

EDUCATIONAL IMPACT STATEMENT: The Proposed Consolidation of Young Scholars' Academy for Discovery and Exploration (16K636) with Brighter Choice Community School (16K627) in Building K304 Beginning in the 2016-2017 School Year

I. Summary of Proposal

The New York City Department of Education (“DOE”) is proposing to consolidate Young Scholars’ Academy for Discovery and Exploration (16K636, “Young Scholars’ Academy”) with Brighter Choice Community School (16K627, “Brighter Choice”) in the 2016-2017 school year. The DOE is proposing to consolidate Young Scholars’ Academy and Brighter Choice because both schools have struggled with low enrollment, which creates budgetary and programmatic challenges, and because consolidation would support enrollment at the consolidated Brighter Choice. Both schools are existing district elementary schools currently serving students in kindergarten through fifth grade and offering full-day pre-kindergarten (“Pre-K”) programs in building K304 (“K304”), located at 280 Hart Street, Brooklyn, NY 11206. Brighter Choice and Young Scholars’ Academy are currently co-located¹ in K304 with P.S. K140 (75K140, “P.S. K140”),² one site of an existing multi-sited District 75 program,³ serving students in kindergarten through second grade.⁴ A “consolidation” means that two or more existing school organizations are combined into one school to operate and serve students more effectively. Proposals for consolidation seek to improve learning environments by combining the strengths and best practices of both schools and distributing resources to reinforce academic enrichment opportunities, interventions, and other supports. If this proposal is approved, Brighter Choice and Young Scholars’ Academy will be combined such that students, staff, and resources of Young Scholars’ Academy will become part of Brighter Choice and Young Scholars’ Academy will no longer exist as a distinct school option as of the 2016-2017 school year.

Rationale for Consolidation

Consolidation decisions are made on a case-by-case basis in partnership with the Superintendent and impacted school communities. They are intended to improve under-enrolled schools and address the budgetary, programmatic, and performance challenges that arise as a result of low enrollment. A consolidation may also be proposed to allow the DOE to leverage a particularly strong school leader. Since most funding in schools’ budgets is allocated on a per-pupil basis based on Fair Student Funding (“FSF”) per capita allocation levels, schools that struggle with low enrollment may also

¹ 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.

² P.S. K140 currently serves students at four sites: (1) Building K258, located at 141 Macon Street, Brooklyn, NY 11216; (2) Building K021, located at 180 Chauncey Street, Brooklyn, NY 11233; (3) Building K263, located at 210 Chester Street, Brooklyn, NY 11212; and (4) Building K304, located at 280 Hart Street, Brooklyn, NY 11206. This proposal is not anticipated to have an impact on P.S. K140’s other sites.

³ District 75 provides citywide educational, vocational, and behavior support programs for students who are on the autism spectrum, have significant cognitive delays, are severely emotionally challenged, are sensory impaired and/or are multiply disabled. District 75 provides services to students in a variety of settings, including elementary, middle, and high schools, students’ homes, hospitals, and agencies. These programs are located at more than 310 sites in the Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queens, Staten Island, and Syosset, New York. Please visit the DOE website for additional information about District 75 programs at <http://schools.nyc.gov/Offices/District75/default.htm>.

⁴ P.S. K140 is authorized to serve students in kindergarten through fifth grade at K304, but currently only serves students in kindergarten through second grade.

subsequently struggle with funding issues. For example, they may not be able to afford the full range of services or specialized instruction. Consolidations support healthy school enrollment so that schools have the budgets necessary to operate effectively. Other potential benefits of consolidations include increased access to resources and improvements in school performance.

Both Young Scholars' Academy and Brighter Choice are under-enrolled. The DOE is proposing to consolidate Young Scholars' Academy with Brighter Choice based primarily on the benefits students in both school communities would derive from the additional resources made available by consolidating the two school organizations into one. If this proposal is approved, Young Scholars' Academy students attending the consolidated Brighter Choice will have access to a variety of academic and enrichment opportunities that Brighter Choice will provide. In addition to increased resources, the consolidation will allow the schools to combine the strengths and best practices of each individual school into a single, larger organization.

This proposal has been developed by the District 16 Superintendent in conjunction with the principals of Brighter Choice and Young Scholars' Academy and the school communities through a collaborative planning process. In addition to working with the school communities, the Superintendent has worked closely with various DOE offices and the principals of Brighter Choice and Young Scholars' Academy to determine the best path to support the students at both schools. The collaborative planning process culminated in a decision to consolidate these schools into one stronger elementary school option.

Collaboration between Brighter Choice and Young Scholars' Academy has already begun. These schools are already co-located and staff from both schools have begun to increase collaboration, focusing on developing shared instructional practices, sharing resources, and building a cohesive school culture. In addition, the schools have planned a joint pep rally that will bring students from both schools together to discuss the proposed changes, and bring in student voice into what the consolidated school might offer and look like; these changes may include new school uniforms and a new school name. The schools are also engaged in shared activities, such as a student dance for both schools in the spring and joint Mother's Day and Father's Day activities. Such activities will continue throughout the year to ensure the consolidation, if approved, is seamlessly executed in the 2016-2017 school year.

Public Engagement

Public engagement was conducted in the course of creating this proposal, including:

- An announcement by the District 16 Community Superintendent of the potential consolidation to school staff and leadership of Young Scholars' Academy and Brighter Choice on November 3, 2015.
- A letter discussing the potential consolidation sent home with students of Young Scholars' Academy and Brighter Choice on November 3, 2015.
- Meetings hosted by the District 16 Community Superintendent with the School Leadership Team ("SLT") members of Young Scholars' Academy and Brighter Choice on November 4, 2015.
- Meetings hosted by the District 16 Community Superintendent with parents and families of students attending Young Scholars' Academy and Brighter Choice on November 4, 2015 and November 5, 2015.

