General information about the middle school application process can be found on the DOE's Web site at: <http://schools.nyc.gov/ChoicesEnrollment/Middle/default.htm>.

For the 2015-2016 school year, Wagner will be included in the New Schools Round of the middle school application 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 application process, and will no longer admit students in seventh grade through the school-based application.

With the middle school application process, students rank their preferences from among their eligible choices which are pre-populated on each student's customized middle school application. These options include:

- Middle schools or programs with a screened admissions method (admission is based on criteria designated by the school);

- Middle schools or programs with an unscreened or limited unscreened admissions method (limited unscreened schools admit students on the same basis as unscreened schools except that they give preference to students who have attended a school information session);
- Zoned middle schools;
- K-8 schools with a screened, unscreened, or limited unscreened admissions method for the middle school grades that have available seats for middle school students;
- 6-12 schools with an unscreened, limited unscreened or screened admissions method for middle school students; and
- Schools with borough-wide or Citywide eligibility with unscreened, limited unscreened, or screened admissions method.

The Citywide deadline for fifth graders to submit middle school applications for the 2015-2016 school year was in December. Additionally, new middle schools designated to open throughout the City for the 2015-2016 school year, along with the option of attending Wagner for sixth grade, will be available for students to consider. Pending PEP approval to open new schools, eligible students will have the opportunity to submit a “new schools” application. Information about middle school application deadlines will be available at the following link: <http://schools.nyc.gov/ChoicesEnrollment/Calendar>.

Middle school students with IEPs, with the exception of those recommended for placement in a District 75 school,<sup>10</sup> are admitted to schools in the same manner as general education students. Schools will ensure that students with disabilities continue to receive mandated services in accordance with their IEPs while also ensuring such students have opportunities to learn alongside their non-disabled peers to the greatest extent possible.

In accordance with DOE policy, ELL students are admitted to middle school in the same manner as their peers who are not ELL students. Any students requiring ELL services will continue to receive appropriate services in accordance with DOE policy.

### *Enrollment Impact for Future Middle School Students—Over-the-Counter (“OTC”) Placements*

If this proposal is approved, Wagner would continue to admit middle school students over-the-counter (“OTC”) at the beginning of the 2015-2016 school year. This proposal is not expected to impact the placement of those students in building Q891.

OTC is the method of enrolling students who need a school assignment because they were not part of any admissions process for entry grades and/or were not enrolled in a NYC school at the time school started. These students fall into one of four categories:

- New to the New York City school system; or
- Left the New York City school system and have returned;<sup>11</sup> or
- Are seeking transfers (based on the guidelines outlined in Chancellor’s Regulation A-101); or

<sup>10</sup> District 75 provides citywide educational, vocational, and behavior support programs for students who are on the autism spectrum, have significant cognitive delays, are severely emotionally challenged, are sensory impaired and/or are multiply disabled. District 75 provides services to students in a variety of settings, including elementary, middle, and high schools, students’ homes, hospitals, and agencies. These programs are located at more than 410 sites in the Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queens, Staten Island, and Syosset, New York. Please visit the DOE website for additional information about District 75 programs at <http://schools.nyc.gov/Offices/District75/default.htm>.

<sup>11</sup> Per Chancellor’s Regulation A-101, students have the “right to return” to their prior school following discharge within one calendar year of discharge, subject to available seats. Therefore, it is possible that non-zoned students arriving for an OTC placement may be granted admission to a zoned school.

- Did not participate in the admissions process for some other reason.

When a middle school eligible student arrives for placement, his or her school assignment is determined by his or her interest, home address, which schools have available seats, and, where applicable, transfer guidelines. Students are eligible to attend middle school based on the district of elementary school attendance or the district to which the student's address is zoned for middle school. In un-zoned districts, the student visits a Borough Enrollment Office where he or she meets with a counselor who reviews options that will meet the student's needs. However, in many districts, students may simply report to their zoned middle school.

