



Amended Notice
January 13, 2012

Dennis M. Walcott
Chancellor

The Amended Proposed Opening and Co-location of a New Middle School (11X556) with Existing Schools Aspire Preparatory Middle School (11X322), Bronx Green Middle School (11X326), and Pelham Academy of Academics and Community Engagement (11X468) in Building X135 Beginning in 2012-2013

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

On December 19, 2011, the New York City Department of Education (“DOE”) issued a proposal to open and co-locate a new zoned middle school, 11X556 (I.S. 556, “11X556”), in building X135 (“X135” or “Whalen Campus”), located at 2441 Wallace Avenue, Bronx, NY 10467, in Community School District 11 (“District 11”). I.S. 556 would be a new District 11 middle school that would serve sixth through eighth grades and would admit students through the District 11 Middle School Choice application process through a campus choice model described in more detail below. If this proposal is approved, in 2012-2013, I.S. 556 will begin enrolling 115-125 students in sixth grade; it will add one grade per year until it has reached full-scale and serves sixth through eighth grades in 2014-2015.

This amended Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”) corrects several typographical errors and corrects the number of sixth grade seats that will remain in District 11 after the implementation of this and several concurrently posted proposals.

I.S. 556 would be co-located in the X135 building with the following schools: Aspire Preparatory Middle School (11X322, “Aspire”), 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 campus choice, 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 zoned campus choice matching process operated by the Office of Student Enrollment (“OSE”).

In a separate EIS also published on December 19, 2011 and amended on January 13, 2012, the DOE has proposed to gradually phase out and eventually close Aspire because

of its low performance and inability to turn around quickly to better support student needs. If the phase-out proposal is approved, Aspire will 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 Aspire would serve students in seventh and eighth grades. In 2013-2014, Aspire would serve students in eighth grade only. Aspire would close in June 2014. This proposal can be found on the DOE Web site at <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2011-2012/Feb2012Proposals>.

In 2010-2011, the Whalen Campus had a target capacity of 1,118 students, and the building enrolled a total of 1,136 students, yielding a target building utilization rate of 102%. In 2011-2012, the building served a total of 1,078 students, yielding a target utilization rate of 96%.

If this proposal and the proposal to phase out Aspire are approved, in 2014-2015, once Aspire has completed its phase-out and I.S. 556 has reached full scale, there will be approximately 955-1,045 students served in the building, which would yield a target utilization rate of approximately 85-93%. The DOE anticipates that I.S. 556 will replace the middle school seats that would be lost as a result of the phase-out and closure of Aspire and will provide a new educational option for families in District 11.

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

The Amended 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 Amended 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

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