- A presentation by DOE representatives at the Community Education Council 16 (“CEC 16”) meeting on November 17, 2015 on potential proposals in District 16 for this upcoming year, including this proposal.
- On December 14, 2015, a Deputy Chancellor from the DOE conducted a walkthrough of K304 and an SLT debrief was held. DOE representatives were available to answer questions and address concerns from representatives of the impacted school communities in advance of the Panel for Educational Policy (“PEP”) vote. Participants included representatives from the DOE’s Office of District Planning, Office of Space Planning, and Office of School Design and Charter Partnerships, the CEC 16, Brighter Choice’s SLT, Young Scholars’ Academy’s SLT, and P.S. K140’s SLT.

The DOE will offer other public engagement opportunities following this posting including:

- An optional community meeting prior to the Joint Public Hearing for this proposal. At the community meeting, representatives from the DOE would meet with the school communities (upon their request) to discuss the proposal and take questions, comments, and feedback.
- A Joint Public Hearing to be held at K304. This meeting is open to the public and attendees are encouraged to comment on this proposal during the public comment portion of the hearing.
- Dedicated phone and email lines to accept public comment after the posting of this proposal. Comments can be submitted in any language by calling 212-374-0208 or emailing D16Proposals@schools.nyc.gov.
- A PEP meeting at which PEP members are anticipated to vote on several proposals, including this one, prior to implementation of the proposal. This meeting is also open to the public and attendees are welcome to provide comment on this proposal. All comments received at the above-noted hearing or through phone or email lines by 6:00 p.m. on the day before the PEP meeting will be addressed by the DOE in a public comment analysis, which is made available to the public after 6:00 p.m. on the day before the PEP meeting.

More information about the upcoming Joint Public Hearing and PEP meeting can be found on the DOE website at <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2015-2016/February242016SchoolProposals>.

If this proposal is approved, Young Scholars’ Academy will be consolidated with Brighter Choice beginning in the 2016-2017 school year. The consolidated Brighter Choice will continue to serve students in grades kindergarten through five, and will continue to offer a full-day Pre-K program. Young Scholars’ Academy will no longer exist as an individual school option, and current Young Scholars’ Academy students will be accommodated at Brighter Choice (see Section III for more information).

Building K304 has the capacity to serve a total of 615 students.⁵ If this proposal is approved, in 2016-2017, Brighter Choice is expected to absorb the enrollment of Young Scholars’ Academy and will serve a projected 339-399 students in kindergarten through fifth grade and Pre-K, yielding a

⁵ According to the 2014-2015 Enrollment Capacity Utilization Report (the “Blue Book”), available online at: <http://www.nycsca.org/Community/CapitalPlanManagementReportsData/Enrollment/2014-2015BlueBook.pdf>.

projected building utilization rate of 63%-75%.⁶ This proposal is not expected to significantly change the total building enrollment.

II. Proposed or Potential Use of Building

As noted in Section I above, building K304 has a target capacity of 615 students and currently serves 404 students across Brighter Choice, Young Scholars’ Academy, and P.S. K140, yielding a projected building utilization rate of 66%. The concept of “target capacity” and the related concept of “utilization rate” are explained in Appendix A of this Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”). If this proposal is approved, the newly consolidated Brighter Choice will serve approximately 339-399 students in the 2016-2017 school year. As explained above, the projected utilization rate of the building that year is expected to be 63%-75% if this proposal is approved.

If this proposal is approved, the grade spans served by each of the current and proposed school organizations in K304 will be as follows:

DBN	School Name	2015-2016	2016-2017
16K627	Brighter Choice	K-5 ⁷	K-5 ⁸
16K636	Young Scholars' Academy	K-5 ⁹	-
75K140	P.S. K140	K-2 ¹⁰	K-2

The chart below shows the projected enrollment and building utilization for building K304 if this proposal is approved:

⁶ All references to building utilization rates in 2015-2016 and beyond are based on target capacity data from the 2014-2015 Blue Book and district school enrollment projections based on the 2015-2016 Unaudited Register as of October 31, 2015. This methodology is consistent with the manner in which the DOE conducts planning and calculates space allocations and funding for all schools. In determining the space allocation for co-located schools, the Office of Space Planning conducts a detailed site survey and/or space analysis of the building to assess the amount of space available in the building. The Blue Book is available at <http://www.nycsca.org/Community/CapitalPlanManagementReportsData/Pages/EnrollmentCapacityUtilization.aspx>

⁷ Brighter Choice also serves pre-kindergarten in 2015-2016.

⁸ Brighter Choice will continue to serve pre-kindergarten in 2016-2017.

⁹ Young Scholars’ Academy also serves pre-kindergarten in 2015-2016.

¹⁰ As previously mentioned, P.S. K140 is authorized to serve students in kindergarten through fifth grade at its site in K304, but currently only serves students in kindergarten through second grade at this site.