### *Enrollment Impact for Future High School Students—High School Admissions Process*

Wagner admits students through the Citywide High School Admissions Process, described in further detail below. Wagner's high school admissions policies would not be impacted by this proposal. Wagner currently admits ninth-grade students through two programs. One program gives admissions priority to continuing eighth-grade students. The other program admits students through an educational option ("Ed. Opt.") admissions method and gives priority to students or residents of Districts 24, 30, and 32, and then to other New York City residents.

In New York City, high school admissions is a Citywide choice process, with students ranking up to twelve high school programs in order of preference on a single application. In addition to the twelve programs to which students may apply, they may also apply to up to eight of the Specialized High Schools requiring the Specialized High School Admissions Test ("SHSAT"), as well as audition for up to six studios at Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School of Music & Art and Performing Arts.

For the 2015-2016 school year, there are two application rounds in the High School Admissions Process:

**Round One:** All eligible eighth-grade and interested first-time ninth-grade students participate in this round. All students, including applicants to the Specialized High Schools, will receive offer results in March.

**Round Two:** All eligible eighth-grade and first-time ninth-grade students can apply to school programs with available seats in Round Two. Any student who does not receive an offer in Round One must submit a Round Two application to receive an offer to a choice on the application. In addition, any student who received an offer in Round One may reapply to available seats in Round Two. A student who participates in Round Two and has already received a Round One offer will have his or her Round One match nullified if the student receives a match in Round Two. The available programs for Round Two include school programs with unfilled seats and new schools or programs that will open or be available the following September. Students will receive Round Two results in May.

For more information about the High School Admissions Process, please visit:  
<http://schools.nyc.gov/ChoicesEnrollment/High>.

High school students with IEPs, with the exception of those students recommended for a District 75 placement, are admitted in the same manner as general education students. Schools will ensure that students with disabilities continue to receive mandated services in accordance with their IEPs while also ensuring such students have opportunities to learn alongside their non-disabled peers to the greatest extent possible.

Similarly, ELL students are admitted to high schools in the same manner as their non-ELL peers. Any students requiring ELL services will continue to receive appropriate services in accordance with DOE policy.

If this proposal is approved, Wagner will continue admitting continuing students through its continuing eighth-grader program. Wagner will also continue admitting new students through an Ed. Opt. admissions method, and continue giving priority to students or residents of Districts 24, 30, and 32, and then to other New York City residents. Ed. Opt. programs are meant to serve a wide range of academic performers. Based on ELA standardized test scores from the prior school year, students receive offers to Ed. Opt. programs based on the following distribution: 16% from the high reading level; 68% from the middle reading level; and 16% from the low reading level. Half of the students who receive offers to Ed. Opt. programs will be selected based on their rankings from the school; the other half will be selected randomly from the applicant pool.

These admissions methods may be modified in future years to comply with the recent amendments to section 100.3 of the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, which provide that test scores on the State ELA and Math tests may not be used as the sole or primary factor in placement decisions. Such modifications will not be impacted by this proposal.

High school applications were due on December 2, 2014. This proposal will not have an impact on the High School Admissions Process since this proposal will only impact entering sixth grade students. New high schools or programs designated to open or become available throughout New York City for the 2015-2016 school year will also be available for students to consider in March for Round Two of the High School Admissions Process.

The 2014-2015 Directory of New York City Public High Schools, which is available in print at DOE middle schools and Borough Enrollment Offices, or online on the DOE's Web site at: <http://schools.nyc.gov/ChoicesEnrollment/High/Resources/default.htm>, offers a full list of high school programs Citywide.

Detailed information about new high schools is published annually in the new schools directory, available in print at a Borough Enrollment Office or on the DOE website: <http://schools.nyc.gov/ChoicesEnrollment/High/Resources/default.htm>.

