



Notice
December 12, 2011

Dennis M. Walcott
Chancellor

The Proposed Opening and Co-location of a New Middle School (13K395) with Existing Schools Knowledge and Power Preparatory Academy VII Middle School (13K596), Brooklyn Community High School of Communication, Arts and Media (13K412), Brooklyn High School for Leadership and Community Service (13K616), and a District 75 Inclusion Program (P369K@I117K) in Building K117, Beginning in 2012-2013

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

The New York City Department of Education (“DOE”) is proposing to open and site a new middle school, I.S. 395 (13K395, “I.S. 395”), at 300 Willoughby Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11205, in Community School District 13, in Building K117 (“K117”). I.S. 395 would be a new District 13 middle school that would serve sixth through eighth grades and would admit students through the District 13 Middle School Choice application process with a limited unscreened selection method. If this proposal is approved, in 2012-2013, I.S. 395 will begin enrolling 85-95 students in sixth grade; it would add one grade per year until it is full scale and serves sixth through eighth grade in 2014-2015.¹

I.S. 395 would be “co-located” in the K117 building with the following schools: 75K369, a District 75 school (75K369, “P369K@I117K”), Brooklyn Community High School of Communication, Arts and Media (13K412, “BCAM”), Brooklyn High School for Leadership and Community Service (13K616, “Leadership and Community Service”), and Knowledge and Power Preparatory Academy VII Middle School (13K569, “KAPPA VII”).² 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.

¹ Enrollment projections for new district schools are based on a standard phase-in plan of 3 general education sections and 1 self contained section per entry grade in the first year. Actual enrollment in 2012-2013, however, will depend on applicant demand.

² 75K369 is located at 9 sites: P369K @ Coy L. Cox School located at 383 State Street, Brooklyn, NY 11217; P369K @ P056K located at 170 Gates Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11238; P369K @ P067K located at 51 St. Edwards Street Brooklyn, NY 11205; P369K @ I103 Satellite Three located at 170 Gates Avenue Brooklyn, NY 11238; P369K @ I117K located at 300 Willoughby Avenue Brooklyn, NY 11205; P369K@H605 Westinghouse HS located at 105 Tech Place, Brooklyn NY 11201; P369K@HB69-Adams St High School located at 283 Adams Street, 11201; P369K @ P261K located at 314 Pacific Street Brooklyn, NY 11201; and P369K @ P005K located at 820 Hancock Street, Brooklyn NY 11233. This proposal will only impact P369K@I117K. All references to enrollment will refer to P369K@I117K only.

KAPPA VII is currently co-located in building K117 with BCAM, an existing high school that admits ninth grade students through the High School Admissions Process, and Leadership and Community Service, a transfer high school that admits students through a referral process described in further detail in section 3.³ There is also a District 75 school (P369K@I117K) that has an inclusion program in building K117, which serves sixth through eighth grade students with a range of disabilities who attend KAPPA VII's general education classes and receive Special Education Teacher Support Services ("SETSS").⁴ P369K@I117K also serves students in grades 6-12 who require a 12:1:1 educational setting.⁵

The DOE does not anticipate that this proposal will affect the academic programs, extracurricular activities, or partnerships currently offered at BCAM, Leadership and Community Service, and P369K@I117K. Students with disabilities and English Language Learners ("ELLs") will receive all mandated services.

In a separate Educational Impact Statement ("EIS") published in December 2011 the DOE has proposed to gradually phase out and eventually close KAPPA VII because of its low performance and inability to turn around quickly to better support student needs.⁶ If the phase-out proposal is approved, KAPPA VII would no longer admit sixth grade students after the conclusion of the 2011-2012 school year. One grade would then be phased out in each subsequent year. During the 2012-2013 school year KAPPA VII would serve students in seventh and eighth grade. In 2013-14, KAPPA VII would serve students in eighth grade. KAPPA VII would close after June 2014.

In 2010-2011, K117 had a target capacity of 1,290 students, but the building enrolled a total of 877 students, yielding a target building utilization rate of 68%.^{7,8,9} In 2011-2012, the building serves a total of 895 students, yielding a target utilization rate of 69%.^{10,11}

In 2014-2015, once KAPPA VII has completed its phase out and I.S. 395 is at full- scale, there will be approximately 950-1,072 students served in the building, which would yield a target building utilization

³ Transfer schools are small, academically rigorous high schools designed to reengage students who have dropped out or who have fallen behind and now have fewer credits than they should for their age (these students are called "over-age and under-credited"). These schools provide a personalized learning environment and connections to career and college opportunities. Students graduate with a high school diploma from their transfer high school.

