



Notice
November 18, 2015

Amended: The Proposed Consolidation of Urban Assembly Academy of Civic Engagement (08X366) with Mott Hall Community School (08X467) in Building X192 Beginning in the 2016-2017 School Year

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

On October 30, 2015, the New York City Department of Education (“DOE”) issued an Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”) proposing to consolidate Urban Assembly Academy of Civic Engagement (08X366, “Civic Engagement”), an existing middle school that currently serves students in sixth through eighth grade, with Mott Hall Community School (08X467, “Mott Hall”), an existing middle school that serves students in sixth through eighth grade, beginning in the 2016-2017 school year. A “consolidation” means that two or more existing school organizations are combined into one school to operate and serve students more effectively.

The EIS for this proposal has been amended to add information about the DOE’s methodology for calculating enrollment projections and to explain the capacity for future growth of Mott Hall and Urban Institute of Mathematics (08X371, “Urban Institute”) in the X192 building, if this consolidation is approved. In addition, the DOE has updated the projections in the EIS to reflect the fact that the 2015-2016 Unaudited Register became available on October 31, 2015, which is now the most current data available. Due to this change in enrollment data sources, Civic Engagement’s space allocation for the current school year has been updated.

The DOE is proposing to consolidate Civic Engagement with Mott Hall because both schools have struggled with low enrollment, which creates budgetary and programmatic challenges. Civic Engagement, in particular, has seen a significant drop in enrollment over the past several school years. If this proposal is approved, Civic Engagement and Mott Hall will be combined such that students, staff, and resources of Civic Engagement will become part of Mott Hall, and Civic Engagement will no longer exist as a distinct school option as of the 2016-2017 school year.

Mott Hall and Civic Engagement are co-located in building X192 (“X192”), located at 650 Hollywood Avenue, Bronx, NY 10465 in Community School District 8 (“District 8”), along with Urban Institute, an existing middle school that serves students in sixth through eighth grade, and Bronx Delta School (08X392, “Delta”), an existing elementary school that is phasing in and currently serves students in kindergarten and first grade and offers a pre-kindergarten program. A co-location means that two or more school organizations are located in the same building and may share common spaces, such as auditoriums, gymnasiums, and cafeterias. Building X192 also houses the following three community-based organizations (“CBOs”): Phipps Beacon Community Program (“Beacon”), East Side House Settlement (“East Side House”), and Xposure After-School Institute (“Xposure”). If this proposal is approved, Urban Institute will continue to serve students in sixth through eighth grade, and Delta will continue to phase in until it reaches full scale in the 2019-2020 school year, when it will serve students in kindergarten through fifth grade and offer a pre-kindergarten program. If this proposal is approved, Beacon, East Side House, and Xposure will continue to provide services

and maintain their space in X192.

The New York State Education Department (“SED”) assigns an accountability status to each district school—Good Standing, Local Assistance Plan, Focus, or Priority. Both Mott Hall and Civic Engagement are identified as Focus schools. If this proposal is approved, the newly consolidated school would retain Mott Hall’s status as a Focus school.

Civic Engagement is one of a cohort of 94 schools that have been designated by the DOE as Renewal Schools. Schools selected to be Renewal Schools were assigned the state accountability status of Priority or Focus Schools by SED, demonstrated low academic achievement (in 2012, 2013, and 2014), and scored “Proficient” or below on their most recent Quality Review at the time of selection. (Four schools were selected to be Renewal Schools per the Chancellor’s discretion.) Mott Hall is not a Renewal School.

As a Renewal School, Civic Engagement is currently being transformed into a Community School. Community Schools are intended to be neighborhood hubs where students receive high-quality academic instruction, families can access social services, and communities congregate to share resources and address their common challenges. If this proposal is approved, the newly consolidated Mott Hall would not be designated as a Renewal School, but it would be designated as a Community School.

Urban Institute is also a Community School; its status as a Community School will not be impacted by this proposal. Urban Institute is not a Renewal School.

Building X192 has the capacity to serve a total of 1,390 students. If this proposal is approved, Mott Hall will absorb the enrollment of Civic Engagement and will serve a projected 335-365 students in sixth through eighth grade in the 2016-2017 school year. Urban Institute will serve a projected 275-305 students in sixth through eighth grade in the 2016-2017 school year. Delta will serve a projected 226-256 students in kindergarten through second grade and pre-kindergarten in the 2016-2017 school year. This will result in a total projected building enrollment of 836-926 students in X192, yielding a building utilization rate of 60%-67% in the 2016-2017 school year. When the proposal is at full-scale in the 2020-2021 school year, building X192 is projected to serve 1,101-1,221 students and have a projected utilization rate of 79%-88%.

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

The amended EIS can be found on the DOE’s website at:
<http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2015-2016/December2015SchoolProposals>.

Copies of the EIS are also available in the main offices of Civic Engagement, Mott Hall, Urban Institute, and Delta.

III. Submission of public comment.

Members of the public who wish to provide comments are encouraged to attend the Joint Public Hearing for this proposal and share their feedback in person. Members of the public who do not provide comments at the hearing may also provide oral or written comments as described below. All comments must be submitted at least 24 hours in advance of the Panel for Educational Policy (“PEP”) meeting at which this proposal is subject to a vote in order to be mentioned in the Public Comment Analysis to be published and provided to the Panel the evening before the Panel votes.

Written comments can be submitted via email to: D08Proposals@schools.nyc.gov.

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

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

Name: David Harrington
Office: Division of Operations
Address: 52 Chambers Street, Room 219, New York, NY 10007
Email: D08Proposals@schools.nyc.gov
Phone: 212-374-5159

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

December 7, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.
Building X192
650 Hollywood Avenue
Bronx, NY 10465

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 PEP meeting at which the PEP will vote on the proposed item.

December 16, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.
High School of Fashion Industries
225 West 24th Street
New York, NY 10011