### *Enrollment Impact for Future High School Students—OTC Placements*

In addition to the High School Admissions Process, some students may receive a placement at Wagner through the OTC process, described above. Wagner has traditionally accepted OTC high school students and will continue to accept OTC high school students.

When a high school student arrives for an OTC placement, his/her school assignment is determined by his/her interest, home address and which schools have available seats, and, where applicable, transfer guidelines. The student visits a Borough Enrollment Office where he/she meets with a counselor who reviews options that will meet the student's needs.

There is a peak enrollment period occurring just prior to and into the opening of school when thousands of students arrive. Prior to the start of the peak enrollment period, schools are reminded about the number of OTC students they can expect. This number is based on a school's enrollment projection and the results of the admissions process.

If the Office of Student Enrollment determines that additional OTC seats may be needed, the number of seats available are reviewed and – if space allows – adjusted in those schools where the admissions methods are limited unscreened, educational option, or unscreened.

Screened programs (those that base admissions decisions on students' academic criteria) which have a two year track record of not meeting their enrollment targets through the High School Admissions Process are

“de-screened” for OTC in order to increase the number of options for students. In addition, screened and audition schools, transfer schools,<sup>12</sup> international schools, and alternative programs are offered through referral.<sup>13</sup> In this way, the DOE is able to offer individual students the widest breadth of options across a large number of schools.

### *Impact on the ALC Program*

Q891 houses an ALC, which currently enrolls approximately 29 students who are on Superintendent’s suspension.<sup>14</sup> ALCs provide a safe and high-quality instructional program that encompasses social and emotional development to prepare students for their return to their home schools. ALCs offer the same core curriculum materials that traditional schools offer for consistency of instruction for students. They also provide intervention measures that build students’ capacity to return to school better able to be productive and engaged members of their school communities.

The DOE does not anticipate that students attending the ALC would be impacted by this proposal, as there would continue to be sufficient space in the building to accommodate the program. The ALC is not expected to lose any space in Q891 or have any programming changes as a result of this proposal.

### *Impact on Middle College*

Middle College uses one room in building Q891 for specialty purposes during three periods each school day. The majority of Middle College’s instruction is administered in Middle College’s main building, building Q520, which is approximately 0.2 miles from building Q891.

The DOE does not anticipate that Middle College will be impacted by this proposal, as there would continue to be sufficient space in the building for Middle College to continue using this space. Middle College is not expected to lose any space in Q891 or have any programming changes as a result of this proposal.

## **B. Schools**

If this proposal is approved, Wagner will serve students in grades six through twelve beginning in the 2015-2016 school year, and there will be approximately 50-60 additional students enrolled in Wagner in building Q891. The schools in building Q891, which includes Wagner, the ALC, and the specialty room Middle College uses, are projected to collectively serve 656-774 students, yielding an estimated utilization rate of 100%-118%. 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.

The estimated enrollment and building utilization figures for Wagner along with the ALC and space Middle College is using in Q891 over a two-year period are shown in Sections II and IV.

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<sup>12</sup> Transfer schools are small, academically rigorous high schools designed to re-engage students who have dropped out of high school or have fallen behind. These schools are designed to create a personalized learning environment and to provide students with connections to college. Students graduate with a high school diploma from the transfer school they attend. For more information about transfer schools, please visit the DOE Web site at: <http://www.goingforme.org>.

<sup>13</sup> International schools are designed to provide quality education for recently arrived immigrant students through a unique educational model.

<sup>14</sup> The ALC’s enrollment is an approximation calculated by multiplying the number of students on register by the average attendance rate. Given ALC programming, actual enrollment fluctuates from day to day.

If this proposal is approved, there will be sufficient space to serve Wagner, the ALC, and Middle College in building Q891 pursuant to the Citywide Instructional Footprint (the “Footprint”) during and after the grade expansion. Please visit the DOE’s website to access the Footprint, which guides space allocation and use in City schools: [http://schools.nyc.gov/NR/rdonlyres/961D691C-641D-4918-9798-8BA2C0A761FF/0/DOEFootprint\\_91114newlogo.pdf](http://schools.nyc.gov/NR/rdonlyres/961D691C-641D-4918-9798-8BA2C0A761FF/0/DOEFootprint_91114newlogo.pdf).

