



**Notice**  
December 12, 2011

**Dennis M. Walcott**  
*Chancellor*

## **Proposed Co-location of New School 31R078 (31R078) with P.S. 14 Cornelius Vanderbilt (31R014)**

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

The New York City Department of Education (“DOE”) is proposing to site a new zoned elementary school, 31R078 (“31R078”), in school building R014 (“R014”), located at 100 Tompkins Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10304, in Community School District 31. If this proposal is approved, 31R078 would be “co-located”<sup>1</sup> with P.S. 14 Cornelius Vanderbilt (31R014, “P.S. 14”) in school building R014 for three school years. In a separate Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”) that was also published on December 12, 2011, the DOE has proposed that P.S. 14 gradually phase out because of its low performance and its inability to turn around quickly to better support student needs. P.S. 14 is currently a zoned elementary school serving grades kindergarten through five and offering a pre-kindergarten program. 31R078 would be a new DOE zoned elementary school serving grades kindergarten through five and would offer a pre-kindergarten program (pending continued funding availability).

As noted above, in a separate EIS that was published on December 12, 2011 the DOE has proposed to gradually phase out and eventually close P.S. 14. If that proposal is approved, P.S. 14 would no longer admit kindergarten students after the conclusion of the 2011-2012 school year and would no longer offer a pre-kindergarten program. Kindergarten, first grade, and second grade would be phased out at P.S. 14 in the first year of phase-out (2012-2013), and one grade would be phased out in each of the following three years. During the 2012-2013 school year, P.S. 14 would only serve students in grades three, four, and five. Students in grades kindergarten, one, and two would be served at the new school, 31R078, also located in R014. In 2013-2014, P.S. 14 would serve students in grades four and five. In 2014-15, P.S. 14 would serve students in grade five only. P.S. 14 would close after June 2015.

31R078 would open in R014 as a zoned district elementary school serving the same zone as P.S. 14. In the 2012-2013 school year, 31R078 would serve 100-110 students in kindergarten, 95-105 students in first grade, and 110-120 students in second grade. 31R078 would then grow to serve 110-120 third graders in the 2013-2014 school year and 110-120 fourth graders in the 2014-2015 school year. 31R078 is expected to reach

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<sup>1</sup> A “co-location” means that two or more school organizations are located in the same building and may share common spaces like auditoriums, gymnasiums, and cafeterias.

full scale in 2015-16 and would serve approximately 653-713 students in kindergarten through fifth grade. Beginning in 2012-2013 and continuing in the following years, 31R078 would serve 18 students in a full-day pre-kindergarten program (pending continued funding availability).

31R078 would be co-located with P.S. 14 as P.S. 14 phases out. Once 31R078 has completed its expansion and P.S. 14 has completed its phase-out, 31R078 will be the only school in R014.

In 2010-2011, R014 had a target capacity to serve 694 students, and the building enrolled 662 students, including pre-kindergarten, yielding a building utilization rate of 95%.<sup>2</sup> Currently, 684 students are enrolled in building R014, including pre-kindergarten, yielding a building utilization rate of 99%.<sup>3</sup> In 2015-2016, once P.S. 14 has completed its phase out and 31R078 is at full-scale, there will be approximately 653-713 students served in the building, which would yield a building utilization rate of approximately 94-103%. Please note that building capacity and utilization figures are not always a precise indicator of whether a school is under- or over-utilized. Where appropriate, the Office of Space Planning will conduct a detailed walk-through of the building in order to assess the amount of available space in the building.

#### *Background on the DOE's Decision-Making Process*

As detailed in a separate EIS, which was posted on December 12, 2011 and is available on the DOE's website at:

<http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2011-2012/Feb2012Proposals>,

the DOE has concluded that phasing out P.S. 14 is necessary due to this school's steady decline in performance, and history of poor student performance.

P.S. 14 earned an overall D grade on its 2010-2011 Progress Report. On its previous Progress Reports, P.S. 14 earned an overall C grade for the 2009-2010 school year and an A grade for the 2008-2009 school year.<sup>4</sup>

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. Continuing to allocate space and resources to schools that are unable to significantly improve student performance is neither efficient nor equitable. As a result, the DOE initiated a comprehensive review of

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<sup>2</sup> All references to building utilization rates in this document are based on target capacity data from the 2010-2011 Enrollment, Capacity, Utilization Report ("Blue Book"). Utilization rates referenced for the 2010-2011 school year only include the number of students estimated to be regularly attending the school, and do not include Long Term Absences ("LTAs"), students who have been absent continuously for 30 days or more as of October 31, 2010.

<sup>3</sup> The utilization rate reported here may differ from that published in the 2010-2011 Blue Book because the building enrollment figures referenced throughout this document and used in the calculation of utilization rates for the 2012-2013 school year and beyond are based on the unaudited enrollment as of October 31, 2011. 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.

<sup>4</sup> School Progress Reports can be found at: <http://schools.nyc.gov/Accountability/tools/report/default.htm>.

P.S. 14 with the goal of determining what intensive supports and interventions would best benefit the P.S. 14 community. During that review, the DOE looked at recent and historical performance, consulted with superintendents and other experienced educators who have worked closely with the school, and gathered community feedback.

After completing that review, the DOE believes that only the most serious intervention—the gradual phase-out and eventual closure of P.S. 14—will address the school’s struggles and allow for new school options to develop in School Building R014 that will better serve future students and the broader community.

If the proposal to phase out and close P.S. 14 is approved, the space made available by the phase-out of P.S. 14 will be used to house 31R078. If the separate phase-out proposal is not approved, the DOE would review the plan to site 31R078 in R014 and potentially revise the plan and issue a revised EIS.

The replacement process would be gradual; 31R078’s enrollment would gradually grow as P.S. 14’s decreases. 31R078 would serve the same area as P.S. 14 and would be located in the same building that currently houses P.S. 14. The DOE anticipates that 31R078 would replace the elementary school seats that would be lost as a result of the phase-out and closure of P.S. 14 and would provide a new zoned educational option for families in District 31.

The DOE will also continue seeking community feedback while this proposal is under consideration by the Panel for Educational Policy (“PEP”).

## **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/2011-2012/Feb2012Proposals>.

Copies of the EIS are also available in P.S. 14’s main office.

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

Written comments can be sent to [D31Proposals@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:D31Proposals@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: Emily Ades  
Office: Division of Portfolio Planning

Address: 52 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007  
Email: [D31Proposals@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:D31Proposals@schools.nyc.gov)  
Phone: 212-374-7621

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

January 25, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.  
P.S. 14 Cornelius Vanderbilt  
100 Tompkins Avenue  
Staten Island, NY 10304

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 9, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.  
Brooklyn Technical High School  
29 Fort Greene Place  
Brooklyn, NY 11217