DBN	School Name	2015-2016 Enrollment ¹¹	2016-2017 Projected Enrollment
16K627	Brighter Choice	167	339 - 399
16K636	Young Scholars' Academy	183	-
75K140	P.S. K140	54	50 - 64
Total Building Enrollment		404	389 - 463
Utilization		66%	63% - 75%

More information on target capacity and utilization is available in Appendix A of this EIS. If this proposal is approved, the newly consolidated Brighter Choice and P.S. K140 will receive their baseline or adjusted baseline allocations of space pursuant to the Citywide Instructional Footprint (“the Footprint”). More details about space allocation are available in Section III and Appendix C of this EIS. Please visit the DOE’s website to access the Footprint, which guides space allocation and use in City schools: [http://schools.nyc.gov/Offices/OSP/KeyDocuments/Instructional Footprint](http://schools.nyc.gov/Offices/OSP/KeyDocuments/InstructionalFootprint).¹²

III. Impact of the Proposal on Affected Students, Schools, and Community

A. Students

Brighter Choice and Young Scholars’ Academy currently serve students in grades kindergarten through five and offer full-day Pre-K programs in K304. As Brighter Choice and Young Scholars’ Academy have struggled with low enrollment, which creates budgetary and programmatic challenges, the DOE is proposing to consolidate Brighter Choice with Young Scholars’ Academy in K304. If this proposal is approved, current Young Scholars’ Academy students in kindergarten through fourth grade, as well as Young Scholars’ Academy students in the fifth grade who must

¹¹ Enrollment is based on the 2015-2016 Unaudited Register as of October 31, 2015.

¹² On December 2, 2015, the DOE released an updated Footprint that includes increased allocations of administrative space. The baseline and adjusted baseline allocations of space in 2016-2017 school year and beyond reflect this change.

repeat a grade, will be served in the consolidated Brighter Choice beginning in the 2016-2017 school year. Current Brighter Choice students, with the exception of those who graduate fifth grade, will continue to be served at Brighter Choice. If this proposal is approved, new students will no longer enroll in Young Scholars' Academy. The consolidated Brighter Choice will be co-located in K304 with P.S. K140.

Impact on Students Currently Attending Brighter Choice and Young Scholars' Academy

The proposed consolidation of Young Scholars' Academy with Brighter Choice may impact educational and/or extra-curricular programming available to current Brighter Choice students. The consolidated Brighter Choice may offer new opportunities currently available at Young Scholars' Academy in place of or in addition to current offerings. If approved, students currently attending Young Scholars' Academy will gain access to the programming available at Brighter Choice and will no longer be served by Young Scholars' Academy as of the 2016-2017 school year, although many of the programs and services currently provided by Young Scholars' Academy may be offered instead by the consolidated Brighter Choice.

Young Scholars' Academy and Brighter Choice currently serve general education students and students requiring special education services, including students currently enrolled in Integrated Co-Teaching ("ICT"), Self-Contained ("SC") special education classes and students receiving Special Education Teacher Support Services ("SETSS") and related services. Students with disabilities will continue to receive services in accordance with their Individualized Education Programs ("IEPs"). Services are tailored to meet the individual needs of the students with disabilities currently enrolled and, as such, may vary from year to year. All current Young Scholars' Academy and Brighter Choice students who are not graduating and all future students enrolled at the consolidated Brighter Choice will continue to receive all mandated special education services if this proposal is approved.

In addition, English Language Learners ("ELL") students currently enrolled at Young Scholars' Academy and Brighter Choice receive English Second Language ("ESL") services. If this proposal is approved, these services will continue to be provided at the consolidated Brighter Choice, and all students will receive their mandated services. In addition, the consolidated Brighter Choice plans to offer new dual-language programming in Spanish and English.

Current fifth grade students who are on track to graduate will complete elementary school at their current school (Young Scholars' Academy or Brighter Choice) at the end of the 2015-2016 school year, provided they meet promotional criteria, and can apply to middle school through the middle school admissions process.¹³

If this proposal is approved, current Brighter Choice kindergarten through fourth grade students, as well as fifth-grade students who are not on track to graduate, will continue to be served by the consolidated Brighter Choice alongside their new classmates from the former Young Scholars' Academy. It is expected that all current Young Scholars' Academy students, with the exception of those continuing on to middle school, will attend the consolidated Brighter Choice. However, any students who prefer a different school option may seek a transfer for the 2016-2017 school year through the Office of Student Enrollment ("OSE"). OSE will work to match students based on their needs and seat availability.

This proposal is not expected to impact any particular academic or extra-curricular program

¹³ More information can be found online at: <http://schools.nyc.gov/ChoicesEnrollment/Middle/default.htm>

currently offered at Young Scholars' Academy or Brighter Choice for the duration of the current (2015-2016) school year. Both schools will continue to offer all programs to support current students as they work to meet promotional requirements through the end of the current school year.

Brighter Choice's current extra-curricular activities, sports, and partnerships include:¹⁴

- **Clubs:** Book Club; Seasonal Ambassadors; Sewing Club; Chorus; Jewelry Making
- **Extra-curricular Activities:** Basketball team; African Dance; Modern Dance; Chess; Arts & Crafts; Cheerleading team; Step team; Spirit days; Yoga
- **Partnerships:** Ifetayo Cultural Arts; Materials for the Arts; Studio-in-School; Theater for a New Audience; Dwana Smallwood Performing Arts Center (DSPAC)

Young Scholars' Academy currently offers the following extra-curricular activities, sports, and partnerships:¹⁵

- **Clubs:** Book Club; 4th grade – Science/STEM Club; Chorus & Music Club
- **Extra-curricular Activities:** Dance; Drumming; Seasonal Sports; Arts & Crafts; Spirit Days
- **Partnerships:** University Settlement/Expanded Education; New York Cares; Materials for the Arts; HEAF – Harlem Educational Activities Fund, Inc.

If this proposal is approved, the consolidated Brighter Choice will continue to offer extra-curricular programs based on student interests, available resources, and staff support for those programs, though the specific programs offered at a given school are always subject to change. That is true for all City students, as all schools annually modify extra-curricular offerings based on student demand and available resources. If this proposal is approved, the consolidated Brighter Choice may also offer programs and partnerships that are currently offered by Young Scholars' Academy, after Young Scholars' Academy ceases to operate as a distinct school and therefore no longer offers its current programs and partnerships.