The Footprint sets forth the baseline number of rooms that should be allocated to a school based on the grade levels served by the school and number of classes per grade. For existing schools, the Footprint is applied to the current number of classes and class size a school has programmed and is confirmed by a walk-through of the building by the Borough Director of Space Planning and a school’s representative.

For grades six through twelve, the Footprint assumes that students move from class to class and that classrooms should be programmed at maximum efficiency. The Footprint does not require that every teacher have his or her own designated classroom. Principals are asked to program their schools efficiently so that classrooms can be used for multiple purposes throughout the course of the school day.

The Footprint allocates the number of baseline rooms for student support services, resources rooms, and administrative space based on the grades a school serves and its enrollment at scale. As in other situations where schools are co-located, the schools will need to share large common and specialty rooms in the building, such as the cafeteria, the gymnasium, and the library. Specific decisions regarding the allocation of the shared spaces will be made by the Building Council, consisting of principals from both co-located schools, in conjunction with the DOE’s Office of Space Planning.

According to a building desk review completed by a representative from the Office of Space Planning on December 4, 2014, building Q891 has a total of 25 full-size rooms, 6 half-size rooms, 2 quarter-size rooms and 6.0 full-size equivalent (“FSE”) rooms of designed for administrative space. The building also has the following rooms, which are and will continue to be shared between Wagner and the ALC: a cafeteria, a gymnasium, auditorium, and a library.

Additionally, the spaces below contain building services and will not be included in the allocation of space for any individual school.

- The nurse’s office occupies 1 quarter-size space;
- The custodian’s office occupies 1 quarter-size space;
- The fitness/weight room occupies 1 full-size space; and
- The dance studio occupies 1 full-size space.

Thus, there are 23 full-size rooms, 6 half-size rooms, and 6.0 FSE of designed administrative space in the building to be allocated to Wagner, the ALC, and Middle College per the Footprint in the upcoming school year and following the expansion of Wagner. Additionally, the Office of Space Planning is working to create additional capacity in building Q891 and more efficiently use excess space in the building which is currently being used for administrative purposes. These upgrades will result in the conversion of 1 large designed administrative space to 2 additional full-size rooms beginning in the 2015-2016 school year. Thus, there will be 25 full-size rooms, 6 half-size rooms, and 5.0 FSE of designed administrative space in the building to be allocated to Wagner, the ALC, and Middle College in the 2015-2016 school year and beyond.

Currently, Wagner has a baseline footprint allocation of 25 full-size rooms, 1 half-size room, and 4.0 FSE rooms for administrative use. The school is currently using 21 full-size rooms, 6 half-size rooms, and 4.5 FSE rooms for administrative purposes. Due to a deficit of full-size rooms, Wagner is using 4 half-size rooms in lieu of 4 full-size rooms for instruction. These half-size rooms are close to 500 square feet, the requirement for full-size rooms. The DOE has confirmed that these rooms are suitable for instruction and that Wagner is comfortable continuing to program classes in this manner. This leads to an adjusted footprint allocation of 21 full-size rooms, 5 half-size rooms, and 4.0 FSE of designed administrative space.

This means that Wagner is currently using 1 half-size room and 1.0 FSE of designed administrative space above its adjusted footprint allocation.

