



Notice  
February 1, 2017

**Department of  
Education**

*Carmen Fariña, Chancellor*

## **The Proposed Grade Truncation of P.S. 165 Ida Posner (23K165) in Building K165 from a K-8 School to a K-5 School beginning in the 2017-18 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 to truncate the middle school grades served by P.S. 165 Ida Posner (23K165, “P.S. 165”) beginning in the 2017-2018 school year. P.S. 165 is an existing district school serving students in kindergarten through eighth grade and offering a pre-kindergarten (“pre-K”) program in building K165 (“K165”), located at 76 Lott Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11212 in Community School District 23 (“District 23”). If this proposal is approved by the Panel for Educational Policy (“PEP”), P.S. 165 will no longer enroll or serve students in sixth through eighth grades after the conclusion of the 2016-2017 school year, at which point it will only serve students in kindergarten through fifth grade and offer a pre-K program.

The DOE is proposing to truncate the middle school grades of P.S. 165 based on declining enrollment as well as low performance, particularly at the middle school grades. The DOE believes that this truncation will benefit the P.S. 165 and District 23 communities by allowing P.S. 165 to focus exclusively on its elementary school grades and continue building a quality elementary school option.

If this proposal is approved, beginning in the 2017-2018 school year, P.S. 165 will serve only elementary school students in kindergarten through fifth grade and offer a pre-K program, and will no longer exist as a middle school option. DOE staff will work with current sixth and seventh grade students, as well as eighth grade students who do not meet promotional criteria, to ensure that those students are offered seats in other higher-performing district middle schools. Eighth grade students who meet promotional criteria may continue on to the high school to which they are matched in the high school admissions process, described in greater detail in Appendix C of the Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”). Current fifth grade students who meet promotional criteria will complete elementary school at P.S. 165 at the end of the 2016-2017 school year and continue on to the middle school to which they are matched through the middle school admissions process, although they will no longer have the opportunity to remain at P.S. 165 for middle school. Students who applied to P.S. 165 for sixth grade through the middle school admissions process, including current P.S. 165 fifth grade students, will have that choice removed from their applications and be matched to another school ranked on their application where possible.

P.S. 165’s middle school grades have consistently performed well below the district wide average. In 2015-2016, P.S. 165’s middle school had proficiency rates of 5.2% and 3.1%, in ELA and Math respectively, compared to the District 23 averages of 20.1% and 14.0% respectively. P.S. 165 has also seen an overall decline in enrollment in its middle school grades. In the 2016-2017 school year, there are only 108 total students served in sixth through eighth grades, which represents a 23% decline since the 2013-2014 school year. Such low enrollment at the middle school level creates budgetary and programmatic challenges. This truncation will enable P.S. 165 to focus exclusively on its elementary school grades and continue building a quality elementary school option for the District 23 community.

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

The Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”) can be found on the DOE’s website:  
<http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2016-2017/March222017SchoolProposals>.

Copies of the EIS are also available in the main office of P.S. 165.

**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 PEP the evening before the PEP votes.

Written comments can be sent to [D23Proposals@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:D23Proposals@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: Kelly Krag-Arnold  
Office: Office of District Planning  
Address: 100 Gold Street, Suite 3200, New York, NY 10038  
Email: [D23Proposals@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:D23Proposals@schools.nyc.gov)  
Phone: 212-374-0208

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

March 14, 2017 at 6:00 PM  
Building K165  
76 Lott Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 11212

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.**

March 22, 2016 at 6:00 PM  
High School for Fashion Industries  
225 West 24<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10011