Notice
December 22, 2011

Dennis M. Walcott
Chancellor

The Proposed Co-Location of a New Transfer High School (07X557) with Samuel Gompers Career and Technical Education High School (07X655) and the New Visions Charter High School for Advanced Math & Science II in Building X655 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 co-locate a new transfer high school, 07X557, in building X655 beginning in 2012-2013. Transfer schools are small, academically rigorous high schools designed to reengage over-age, under-credited students. Students designated as "over-age, under-credited" are considered to be two or more years behind his or her expected age and credit accumulation. 07X557 would provide a rigorous and engaging academic curriculum and would prepare students for post-secondary education and work. Building X655 is located at 455 Southern Boulevard, Bronx, NY 10455, within the geographical confines of Community School District 7 ("District 7"). If this and the corresponding proposals (described below) are approved, 07X557 would be co-located in building X655 with Samuel Gompers Career and Technical Education High School (07X655, "Samuel Gompers") and New Visions Charter High School for Advanced Math and Science II (84XTBD, "AMS II"). A "co-location" means that two or more school organizations are located in the same building and may share common spaces like auditoriums, gymnasiums, libraries, and cafeterias.

In a separate Educational Impact Statement ("EIS"), the DOE is proposing to phase out and eventually close Samuel Gompers . Samuel Gompers, an existing school serving students in grades nine through twelve, that is currently located in building X655. The DOE proposed to phase out Samuel Gompers after an extensive review of data and community feedback indicating that the school lacks the capacity to turn around quickly to better support student needs.

If the proposal to phase out Samuel Gompers is approved, Samuel Gompers would no longer admit new ninth-grade students after the conclusion of the 2011-2012 school year. The school's enrollment would decrease gradually over the next three years, and the school would complete its phase-out in June 2015. The details of the phase-out proposal can be found on the DOE Web site at http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2011-2012/Feb2012Proposals.

In the event that the phase-out of Samuel Gompers is not approved, the DOE would re-examine the availability of space in building X655 and may, if appropriate, revise this co-location proposal.

In another separate EIS, the DOE is also proposing to open and co-locate a new charter high school, AMS II, in building X655 beginning in 2012-2013. If that proposal is approved, 07X557 would also be co-located in building X655 with AMS II thoughout the course of its phase-in and thereafter. AMS II would be open to students through a charter lottery application process, and students who reside in District 7 would receive priority in the lottery. The details of the AMS II co-location proposal can be found on the DOE Web site at http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2011-2012/Feb2012Proposals.

The proposed co-location of 07X557 in building X655 is part of the DOE's central goal to create new school options that would better serve future students and the community at large. 07X557 would prepare over-age, under-credited students for post-secondary education and/or work. 07X557 would have a rolling admissions policy, accepting students throughout the year who are 16 years of age and older and who have attended another high school for at least one year.

In 2010-2011, X655 had a target capacity of 1,348 students, but the building enrolled a total of 788 students, yielding a target building utilization rate of 58%. In the current 2011-2012 school year, the building is serving approximately 676 students, yielding a target utilization rate of 50%.

If this co-location proposal is approved, 07X557 would open in building X655 in September 2012 and would serve approximately 130-170 students in grades nine through twelve. In each subsequent year through 2014-2015, the school would enroll approximately 50 additional students. 07X557 is expected to reach full scale in terms of enrollment in 2014-2015, when it would serve approximately 230-270 students in grades nine through twelve.

In 2015-2016, once Samuel Gompers has completed its phase-out and both 07X557 and AMS II have reached full scale, there would be approximately 770-930 students served in the building, which would yield a target building utilization rate of approximately 57-69%.

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 Samuel Gompers Career and Technical Education High School's main office.

III. Submission of public comment.

Written comments can be sent to D07Proposals@schools.nyc.gov.

Oral comments can be left at 212-374-5159.

IV. The name, office, address, e-mail, and telephone number of the city district representative, knowledgeable on the item under consideration, from whom information may be obtained concerning the item.

Name: Rosa Fernández
Office: Division of Portfolio Planning
Address: 52 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007
Email: D07Proposals@schools.nyc.gov
Phone: 212-374-5159

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

February 2, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.
Samuel Gompers Career and Technical Education High School
455 Southern Boulevard
Bronx, NY 10455

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