Per the Footprint, in 2015-2016, during the first and final year of the proposed grade expansion, Wagner will have a baseline footprint allocation of 27 full-size rooms, 1 half-size room, and 4.5 FSE rooms for administrative use. Due to a deficit of full-size rooms, Wagner will be allocated 4 half-size rooms in lieu of 4 full-size rooms for instruction. As mentioned above, there are 4 large half-size rooms that are close to 500 square feet. The DOE has confirmed that these rooms are suitable for instruction and that the school is comfortable continuing to program classes in this manner. As mentioned earlier, the Office of Space Planning plans to create 2 additional full-size instructional rooms in building Q891 that will be available for use beginning in the 2015-2016 school year. Thus, Wagner has an adjusted footprint allocation of 23 full-size rooms, 5 half-size rooms and 4.5 FSE, comprised of 4.0 designed administrative spaces and 1 half-size space, for instructional and administrative purposes.

Based on the ALC’s current enrollment, the ALC has a baseline footprint allocation of 1 full-size room and 1.0 FSE of administrative space. The ALC is currently using 1 full-size room and 1.0 FSE of designed administrative space for instructional and administrative purposes. This proposal will not impact the space available to the ALC in building Q891.

Additionally, Middle College, which was previously located in building Q891, is using 1 full-size room in building Q891 as a specialty room. Although the majority of Middle College is programmed in building Q520 located 0.2 miles away at 45-35 Van Dam Street, Queens, New York 11101 within the geographical confines of District 24, Middle College will continue to retain this room until further notice. Middle College does not use any other facilities in building Q891.

There is sufficient space in building Q891 to accommodate Wagner, the ALC, and Middle College both during and after the expansion. The adjusted baseline allocation of full-size rooms for Wagner, the ALC, and Middle College over a two-year period is detailed in the chart below:

DBN	School Name	2014-2015	2015-2016
24Q560	Wagner	21	23
88Q988	ALC	1	1
24Q520	Middle College	1	1
<b>TOTAL</b>		23	25
<b>TOTAL AVAILABLE</b>		23	25 <sup>15</sup>
<b>ROOMS IN EXCESS OF BASELINE OR ADJUSTED BASELINE ALLOCATION OF FULL-SIZE ROOMS</b>		0	0

Schools often use excess half-size rooms for administrative purposes. All necessary adjustments for administrative purposes have been reflected in the chart above.

If this proposal is approved, the Office of Space Planning will work with the Building Council to ensure an equitable allocation of the excess space. In determining an equitable allocation, the Office of Space Planning may consider factors such as the relative enrollments of the co-located schools, the instructional and programmatic needs of the co-located schools, and the physical location of the excess space within the

<sup>15</sup> As described above, the Office of Space Planning is creating two additional full-size rooms for instructional purposes.

building.

There are no other proposed uses or plans for building Q891 at this time.

### *Building Safety and Security*

Wagner, the ALC, and Middle College will develop a safety and security plan for Q891 prior to the first day of school in September 2015.

The DOE makes available the following supports to schools relating to safety and security:

- Providing “Best Practices Standards for Creating and Sustaining a Safe and Supportive School,” as a resource guide;
- Reviewing and monitoring school occurrence data and crime data (in conjunction with the Criminal Justice Coordinator and the New York City Police Department);
- Providing technical assistance via the Borough Safety Directors when incidents occur;
- Providing professional development and support to Children’s First Network (CFN) Safety Liaisons;
- Providing professional development and kits for Building Response Teams; and
- Monitoring and certifying School Safety Plans annually.

### **C. Community**

The DOE strives to ensure that all families have access to high-quality schools that meet their children’s needs. The proposal to expand Wagner was initiated by the principal and has been supported by the school community. This suggests a high level of satisfaction within the school, its parent body, and the broader community as well as the expectation that an expanded Wagner will suit the needs of future students at Wagner.

The proposed grade expansion of Wagner in Q891 is intended to increase access to Wagner, a high quality option for students in Queens. If this proposal is approved, Wagner will be included in the middle school application process and will admit students in sixth grade, when the majority of students enter middle school. This will both increase access to Wagner and reduce the number of transitions incoming students must make between elementary school, middle school and Wagner’s secondary school. Wagner performs well in comparison to schools in District 24 and across New York City. In the 2013-2014 school year, Wagner ranked in the 100<sup>th</sup> percentile for District-wide and 96<sup>th</sup> percentile for Citywide ELA and Math proficiency scores.