⁴ 75K369 is located at 9 sites: P369K @ Coy L. Cox School located at 383 State Street, Brooklyn, NY 11217; P369K @ P056K located at 170 Gates Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11238; P369K @ P067K located at 51 St. Edwards Street Brooklyn, NY 11205; P369K @ I103 Satellite Three located at 170 Gates Avenue Brooklyn, NY 11238; P369K @ I117K located at 300 Willoughby Avenue Brooklyn, NY 11205; P369K@H605 Westinghouse HS located at 105 Tech Place, Brooklyn NY 11201; P369K@HB69-Adams St High School located at 283 Adams Street, 11201; P369K @ P261K located at 314 Pacific Street Brooklyn, NY 11201; and P369K @ P005K located at 820 Hancock Street, Brooklyn NY 11233. This proposal will only impact P369K @ I117K. All references to enrollment will refer to P369K @ I117K only.

⁵ 12:1:1 refers to the ratio of students to teachers and para-paraprofessionals.

⁶ <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2011-2012/Feb2012Proposals>

⁷ 2010-2011 Enrollment, Capacity, Utilization Report (the "Blue Book").

⁸ 2010-2011 audited register.

⁹ All references to building utilization rates in this document are based on target capacity data from the 2010-2011 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.

¹⁰ 2011-2012 unaudited enrollment, as of October 31, 2011.

¹¹ 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 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.

rate of approximately 74-83%.

If approved, I.S. 395 would replace the middle school seats that would be lost as a result of the phase-out and closure of KAPPA VII and would provide a new educational option for families in District 13. This new middle school would admit sixth grade students through the District Middle School Choice Process with a limited unscreened selection method. If the proposal to phase out KAPPA VII and the proposal to open I.S. 395 are both approved, P369K@I117K's inclusion program currently associated with KAPPA VII would continue to exist as KAPPA VII phases out and would be associated with the new middle school as it phases in, so that the inclusion program will continue to be provided in the K117 building. The 12:1:1 classes offered by P369K@I117K would also continue to be provided.

Background on the DOE's Decision-Making Process

The DOE has provided more detail on its decision to phase-out and close KAPPA VII in the EIS that was posted in December 2011, which can be found on the DOE's website at: <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2011-2012/Feb2012Proposals>.

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 detailed in the KAPPA VII phase-out and closure proposal, the DOE has concluded that phasing out KAPPA VII is appropriate due to the school's history of poor performance.

Including KAPPA VII there are currently 14 district schools serving middle school grades. Two schools, M.S. 571(13K571) and Khalil Gibran International Academy (KGIA, 13K592) will no longer be serving middle school grades in the future and did not enroll a new incoming sixth grade class in September 2011. One school is phasing in and has not received a Progress Report grade yet. Of the remaining 11 schools, three schools received an A on the 2010-2011 Progress Report; 1 school received a B on the Progress Report; 3 schools received a C on the Progress Report; 3 schools received a D on the Progress Report, and KAPPA VII received an F on the Progress Report. KAPPA VII was the only school in the district to earn an F grade on its 2010-2011 Progress Report.¹²

The DOE is proposing to open I.S. 395 in the K117 building in order to create a new middle school option that is intended to better serve the families of District 13. If the proposal to phase out and close KAPPA VII is approved, the space made available by the phase-out of KAPPA VII will be used to house I.S. 395. If the separate phase-out proposal is not approved, the DOE would review the plan to site I.S. 395 in K117 and potentially revise the plan and issue a revised EIS.

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 KAPPA VII's main office.

¹² As described in Section III of the EIS for this proposal the DOE is also proposing to close or phase out two other schools located in District 13.

III. Submission of public comment.

Written comments can be sent to D13Proposals@schools.nyc.gov

Oral comments can be left at (212) 374-0208.

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: Jeanie Baik
Office: Division of Portfolio Planning
Address: 52 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007
Email: D13Proposals@schools.nyc.gov
Phone: (212) 374-0208

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

January 24th, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.
KAPPA VII - Building K117
300 Willoughby Avenue
Brooklyn NY 11205

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 Tech High School
29 Fort Greene Place
Brooklyn, NY 11217