



**Department of
Education**

Carmen Fariña, Chancellor

Notice
September 29, 2016

The Proposed Consolidation of the Academy of the Arts (08X335) with the Museum School (08X333) in Building X060 Beginning in the 2017-2018 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 consolidate the Academy of the Arts (08X335, “Academy of the Arts”) with the Museum School (08X333, “Museum School”), existing district elementary schools that currently each serve students in kindergarten through fifth grade and offer a pre-kindergarten program, beginning in the 2017-2018 school year. A “consolidation” means that two or more existing school organizations are combined into one school to operate and serve students more effectively. Proposals for consolidation seek to improve learning environments by combining the strengths and best practices of both schools and distributing resources to reinforce academic enrichment opportunities, interventions, and other supports.

The DOE is proposing to consolidate Academy of the Arts with Museum School because Academy of the Arts has struggled with low enrollment, which creates budgetary and programmatic challenges. Academy of the Arts is considered under-enrolled with a total enrollment just above 250 students in grades kindergarten through five. Additionally, enrollment at Museum School has been declining, dropping 8% in grades kindergarten through five from 2012-2013 to 2016-2017. If this proposal is approved, Academy of the Arts and Museum School will be combined such that students, staff, and resources of Academy of the Arts will become part of Museum School, and Academy of the Arts will no longer exist as a distinct school option as of the 2017-2018 school year.

Academy of the Arts and Museum School are co-located in building X060 (“X060”), located at 888 Reverend James A. Polite Ave, Bronx, NY 10459 in Community School District 8 (“District 8”). A co-location means that two or more school organizations are located in the same building and may share common spaces, such as auditoriums, gymnasiums, and cafeterias. In a separate Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”), the DOE is concurrently proposing to re-site existing District 75 program P10X@X152, which serves students in grades kindergarten through five, from building X152 to building X060. Building X152 is located 1.1 miles from X060 at 1007 Evergreen Avenue, Bronx, NY, 10459 in District 8. The re-siting of P10X@X152 is contingent on the approval of this consolidation proposal, while this consolidation proposal is not contingent on the approval of the proposed P10X@X152 re-siting. If both proposals are approved, the consolidated Museum School will be co-located with District 75 program P10X@X152 in building X060 as of the 2017-2018 school year. Building X060 also houses the Urban Health Plan community-based organization (“CBO”). If this proposal and the concurrent re-siting

proposal are approved, Urban Health Plan is expected to continue to provide services and maintain their space in the X060 building.

The New York State Education Department (“SED”) assigns an accountability status to each district school—Good Standing, Local Assistance Plan, Focus, or Priority. Both Academy of the Arts and Museum School are identified as schools in Good Standing.

Building X060 has a target capacity of 933 students and currently serves 694 students across Academy of the Arts and Museum School, yielding a building utilization rate of 74%. If this proposal is approved, the newly consolidated Museum School will serve approximately 661-721 students in the 2017-2018 school year. As mentioned, the DOE is concurrently proposing to re-site District 75 program P10X@X152 to building X060 if this consolidation proposal is approved, and P10X@X152 would grow to serve 54-72 students in X060. If both proposals are approved, building X060 would serve 715-793 students across the consolidated Museum School and P10X@X15, resulting in a projected building utilization rate of 77%-85% for X060. If the consolidation proposal is approved but the concurrent re-siting proposal is not, building X060 would serve 661-721 students in the consolidated Museum School, resulting in a projected building utilization rate of 71%-77%.

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 website at:
<http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2016-2017/November162016SchoolProposals>.

Copies of the EIS are also available in the main offices of Academy of the Arts and Museum School.

III. Submission of public comment.

Members of the public who wish to provide comments are encouraged to attend the Joint Public Hearing for this proposal and share their feedback in person. Members of the public that do not provide comments at the hearing may also provide oral or written comments as described below. All comments must be submitted at least 24 hours in advance of the Panel for Educational Policy (“PEP”) meeting at which this proposal is subject to a vote in order to be mentioned in the Public Comment Analysis to be published and provided to the PEP the evening before the PEP votes.

Written comments can be sent to D08Proposals@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.

Name: Max Applebaum
Office: Office of District Planning
Address: 100 Gold Street, Suite 3200, New York, NY 10038
Email: D08Proposals@schools.nyc.gov

Phone: 212-374-5159

V. Date, time and place of the Joint Public Hearing for this proposal.

November 7, 2016 at 6:00 PM
Building X060
888 Reverend James A. Polite Ave
Bronx, NY 10459

Questions about the proposal should be directed as indicated in Section IV above.

Speaker sign-up will begin 30 minutes before the hearing, at 5:30 PM, and will close 15 minutes after the start of the hearing.

VI. Date, time and place of the PEP meeting at which the PEP will vote on the proposed item.

November 16, 2016 at 6:00 PM
M.S. 131
100 Hester Street
New York, NY 10002