If this proposal is approved, the expansion of Wagner may have a small impact on enrollment at other Queens middle schools and elementary schools that offer sixth grade. The schools where current Wagner seventh-grade students attended sixth grade in the 2013-2014 school year are listed in the table below. If this proposal is approved, enrollment at the schools listed below may decrease slightly; however, this proposal is not expected to have a material impact on one particular school.

DBN	School Name	Grade Span <sup>16</sup> 2014-2015	Number of 2014-2015 Wagner 7 <sup>th</sup> Graders Served in 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade in 2013-2014 <sup>17</sup>	Total Number of 6 <sup>th</sup> Graders Served in 2013-2014 <sup>18</sup>
30Q011	P.S. 11 Kathryn Phelan	K-6	15	169
30Q150	P.S. 150 Queens	K-6	11	107
24Q229	P.S. 229 Emanuel Kaplan	K-5 <sup>19</sup>	<10 <sup>20</sup>	164
24Q153	P.S. 153 Maspeth Elem	K-6	<10	136
30Q230	I.S. 230	6-8	<10	332
24Q058	P.S. 58 - School of Heroes	K-6	<10	134
24Q005	I.S. 5 - The Walter Crowley Intermediate School	6-8	<10	500
24Q125	I.S. 125 Thom J. McCann Woodside	6-8	<10	351
29Q059	I.S. 59 Springfield Gardens	6-8	<10	177

This proposal is not expected to impact the ability of community members and organizations to obtain school building use permits at building Q891. This proposal is also not expected to impact the fact that building Q891 is partially programmatically accessible.

<sup>16</sup> 2014-2015 grade span does not include Pre-Kindergarten.

<sup>17</sup> Based on the 2013-2014 Unaudited Register and the 2013-2014 Audited Register, respectively.

<sup>18</sup> 2013-2014 Audited Register

<sup>19</sup> P.S. 229 truncated from a K-6 school to a K-5 school in the 2014-2015 school year. For additional information, please visit: [http://schools.nyc.gov/NR/rdonlyres/D5369995-5FC0-41F8-BF1A-6E8BAC200A23/144082/EIS\\_24Q229\\_vFinal1.pdf](http://schools.nyc.gov/NR/rdonlyres/D5369995-5FC0-41F8-BF1A-6E8BAC200A23/144082/EIS_24Q229_vFinal1.pdf).

<sup>20</sup> Consistent with and pursuant to the Federal Family Education Rights and Privacy Act, totals below 10 have been suppressed in this document.

## IV. Enrollment, Admissions, and School Performance Information

*Robert F. Wagner, Jr. Secondary School for Arts and Technology (24Q560)*

### Admissions Data

<b>Current Admissions</b>	<p><b>Grades 7-8:</b> School-based Admissions Process Priority to students residing in Districts 24, 25, 26, and 30 <b>Admission Method:</b> Screened</p> <p><b>Grades 9-12:</b> Citywide High School Admissions Process Priority to continuing 8<sup>th</sup> graders, then to students residing in Districts 24, 30 and 32; then to other NYC residents <b>Admission Method:</b> Ed. Opt, Screened</p>
<b>Admissions if this Proposal is Approved</b>	<p><b>Grades 6-8:</b> Middle School Admissions Process Priority to students residing in Districts 24, 25, 26, and 30 <b>Admission Method:</b> Screened</p> <p><b>Grades 9-12:</b> Citywide High School Admissions Process Priority to continuing 8<sup>th</sup> graders, then to students residing in Districts 24, 30, and 32; then to other NYC residents <b>Admission Method:</b> Ed. Opt, Screened</p>

### Enrollment Data<sup>21</sup>

	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12	Total Enrollment
2014-2015 (Unaudited Register)	-	42	54	126	125	138	128	613
2015-2016 (projections)	50-60	35-45	35-45	120-130	120-130	135-145	125-135	620-690

### Demographic Data<sup>22</sup>

Percentage of Students Receiving ICT or SC Services	7%
Percentage of Students with Individualized Education Programs	12%
Percentage of English Language Learner Students	5%
Percentage of Students Eligible for Free or Reduced Lunch	66%

<sup>21</sup> All figures are from the 2014-2015 Unaudited Register as of October 31, 2014.