The DOE expects that the consolidation of Young Scholars' Academy with Brighter Choice will allow the consolidated Brighter Choice to increase the programmatic opportunities available to students, due to the combination of the schools' individual resources.

Impact on Current and Future Students Attending P.S. K140

P.S. K140 is one site of a multi-site District 75 program serving students in kindergarten through second grade. In 2016-2017, the program is projected to serve approximately 50-64 elementary school-aged students with a wide range of disabilities. Students are placed in District 75 programs based on their individual needs and recommended special education services. If this proposal is approved, students at P.S. K140 will continue to receive all mandated services.

New incoming students in this program will enter through the District 75 placement process, consistent with current practice. Students seeking placement are admitted through referrals from the

¹⁴ School reported data as of December 17, 2015.

¹⁵ School reported data as of December 17, 2015.

District 75 Placement Office and are offered a placement based on geographic location of their residence, the programs outlined in their IEPs, and seat availability.

For more information regarding this application process please refer to the following Web site: <http://schools.nyc.gov/Offices/District75/default.htm>.

Impact on Future Elementary School Students in District 16

This proposal is not expected to impact the admissions process for district elementary schools in District 16. Brighter Choice and Young Scholars' Academy share a zone. Both schools are open to all students who reside in the zone, and both schools give priority to students who live in their zone, in accordance with Chancellor's Regulation A-101.

If this proposal is approved, Young Scholars' Academy will no longer be a distinct school option and will cease to admit students as of the 2016-2017 school year. The consolidated Brighter Choice will instead offer admissions to the seats previously available at Young Scholars' Academy. Brighter Choice will continue to admit students through the zoned admissions process that it currently uses.

General information about the elementary school admissions process can be found on the DOE's website at: <http://schools.nyc.gov/ChoicesEnrollment/Elementary/default.htm> and Appendix B of this EIS.

Impact on the Pre-Kindergarten Programs in Brighter Choice and Young Scholars' Academy

Brighter Choice and Young Scholars' Academy currently offer pre-kindergarten programs. If this proposal is approved, Young Scholars' Academy will no longer be a distinct school option and will cease to provide a pre-kindergarten program as of the 2016-2017 school year. Instead the consolidated Brighter Choice will increase the size of its pre-kindergarten program and offer admission to the pre-kindergarten seats previously available at Young Scholars' Academy.

Incoming pre-kindergarten students can apply to the pre-kindergarten program through the centralized pre-kindergarten admissions process. As with all pre-kindergarten programs, the availability of pre-kindergarten at Brighter Choice will be subject to continued funding availability and demand.

See Appendix B for more information on pre-kindergarten admissions priorities and elementary school enrollment.

B. Schools

If this proposal is approved, there will be sufficient space to accommodate the consolidated Brighter Choice in K304 pursuant to the Footprint. Please see Appendix C of this EIS for more information on the Footprint, which guides space allocation and use in city schools, and visit the DOE's website to access the Footprint:

<http://schools.nyc.gov/Offices/OSP/KeyDocuments/Instructional Footprint>.

According to a walk-through and survey of building K304 conducted on December 8, 2015 by a representative from the Office of Space Planning, K304 includes 45 full-size rooms, 5 half-size rooms, 2 quarter-size rooms and 2.25 full-size equivalent ("FSE") spaces of designed administrative space. K304 also includes a gymnasium, an auditorium, a library, and a cafeteria, all

of which are currently shared by Brighter Choice, Young Scholars' Academy, and P.S. K140. If this proposal is approved, these spaces will be shared by the consolidated Brighter Choice and P.S. K140. The below spaces are currently being shared by Brighter Choice, Young Scholars' Academy, and P.S. K140:

- The school nurse's office occupies 0.5 FSE room of designed administrative space.
- The School-Based Support Team occupies 1 full-size room.
- The teacher's cafeteria occupies 1 full-size room.
- The custodian's office occupies 1 quarter-size room.
- The ESL room occupies 1 half-size room.
- The speech room occupies 1 half-size room.
- The OT/PT room occupies 1 full-size room.

Excluding the shared spaces outlined above, K304 has a total of 42 full-size rooms, 3 half-size rooms, 1 quarter-size rooms, and 1.75 FSE spaces of designed administrative space remaining to be allocated in K304.

Per the Footprint, Brighter Choice's current baseline Footprint allocation is 9 full-size rooms, 3 half-size rooms, and 2.5 FSE spaces for administrative use. Brighter Choice has received an adjusted baseline allocation due to a lack of available half-size rooms in the building; Brighter Choice's adjusted baseline Footprint allocation is 12 full-size rooms and 2.5 FSE spaces for administrative use, comprised of 2 full-size rooms and 1 half-size room. Currently, Brighter Choice is using 14 full-size rooms and 2.75 FSE spaces for administrative use, made up of 2 full-size rooms, 1 half-size room, and 1 quarter-size room. Therefore, Brighter Choice is using 2 full-size rooms and 1 quarter-size space above its adjusted Footprint.

Per the Footprint, Young Scholars' Academy current baseline Footprint allocation is 10 full-size rooms, 4 half-size rooms, and 2.5 FSE spaces for administrative use. Young Scholars' Academy has received an adjusted baseline allocation due to a lack of available half-size rooms in the building; Young Scholars' Academy adjusted baseline Footprint allocation is 14 full-size rooms and 2.5 FSE spaces for administrative use. Currently, Young Scholars' Academy is using 15 full-size rooms and 3.25 FSE spaces for administrative use, made up of 1 full-size room, 1 half-size room, and 1.75 FSE of designed administrative space. Therefore, Young Scholars' Academy is using 1 full-size room and 0.75 FSE spaces for administrative use above its Footprint.

