



**Department of
Education**

Carmen Fariña, Chancellor

Notice

January 8, 2016

The Proposed Closure of Foundations Academy (14K322) in Building K033 at the End of the 2015-2016 School Year

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

The New York City Department of Education (“DOE”) is proposing the closure of Foundations Academy (14K322), an existing district high school serving students in ninth through twelfth grades in building K033 (“K033”), located at 70 Tompkins Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11206, in Community School District 14 (“District 14”), at the end of the 2015-2016 school year.

Foundations Academy is currently co-located in K033 with The School of the Urban Environment (14K330, “Urban Environment”), a middle school serving students in sixth through eighth grades; Success Academy Charter School – Bed-Stuy 1 (84K367, “SA – Bed-Stuy 1”), an elementary school serving students in kindergarten through fifth grades; and P368K@I033K (75K368, “P368K@I033K”), one site of an existing multi-sited District 75 program serving students in sixth through twelfth grades.

The DOE is proposing to close Foundations Academy based on its persistently low enrollment, low performance, and lack of demand by students and families. If this proposal is approved, Foundations Academy will close at the end of the 2015-2016 school year and will no longer exist as a high school option beginning in the 2016-2017 school year. Current ninth-, tenth- and eleventh-grade students, as well as twelfth-grade students who are not on track to graduate, will work individually with DOE staff and will be offered seats in other district high schools. Current twelfth-grade students who meet mandated graduation requirements at the end of the current school year will graduate from Foundations Academy in June 2016.

There is sufficient capacity in high schools throughout Brooklyn to accommodate current Foundations Academy students, as well as future students who might have attended Foundations Academy if it remained open as a high school option. If the proposed closure of Foundations Academy is approved, all non-graduating students will receive individualized enrollment support from the superintendent’s staff and Family Welcome Center counselors, focusing on each student’s interests to find a seat that is aligned to their needs. All non-graduating students will receive alternative options for enrollment in another high school before being discharged from the closing school. Please see Appendix A for a list of high schools with the same interest area as Foundations Academy (Humanities & Interdisciplinary) in Brooklyn.

The DOE is concurrently proposing to close Urban Environment in K033 at the end of the 2015-2016 school year. These proposals will be voted on separately by the Panel for Educational Policy (“PEP”). The proposal to close Foundations Academy is not contingent on the proposal to close Urban Environment in K033.

If this proposal is approved, Foundations Academy will close at end of the 2015-2016 school year and will no longer exist as a school option. As noted above, K033 is currently serving a total of

714 students and is therefore operating below the target capacity and building utilization rate. If the closure of Foundations Academy is approved by the PEP, and the concurrent proposal to close Urban Environment is not approved, building K033 is projected to serve 640-755 students in SA – Bed-Stuy 1, Urban Environment and P368K@I033K, yielding a projected utilization rate of 64%-75% in the 2016-2017 school year. If the concurrent proposal to close Urban Environment is also approved by the PEP, in 2016-2017, K033 is projected to serve 570-655 students in SA – Bed-Stuy 1 and P368K@I033K, yielding a projected utilization rate of 57%-65%. K033 will then be considered “under-utilized” and will have significant excess space available. If these proposals are approved, the DOE anticipates issuing another proposal for the use of that space.

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

The Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”) and Building Utilization Plan (“BUP”) can be found on the Department of Education’s Web site:

<http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2015-2016/February242016SchoolProposals>.

Copies of the EIS and BUP are also available in the main offices of Foundations Academy, The School for the Urban Environment, Success Academy Bed Stuy, and P.S. 368.

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 that 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 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 sent to D14Proposals@schools.nyc.gov

Oral comments can be left at 212-374-0208

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: Jamie Dollinger
Office: Division of Operations
Address: 52 Chambers Street RM 219, New York, NY 10038
Email: D14Proposals@schools.nyc.gov
Phone: 212-374-0208

V. Date, time and place of joint public hearings for this proposal.

February 9 at 6:00 p.m.
Building K033
70 Tompkins Avenue

Brooklyn, NY 11206

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 24, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.
High School of Fashion Industries
225 West 24th Street
New York, NY 10011