<sup>22</sup> All figures are as a percentage of total students from the 2014-2015 Unaudited Register as of October 31, 2014.

School Performance Data

<b>Robert F. Wagner, Jr. Secondary School for Arts and Technology (Middle School)</b>	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014
<b>School Quality</b>			
Quality Review Score <sup>23</sup>		D	
<b>Performance Data</b>			
English Language Arts % Proficient (Levels 3 and 4)	86%	67%	64%
Math % Proficient (Levels 3 and 4)	96%	53%	72%
<b>Other Key Performance Indicators</b>			
Attendance Rate	98%	97%	97%

<b>State Accountability Status</b>	14-15 Good Standing
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<b>Robert F. Wagner, Jr. Secondary School for Arts and Technology (High School)</b>	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014
<b>School Quality</b>			
Quality Review Score		D	N/A
<b>Key Components of Performance and Progress</b>			
% Earning 10+ Credits in Year 1	84%	91%	93%
4 Year Graduation Rate	81%	86%	82%
6 Year Graduation Rate <sup>25</sup>	75%	82%	87%
% Graduating with a Regents Diploma	79%	83%	78%
Attendance Rate	88%	87%	89%

<b>State Accountability Status</b>	14-15 Good Standing
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<sup>23</sup> For more information about Quality Reviews, please visit the DOE Web site at <http://schools.nyc.gov/Accountability/tools/review/default.htm>.

<sup>24</sup> A Quality Review measures how well a school is organized to support student achievement. Not all schools receive Quality Reviews every year. Thus, Wagner did not have a Quality Review for the 2011-2012 and 2013-2014 school years.

<sup>25</sup> For transfer schools, metric changed to Transfer School graduation Rate in 2011-12 due to cohort adjustments.

*ALC (88Q988)*

Admissions Data

<b>Current Admissions</b>	<b>Grades 9-12:</b> Students with a Superintendent’s Suspension
<b>Admissions if this Proposal is Approved</b>	<b>Grades 9-12:</b> Students with a Superintendent’s Suspension

Enrollment Data

	<b>Total Enrollment</b>
2014-2015 (Unaudited Register)	29
2015-2016 (projections)	20-60

Demographic Data

As the enrolled population at the ALC is not constant, there is no demographic data available for the ALC.

Performance Data

As the enrolled population at the ALC is not constant, there are no school performance data available for the ALC.

**V. Initial Impact on Budget and Cost of Instruction**

The expansion of a school creates the need for OTPS funding to cover any additional textbooks and supplies that may be required. The OTPS per capita allocation to offset these costs has historically been \$80 per student.<sup>26</sup> Since Wagner’s grade expansion is expected to result in approximately 50-60 additional students per year for one year, the DOE estimates that Wagner would receive awards of approximately \$4,000 - \$4,800 in 2015-2016 based on projected registers.

If grade appropriate furniture is not available on-site, the school may receive additional furniture packages. In FY 2015, the cost of a furniture package for each class section will be approximately \$6,500-\$7,500.<sup>27</sup> Should this proposal create a need for additional administrative space or functions, the cost of voice and data lines will be fully covered by the DOE. This allocation is subject to approval by the Office of Space Planning.

<sup>26</sup> FY15 School Allocation Memorandum 21: Other Than Personal Services “OTPS” for New Schools.

<sup>27</sup> Based on the Office of Space Planning Memorandum.