Per the Footprint, P.S. K140's baseline Footprint allocation is 3 full-size rooms, 8 half-size rooms, and 1.5 FSE spaces for administrative use. P.S. K140 has received an adjusted baseline allocation due to a lack of available half-size rooms in the building; P.S. K140's adjusted baseline allocation is 11 full-size rooms and 1.5 FSE spaces for administrative use. Currently, P.S. K140 is using 9 full-size rooms and 1.5 FSE spaces for administrative use, comprised of 1 full-size room and 1 half-size room. Therefore, P.S. K140 is operating with 2 full-size rooms under its Footprint allocation. Following this proposal, P.S. K140 will have the opportunity to receive its full footprint allocation given the available excess space in the building and plans to move where it is located within the building.

If this proposal is approved, Young Scholars' Academy will be consolidated with Brighter Choice, and the consolidated Brighter Choice's baseline Footprint allocation will be 18 full-size rooms, 5 half-size rooms, and 3.5 FSE spaces for administrative use. Due to a lack of half-size rooms in K304, Brighter Choice's adjusted baseline space allocation will be 21 full-size rooms, 2 half-size rooms, and 3.5 FSE spaces for administrative use, comprised of 1.75 FSE of designed administrative space, 1 full-size room, 1 half-size room, and 1 quarter-size room.

The adjusted baseline allocations of full-size rooms in K304 are detailed in the chart below. The table below shows K304's current space allocations and space allocations for the 2016-2017 school year if this proposal is approved.

DBN	School Name	2015-2016	2016-2017
16K627	Brighter Choice	14	22
16K636	Young Scholars' Academy	15	-
75K140	P.S. K140	10	12
TOTAL		39	34
TOTAL FULL-SIZE ROOMS TO BE ALLOCATED		42	42
ROOMS IN EXCESS OF ADJUSTED BASELINE ALLOCATION OF FULL-SIZE ROOMS		3	8

All necessary adjustments for administrative or other purposes have been reflected in the chart above.

If this proposal is approved, the Office of Space Planning will work with the Building Council to ensure an equitable allocation of the excess space. In determining an equitable allocation, the Office may consider factors such as the relative enrollments of the co-located schools, the instructional and programmatic needs of the co-located schools, and the physical location of the excess space within the building.

Building Safety and Security

If this proposal is approved, all schools in building K304 as of the 2016-2017 school year will develop a safety and security plan for the building prior to the first day of school in September 2016.

The DOE makes the following safety and security supports available to schools:

- Providing “Best Practices Standards for Creating and Sustaining a Safe and Supportive School” as a resource guide;
- Reviewing and monitoring school occurrence data and crime data (in conjunction with the Criminal Justice Coordinator and the New York City Police Department);
- Providing technical assistance via the Borough Safety Directors when incidents occur;
- Providing professional development and kits for Building Response Teams; and
- Monitoring and certifying School Safety Plans annually.

C. Community

Schools that struggle with low enrollment often simultaneously encounter budgetary issues because school funding is allocated on a per-pupil basis. The consolidation of Young Scholars' Academy and Brighter Choice will result in a healthy enrollment at the consolidated school and provide the budget required to run effectively. Because of the increased resources, the consolidated Brighter Choice will be able to enhance programs offered, creating a stronger school environment and an improved elementary school option.

If this proposal is approved, community members and organizations will continue to be able to obtain school building use permits at K304. This proposal is not expected to impact the accessibility of K304, which is not accessible.

IV. Enrollment, Admissions and School Performance Information

Brighter Choice

Admissions Data

Current Admissions	Pre-kindergarten: Standard pre-kindergarten admissions process Grades K-5: Zoned
Future Admissions	Pre-kindergarten: Standard pre-kindergarten admissions process Grades K-5: Zoned

Enrollment Data¹⁶

	PK	Grade KG	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Total Enrollment
2015-2016	19	23	31	26	22	23	23	167
2016-2017 (projected)	54	45-55	45-55	50-60	50-60	50-60	45-55	339-399

Demographic Data¹⁷

Percentage of Students Receiving ICT or SC Services	4%
Percentage of Students with Individualized Education Programs	12%
Percentage of English Language Learner Students	4%
Percentage of Students Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Lunch	78%

¹⁶ All figures are based on the 2015-2016 Unaudited Register as of October 31, 2015.

¹⁷ All figures are as a percentage of total students from the 2015-2016 Unaudited Register as of October 31, 2015.

School Performance Data

Brighter Choice	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
School Quality Indicators¹⁸			
1.1 Curriculum	Proficient	N/A	Well Developed
1.2 Pedagogy	Proficient	N/A	Proficient
2.2 Assessment	Proficient	N/A	Well Developed
3.4 High Expectations	Proficient	N/A	Well Developed
4.2 Teacher Teams and Leadership Development	Proficient	N/A	Well Developed
Performance Data			
English Language Arts % Proficient (Levels 3 and 4)	37%	39%	28%
Math % Proficient (Levels 3 and 4)	22%	33%	28%
Other Key Performance Indicators			
Attendance Rate	90%	91%	91%
2015-2016 State Accountability Status	Good Standing		

Young Scholars' Academy*Admissions Data*

Current Admissions	Pre-kindergarten: Standard pre-kindergarten admissions process Grades K-5: Zoned
Future Admissions	N/A

Enrollment Data

	PK	Grade KG	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Total Enrollment
2015-2016	24	24	26	29	31	26	23	183
2016-2017 (projected)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

¹⁸ The 2014-2015 Quality Review Report formally reports on these five Quality Indicators. The 2014-2015 Quality Review Rubric is available at <http://schools.nyc.gov/NR/rdonlyres/8C11A001-7E78-469D-996F-B0C3703CEA81/0/QualityReviewRubric1415.pdf>. Not all schools receive Quality Reviews every year. Brighter Choice did not have a Quality Review for the 2013-2014 school year.

