



**Notice**  
December 19, 2011

**Dennis M. Walcott**  
*Chancellor*

## The Proposed Phase-Out of Aspire Preparatory Middle School (11X322) 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 phase out and close Aspire Preparatory Middle School (11X322, “Aspire”), an existing zoned middle school housed in building X135 (“X135,” or “Whalen Campus”) located at 2441 Wallace Avenue, Bronx, NY 10467, in Community School District 11 (“District 11”) because of its low performance and its inability to turn around quickly to better support student needs. Aspire currently serves students in sixth through eighth grades and admits students through the District 11 Middle School Choice process through a campus choice model, described in more detail below. If this phase-out proposal is approved, Aspire will no longer admit sixth grade students after the conclusion of the 2011-2012 school year. One grade will then be phased out in each subsequent year. Aspire will close in June 2014. Current students will continue to be served and supported by Aspire as they progress toward completion of middle school. Current eighth grade students will be supported through the Citywide High School Admissions Process as they apply to a high school.

Aspire Preparatory Middle School is currently “co-located” in building X135 with Bronx Green Middle School (11X326, “Bronx Green”) and Pelham Academy of Academics and Community Engagement (11X468, “Pelham Academy”). Aspire, Bronx Green, and Pelham Academy are existing zoned middle schools that currently serve sixth through eighth grades. The schools all admit students through the District 11 Middle School Choice process and offer priority to students residing in the Whalen Campus zone through a campus choice admissions method, in which all students zoned to the Whalen campus have priority for a seat on the campus and rank each school in the order of preference. Students are then matched to one of the schools through a matching process operated by the Office of Student Enrollment (“OSE”).

In a separate Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”) also posted on December 19, 2011, the DOE has proposed to co-locate a new zoned middle school, I.S. 556 (11X556, “I.S. 556”), in X135, which will serve students in sixth through eighth grades when it reaches full-scale in 2014-2015. This new middle school will admit sixth grade students through the same campus choice model. If the proposal to co-locate I.S. 556 in X135 is approved, it will provide a new middle school option for District 11 families and replace the seats lost by the proposed phase-out of Aspire. I.S. 556 will be co-located in the Whalen Campus with Bronx Green and Pelham Academy as Aspire phases out and it phases in. This proposal can be found at <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2011-2012/Feb2012Proposals>.

## **II. Information regarding where the full text of the proposed item may be obtained.**

The Educational Impact Statement (“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 the main offices of Aspire Preparatory Middle School, Bronx Green Middle School, and Pelham Academy of Academic and Community Engagement.

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

Written comments can be sent to [D11Proposals@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:D11Proposals@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: Stephanie Crane  
Office: Division of Portfolio Planning  
Address: 52 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007  
Email: [D11Proposals@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:D11Proposals@schools.nyc.gov)  
Phone: 212-374-5159

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

January 23, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.  
Aspire Preparatory Middle School  
2441 Wallace Avenue  
Bronx, NY 10467

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<sup>th</sup> 2012 at 6:00 p.m.  
Brooklyn Technical High School  
29 Fort Greene Place  
Brooklyn, NY 11217