The proposal should not otherwise affect the cost of instruction, although the operating budget will increase with the increase in enrollment. Most funding in schools' budgets is allocated on a per pupil basis, based on Fair Student Funding ("FSF") per capita allocation levels. Schools receive additional funds for students with disabilities, English language Learners (ELLs), and those with other supplemental academic needs.

Please refer to the FSF Guide<sup>28</sup> and FY15 School Allocation Memoranda<sup>29</sup> for additional information on cost of instruction and how the changes to FSF funding and other school allocations will be impacted as a result of register changes at Wagner. Staffing changes are at the discretion of the school within the limits of contractual and mandated obligations.

This proposal is not expected to impact the cost of instruction at the ALC or Middle College in building Q891.

## VI. Effect on Personnel Needs, Administration, Transportation, and Other Support Services

### A. Personnel Needs

If this proposal is approved, Wagner may hire personnel to support the school's grade expansion. Wagner will follow the hiring process consistent with the procedures set forth in the collective bargaining agreement between the DOE and the United Federation of Teachers.

This proposal is not expected to impact the number of personnel positions assigned to the ALC or Middle College, nor is it expected to significantly alter the duties of current staff at the ALC or Middle College.

### B. Administration

Wagner may hire additional school supervisory or administrator positions as a result of this grade expansion proposal.

This proposal is not expected to impact the number of school supervisory or administrative positions at the ALC or Middle College.

### C. Transportation

Transportation for Wagner will continue to be provided according to Chancellor's Regulation A-801: <http://schools.nyc.gov/NR/rdonlyres/21A1B11A-886B-4F74-9546-E875EE82A14C/40303/A801.pdf>.

This proposal is not expected to impact the transportation services for the ALC or Middle College.

### D. Other Support Services

The provision of certain support services is described above. Other support services will be provided as consistent with Citywide policy.

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<sup>28</sup> [http://schools.nyc.gov/offices/d\\_chanc\\_oper/budget/dbor/allocationmemo/fy14\\_15/FY15\\_PDF/sam01\\_1b.pdf](http://schools.nyc.gov/offices/d_chanc_oper/budget/dbor/allocationmemo/fy14_15/FY15_PDF/sam01_1b.pdf)

<sup>29</sup> [http://schools.nyc.gov/offices/d\\_chanc\\_oper/budget/dbor/allocationmemo/fy14\\_15/FY15\\_PDF/sam33.pdf](http://schools.nyc.gov/offices/d_chanc_oper/budget/dbor/allocationmemo/fy14_15/FY15_PDF/sam33.pdf)

## VII. Building Information

<b>Building</b>		Q891
<b>Type of Building</b>		HS
<b>Year Built</b>		N/A
<b>Overall BCAS rating</b>		2.24
<b>2013-2014 Blue Book Target Building Utilization</b>		96%
<b>2013-2014 Blue Book Target Building Capacity</b>		655
<b>FY 2014 Maintenance Costs</b>	<b>Labor</b>	\$53,043
	<b>Materials</b>	\$2,694
	<b>Maintenance, repair, and service contracts</b>	\$82,471
	<b>Custodial operations costs—Materials</b>	\$14,037
	<b>Custodial operations costs—Custodial Allocation</b>	\$302,523
<b>FY 2014 Energy Costs</b>	<b>Electric</b>	\$184,686
	<b>Gas</b>	\$30,422
	<b>Steam</b>	N/A
	<b>Oil</b>	N/A
<b>Projects completed during the current or prior school year</b>		Interior Fire Alarm System Replacement, Classroom Connectivity
<b>Projects proposed in the capital plan</b>		Classroom Connectivity, New/Retrofit Telephone/Intercom Systems
<b>Accessibility of the building</b>		Partially Accessible
<b>Building attributes</b>		Art Room, Cafeteria, Computer Room, Gymnasium, Library, Nurse's Office, Science Lab