Demographic Data

Percentage of Students Receiving ICT or SC Services	6%
Percentage of Students with Individualized Education Programs	16%
Percentage of English Language Learner Students	4%
Percentage of Students Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Lunch	87%

School Performance Data

Young Scholars' Academy	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
School Quality Indicators¹⁹			
1.1 Curriculum	N/A	N/A	Proficient
1.2 Pedagogy	N/A	N/A	Developing
2.2 Assessment	N/A	N/A	Proficient
3.4 High Expectations	N/A	N/A	Developing
4.2 Teacher Teams and Leadership Development	N/A	N/A	Proficient
Performance Data			
English Language Arts % Proficient (Levels 3 and 4)	9%	23%	17%
Math % Proficient (Levels 3 and 4)	21%	24%	21%
Other Key Performance Indicators			
Attendance Rate	91%	91%	92%
2015-2016 State Accountability Status	Good Standing		

P.S. K140

Admissions Data

Current Admissions	District 75 Placement is based on Individual Student Needs/Recommended Special Education Services
Future Admissions	District 75 Placement is based on Individual Student Needs/Recommended Special Education Services

¹⁹ The 2014-2015 Quality Review Report formally reports on these five Quality Indicators. The 2014-2015 Quality Review Rubric is available at <http://schools.nyc.gov/NR/rdonlyres/8C11A001-7E78-469D-996F-B0C3703CEA81/0/QualityReviewRubric1415.pdf>. Not all schools receive Quality Reviews every year. Young Scholars' Academy did not have a Quality Review for the 2012-2013 or 2013-2014 school year.

Enrollment Data

	Total Enrollment
2015-2016	54
2016-2017 (projected)	50-64

Demographic Data

Percentage of Students Receiving ICT or SC Services	100%
Percentage of Students with Individualized Education Programs	100%
Percentage of English Language Learner Students	13%
Percentage of Students Eligible for Free or Reduced-Price Lunch	68%

School Performance Data

P.S. K140	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
School Quality Indicators²⁰			
1.1 Curriculum	Developing	Proficient	N/A
1.2 Pedagogy	Developing	Proficient	N/A
2.2 Assessment	Developing	Proficient	N/A
3.4 High Expectations	Proficient	Proficient	N/A
4.2 Teacher Teams and Leadership Development	Proficient	Proficient	N/A
Performance Data²¹			
English Language Arts % Proficient (Levels 3 and 4)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Math % Proficient (Levels 3 and 4)	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Key Performance Indicators²¹			
Attendance Rate	N/A	N/A	N/A
2015-2016 State Accountability Status	Good Standing		

V. Initial Impact on Budget and Cost of Instruction

The costs associated with this proposal are explained below.

²⁰ The 2014-2015 Quality Review Report formally reports on these five Quality Indicators. The 2014-2015 Quality Review Rubric is available at <http://schools.nyc.gov/NR/rdonlyres/8C11A001-7E78-469D-996F-B0C3703CEA81/0/QualityReviewRubric1415.pdf>. Not all schools receive Quality Reviews every year. P.S. K140 did not have a Quality Review for the 2014-2015 school year.

²¹ Performance data is not available for P.S. K140 because P.S. K140 is an alternate assessment school.

Most funding in schools' budgets is allocated on a per-pupil basis, based on Fair Student Funding per capita allocation levels. As shown in Section IV above, Brighter Choice's enrollment is expected to increase as a result of this consolidation and as a result, Brighter Choice's budget is expected to increase to reflect the additional pupils. Schools also receive additional funds for students with disabilities, ELL students, and those students with other supplemental academic needs. Please refer to the FSF Guide²² and FY16 School Allocation Memoranda²³ for additional information on cost of instruction and how the changes to FSF funding and other school allocations will be impacted as a result of this consolidation.

This proposal should not otherwise impact the operating budget or costs of instruction at P.S. K140.

VI. Effect on Personnel Needs, Costs of Instruction, Administration, Transportation and Other Support Services

A. Personnel Needs

If this proposal is approved, some Young Scholars' Academy and/or Brighter Choice staff members may be excessed when the school is consolidated. Where possible, the DOE will seek to minimize excessing²⁴ of represented staff during any approved school consolidation. In the event that staff excessing is required, staff from Young Scholars' Academy and Brighter Choice will be merged into one list to determine seniority by license, and all contractual rules regarding excessing will apply.

Barring system-wide layoffs, excessed teachers will be eligible to apply for other City positions, and any teachers who do not find a permanent position will be placed in the absent teacher reserve pool ("ATR"), meaning that they will continue to earn their salary while serving as substitute teachers in other City schools.

This proposal is not expected to impact the staffing of P.S. K140.

B. Administration

If this proposal is approved, some supervisors and/or administrators from Brighter Choice and Young Scholars' Academy may be excessed when the school is consolidated. Again, where possible, the DOE will seek to minimize excessing of represented staff during any consolidation. In the event that staff excessing is required, staff from Brighter Choice and Young Scholars' Academy will be merged into one list to determine seniority by license, and all contractual rules regarding excessing will apply.

