



Notice
December 19, 2011

Dennis M. Walcott
Chancellor

The Proposed Opening and Co-location of a New Middle School (13K351) with Existing Schools Satellite Three Middle School (13K103), a District 75 Inclusion Program (75K369, P369K@I103 Satellite Three), P.S. 56 Lewis H. Latimer (13K056), and a District 75 Inclusion Program (75K369, P369K@P056K) in Building K056, 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, M.S. 351 (13K351, “M.S. 351”), at 170 Gates Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11238, in Community School District 13, in Building K056 (“K056”). M.S. 351 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 admissions method. If this proposal is approved, in 2012-2013, M.S. 351 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

M.S. 351 would be co-located in the K056 building with the following schools: 75K369, a District 75 inclusion program (75K369, “P369K@P056”); 75K369, another District 75 inclusion program (75K369, “P369K@I103 Satellite Three”); Satellite Three Middle School (13K103, “Satellite Three”); and P.S. 056 Lewis H. Latimer (13K056, “P.S. 56”). 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.

Satellite Three is an existing middle school that currently serves sixth through eighth grade and admits students through the District 13 Middle School Choice process. P369K@I103 Satellite Three is a D75 inclusion program for students in grades K through 5; its students are enrolled in Satellite Three’s general education classes, and depending on their individual needs receive Special Education Teacher Support Services (“SETSS”). P.S. 56 is an existing zoned elementary school that serves students in Kindergarten through fifth grade; P.S. 56 also offers a Pre-kindergarten program. P369K@P056K is a D75 inclusion program for students in grades K through 5; its students are enrolled in P.S. 56’s general education classes, and depending on their individual needs receive SETSS.

The DOE does not anticipate that this proposal will affect the academic programs, extracurricular activities, or partnerships currently offered at P.S. 56, P369K@P056K, and P369K@I103 Satellite Three. 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 Satellite Three because of its low performance and inability to turn around quickly to better support student needs. If the phase-out proposal is approved, Satellite Three 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 Satellite Three would serve students in seventh and eighth grade. In 2013-14, Satellite Three would serve students in eighth grade. Satellite Three would close after June 2014.

In 2010-2011, K056 had a target capacity of 883 students, but the building enrolled a total of 590 students, yielding a target building utilization rate of 67%. In 2011-2012, the building serves a total of 552 students, yielding a target utilization rate of 63%. This is one indicator that the building is “underutilized” and has extra space to accommodate additional students.

In 2014-2015, once Satellite Three has completed its phase out and M.S. 351 is at full-scale, there will be approximately 489-595 students served in the building, which would yield a target building utilization rate of approximately 55-67%.

If approved, M.S. 351 would replace the middle school seats that would be lost as a result of the phase-out and closure of Satellite Three 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 admissions method. If the proposal to phase out Satellite Three and the proposal to open M.S. 351 are both approved, P369K@I103 Satellite Three’s inclusion program currently associated with Satellite Three would continue to exist as Satellite Three 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 K056 building.

Background on the DOE’s Decision-Making Process

The DOE has provided more detail on its decision to phase-out and close Satellite Three 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 Satellite Three phase-out and closure proposal, the DOE has concluded that phasing out Satellite Three is appropriate due to the school’s history of poor performance.

Including Satellite Three 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, one school received an A on the 2010-2011 Progress Report; four schools received a B on the Progress Report; 2 schools received a C on the Progress Report; 3 schools, including Satellite Three, received a D on the Progress Report, and one school received an F on the Progress Report.

The DOE is proposing to open M.S. 351 in the K056 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 Satellite Three is approved, the space made available by the phase-out of Satellite Three will be used to house M.S. 351. If the separate phase-out proposal is not approved, the DOE would review the plan to site M.S. 351 in K056 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 P.S. 56's, Satellite Three's, P369K@P056's, and P369K@I103 Satellite Three's main offices.

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: Lily Haskins
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 19, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.
Satellite Three Middle School
170 Gates Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11238

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