Barring system-wide layoffs, excessed supervisors and/or administrators will be eligible to apply for other City positions, and any supervisors and/or administrators who do not find a permanent position will be placed in the ATR pool, meaning that they will continue to earn their salary while serving on a temporary basis in other City schools.

²²Available on the DOE website at:

http://schools.nyc.gov/offices/d_chanc_oper/budget/dbor/allocationmemo/fy15_16/FY16_PDF/FSF_Guide.pdf

²³ The FY16 School Allocation Memoranda are available at:

http://schools.nyc.gov/offices/d_chanc_oper/budget/dbor/allocationmemo/fy15_16/AM_FY16_pg1.html

²⁴ Excessing of staff occurs when a school requires fewer positions than the number of staff currently in the license area or job title.

This proposal is not expected to impact the administration of P.S. K140.

C. Transportation

There will be no change to existing transportation practices at Brighter Choice, Young Scholars' Academy, or P.S. K140 during the current school year (2015-2016). This proposal is not expected to affect transportation practices at Brighter Choice or P.S. K140 for the 2016-2017 school year or in future school years.

If this proposal is approved, transportation will continue to be provided to students attending P.S. K140 and the consolidated Brighter Choice according to Chancellor's Regulation A-801: <http://docs.nycenet.edu/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-39/A-801.pdf>.

D. Other Support Services

The provision of certain support services is described above. Other support services will be provided as consistent with citywide policy.

VII. Building Information

Building	K304	
Type of Building	PS	
Year Built	1963	
Overall BCAS rating	2.82	
2014-2015 Blue Book Target Building Utilization	64%	
2014-2015 Blue Book Target Building Capacity	615	
FY 2015 Maintenance Costs²⁵	Labor	\$515
	Materials	\$0
	Maintenance, repair, and service contracts	\$7,977
	Custodial operations costs—Materials	n/a
	Custodial operations costs—Custodial Allocation	\$359,952
FY 2015 Energy Costs	Electric	\$60,797
	Gas	\$3,502
	Steam	N/A
	Oil	\$101,521
Projects completed during the current or prior school year	Roof Railing, Structural Defects/Ext Masonry	
Projects proposed in the capital plan	None	
Accessibility of the building	No Accessibility	
Building attributes	Auditorium, Cafeteria, Gymnasium, Library, Nurse's Office	

²⁵ The custodial services in K304 are managed by a private facility management company; thus, fringe benefits, service contracts, minor maintenance and supplies are included in the custodial allocation.

Appendix A: Target Capacity and Utilization

As described in more detail in the Blue Book, available online at <http://www.nycsca.org/Community/CapitalPlanManagementReportsData/Enrollment/2014-2015BlueBook.pdf>, target utilization rate is calculated by dividing the aggregated enrollment of all the school organizations in the building by the aggregated “target capacities” of those organizations. Each school organization’s “target capacity” is calculated based upon the scheduled use of individual rooms as reported by principals during an annual facilities survey, the DOE’s goals for maximum classroom capacities (which are lower than the United Federation of Teachers’ contractual class sizes and differ depending on grade level), and the efficiency with which classrooms are programmed (i.e., the frequency with which classes are scheduled in a given classroom). The target capacity assumes that the components underlying that target capacity (scheduled use of classrooms, goal maximum classroom capacity, etc.) remain constant.

The most recent year for which target capacity has been calculated for buildings is 2014-2015. As described above, the DOE’s projected utilization rates for the 2015-2016 school year and beyond are based on the 2014-2015 target capacity, which assumes that the components underlying that target capacity (scheduled use of classrooms, maximum classroom capacity, etc.) remain constant. Thus, projected utilization rates for 2015-2016 and beyond provide only an approximation of a building’s usage because each of the factors underlying target capacity may be adjusted by principals from year to year to better accommodate students’ needs. For example, changing the use of a room from an administrative room to a homeroom at the high school level will increase a building’s overall target capacity because for high schools administrative rooms are not assigned a capacity. Holding enrollment constant, this change will result in a lower utilization rate. Similarly, if a room previously used as a kindergarten classroom is subsequently used as fifth-grade classroom, the building’s target capacity will increase because we expect that a fifth-grade class will have more students than a kindergarten class. This is reflected in the fact that the DOE’s goal for maximum classroom capacity is higher for fifth-grade classrooms than for kindergarten classrooms. In this example, as well, assuming enrollment is constant, the utilization rate will decrease.

Appendix B: School Admissions

Elementary School Admissions

The DOE offers choice, or non-zoned, elementary schools and zoned elementary schools. A student’s zoned school is determined by his or her home address in accordance with Chancellor’s Regulation A-101. The full details of A-101 can be found at: <http://schools.nyc.gov/RulesPolicies/ChancellorsRegulations/default.htm>.

Zoned schools are obligated to serve all students residing in their zone, space permitting, regardless of when families show up to register. Applicants must be admitted to kindergarten at zoned schools in the following order of priority:

- a. Zoned students whose verified siblings are pre-registered or enrolled at the time of application submission and will be enrolled in grades K-5 in the school at the start of the following school year;
- b. Zoned students other than those in (a) above applying to the zoned school

If space allows, and as OSE deems appropriate based on district needs, additional offers may be authorized for the following priority groups, in the below order. Only the Office of Student Enrollment may authorize the placement of non-zoned students out of this priority order; for example, for students who cannot be

accommodated at their zoned school or for special programs such as dual language or inclusion classes for students with Autism Spectrum Disorders.

- c. Students whose verified siblings are pre-registered or enrolled at the time of application submission and will be enrolled in grades K-5 in the school at the start of the following school year who are not zoned to the school, but are residents of that district;
- d. Students whose verified siblings are pre-registered or enrolled at the time of application submission and will be enrolled in grades K-5 at the start of the following school year who are residents of another district;
- e. Students currently attending the school's pre-kindergarten program who reside outside the school's zone but in the school's district, without a sibling who will be in grades K-5 at the school in the following school year;
- f. Students currently attending the school's pre-kindergarten program who reside outside the school's zone and district, without a sibling who will be in grades K-5 at the school in the following school year;
- g. Students other than those in (c) and (e) above who are residents of that district;
- h. Students other than those in (d) and (f) who are residents of another district.

Applicants are admitted to kindergarten at non-zoned schools in the following order of priority:

- a. Students who reside in the school's district whose verified siblings are pre-registered or enrolled at the time of the application submission and will be enrolled in grades K-5 in the school at the start of the following school year;
- b. Students who reside outside the school's district whose verified siblings are pre-registered or enrolled at the time of application submission and will be enrolled in grades K-5 in the school at the start of the following school year;
- c. students currently attending the school's pre-kindergarten program who reside in the school's district, without a sibling who will be in grades K-5 at the school in the following school year;
- d. students currently attending the school's pre-kindergarten program who reside outside the school's district, without a sibling who will be in grades K-5 at the school in the following school year;
- e. Students other than those in (a) and (c) above who are residents of that district;
- f. Students other than those in (b) and (d) above who are residents of another district.

Elementary school students with IEPs, with the exception of those recommended for placement in a District 75 school,²⁶ a Non-Public School Placement, or specialized programs,²⁷ are admitted to schools in the same manner as general education students. Schools will ensure that students with disabilities receive mandated programs and services in accordance with their IEPs while also ensuring such students have opportunities to

²⁶ District 75 provides citywide educational, vocational, and behavior support programs for students who are on the autism spectrum, have significant cognitive delays, are severely emotionally challenged, are sensory impaired and/or are multiply disabled. District 75 provides services to students in a variety of settings, including elementary, middle, and high schools, students' homes, hospitals, and agencies. These programs are located at more than 347 sites in the Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queens, Staten Island, and Syosset, New York. Please visit the DOE website for additional information about District 75 programs at: <http://schools.nyc.gov/Offices/District75/default.htm>.

²⁷ Specialized programs refer to a set of programs that are not in every district school. These programs include bilingual special education programs and programs for students with Autism Spectrum Disorder. If a student is identified as requiring a specialized program, s/he may be offered a program as an alternative to the placement offered through the admissions and enrollment processes. For more information please visit <http://schools.nyc.gov/Academics/SpecialEducation/enrolling/specializedprograms/default.htm> or email specializedprograms@schools.nyc.gov.

learn alongside their non-disabled peers to the greatest extent possible. In accordance with DOE policy, ELL students will also be admitted to elementary schools in the same manner as their peers who are not ELL students. Any students requiring ELL services to receive appropriate services in accordance with DOE policy.

Pre-kindergarten applicants are considered for placement in schools based on standard admissions priorities, as outlined below and in accordance with Chancellor's Regulation A-101:

- a. Students residing in the zone, who have a sibling at the school in grades K-5 the following September.*
- b. Students residing in the zone, who do not have a sibling at the school.*
- c. Students residing in the district, who have a sibling at the school, and who have no zoned school or whose zoned school has no pre-K program.
- d. Students residing in the district, who have a sibling at the school, and who are zoned to a different school which has a pre-K program.
- e. Students residing in the borough, who have a sibling at the school.
- f. Students residing out-of-borough, who have a sibling at the school.
- g. Students residing in the district, who have no zoned school or whose zoned school has no pre-K program
- h. Students residing in the district, who are zoned to a different school which has a pre-K program.
- i. Students residing in the borough.
- j. Students residing out-of-borough.

* Does not apply to non-zoned schools. Throughout New York City, there are district schools without a zone called non-zoned schools. For non-zoned schools, the first two Admissions Priorities above do not apply. District 1 (Lower East Side, Manhattan), District 7 (South Bronx) and District 23 (Brownsville, Brooklyn) are choice districts, which means they do not have any zoned schools.

If there are more applicants than available seats within a priority group, seats will be assigned by random selection to members of that group.

Appendix C: Instructional Footprint

The Footprint sets forth the baseline number of rooms that should be allocated to a school based on the grade levels served by the school and number of classes per grade. For existing schools, the Footprint is applied to the current number of classes and class size a school has programmed and is confirmed by a walk-through of the building by the Borough Director of Space Planning and a school's representative.

For elementary schools serving grades kindergarten through five (and for all pre-kindergarten programs), the Footprint assumes that classes are self-contained. Therefore, the Footprint allocates one full-size room for each general education or integrated co-teaching section and a full-size or half-size room to accommodate each self-contained special education section served by the school. In addition to these rooms, schools serving grades kindergarten through five receive an allocation of cluster or specialty rooms proportionate to the number of students enrolled. These spaces can be used at the principal's discretion for purposes such as art and/or music instruction, among other things.

For grades six through twelve, the Footprint assumes that students move from class to class and that classrooms should be programmed at maximum efficiency. The Footprint does not require that every teacher have his or her own designated classroom. Principals are asked to program their schools efficiently so that classrooms can be used for multiple purposes throughout the course of the school day.

The Footprint allocates a number of baseline full-size equivalent classrooms for student support services, resource rooms, and administrative space based on the grades a school serves and its enrollment at scale.

Any space remaining beyond the baseline or adjusted baseline Footprint allocation will be excess space available to the consolidated Brighter Choice and P.S. K140.