

EDUCATIONAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

The Proposed Consolidation of the Young Scholars Academy of the Bronx (11X289) with the North Bronx School of Empowerment (11X287) in Building X113 Beginning in the 2017-2018 School Year

I. Summary of Proposal

The New York City Department of Education (“DOE”) is proposing to consolidate the Young Scholars Academy of the Bronx (11X289, “Young Scholars”) with the North Bronx School of Empowerment (11X287, “Empowerment”) beginning in the 2017-2018 school year. Young Scholars and Empowerment are existing middle schools that currently serve students in sixth through eighth grade in building X113 (“X113”), located at 3710 Barnes Avenue, Bronx, NY 10467 in Community School District (“District 11”). 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, Young Scholars and Empowerment will be combined such that students, staff, and resources of Young Scholars will become part of Empowerment, and Young Scholars will no longer exist as a distinct school option as of the 2017-2018 school year.

The DOE is proposing to consolidate Young Scholars and Empowerment to support enrollment at both schools and to promote an efficient use of resources. Empowerment has consistently struggled with low enrollment, which has created budgetary and programmatic challenges. From the 2011-2012 school year until the start of the 2016-2017 school year, Empowerment’s enrollment remained at or below 250 students, and in the current school year, Empowerment only serves 263 students. Young Scholars has similarly struggled with enrollment with overall enrollment declining by 9% since the 2011-2012 school year.

Young Scholars and Empowerment are co-located¹ in X113 with Leaders of Tomorrow (11X370), an existing District 11 middle school that serves students in grades six through eight. If this proposal is approved, Leaders of Tomorrow will continue to serve students in grades six through eight in X113. X113 also houses the following community-based organizations (“CBOs”): Phipps Neighborhoods (“Phipps”), Astor Services for Children and Families (“Astor”), and Sports and Arts in Schools Foundation (“Sports and Arts”).² If this proposal is approved, Phipps and Astor will continue to provide services and maintain space in X113.

The New York State Education Department (“SED”) assigns an accountability status to each district school—Good Standing, Local Assistance Plan, Focus, or Priority. Young Scholars and

¹ A “co-location” means that two or more school organizations are located in the same building and may share common spaces, such as the auditorium, gymnasium, library and cafeteria.

² Per school-reported information the contract with Sports and Arts expires at the end of the 2016-2017 school year. Should the schools decide to retain the partnership with Sports and Arts beyond the conclusion of the 2016-2017 school year, Sports and Arts will continue to provide services and maintain space in X113.

Empowerment are identified as Priority Schools.³ If this proposal is approved, SED will determine the accountability status of the newly consolidated school.

Empowerment has been provisionally approved to receive School Improvement Grant (“SIG”) Cohort 7 funding in the amount of approximately \$2,500,000 over the course of five years, beginning in the 2016-2017 school year.⁴ This proposal, if approved, is not expected to impact the availability of that funding. The DOE does not receive SIG funding to support Young Scholars.

Young Scholars and Leaders of Tomorrow belong to a cohort of 86 schools that have been designated by the DOE as Renewal Schools.⁵ 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.⁶ Empowerment is not a Renewal School.

As Renewal Schools, Young Scholars and Leaders of Tomorrow have been transformed into Community Schools. 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.⁷ If this proposal is approved, the newly consolidated Empowerment would not be designated as a Renewal School, but it would be designated as a Community School. If this proposal is approved, Leaders of Tomorrow would maintain its designation as a Renewal School and Community School.

Rationale for Consolidation

Consolidation decisions are made on a case-by-case basis in partnership with superintendents and impacted school communities. Consolidations to improve under-enrolled schools and address the budgetary, programmatic, and performance challenges that arise as a result of low enrollment. Since most funding in schools’ budgets is allocated on a per-pupil basis based on Fair Student Funding per capita allocation levels, schools that struggle with low enrollment may also subsequently struggle with funding issues. For example, they may not be able to afford a 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, improvements in school performance, and leveraging strong school leaders.

The DOE is proposing to consolidate Young Scholars with Empowerment based primarily on the benefits students would receive from the combined, increased resources made available by consolidating the two school organizations into one. As stated above, Empowerment and Young Scholars have both struggled with enrollment, which has resulted in budgetary and programmatic challenges. The consolidation is expected to provide increased access to academic supports, after-school programs, and other program offerings, and will also allow Empowerment to serve multiple sections across subject areas.

³ SED assigns an accountability status to each district school – Good Standing, Local Assistance Plan, Focus or Priority. For more information on accountability designations, please visit the SED website at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/accountability/ESEAMaterials.html>.

⁴ Information about SIG is available at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/oisr/SchoolImprovementGrantsSIG.html>

⁵ Information on the Renewal School program is available online at: <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/schools/RenewalSchool>.

⁶ In four instances—which did not include Young Scholars or Leaders of Tomorrow—schools were selected to be Renewal Schools per the Chancellor’s discretion.

⁷ Information on the New York City Community Schools Initiative is available online at: <http://www1.nyc.gov/site/communityschools/index.page>.

In addition, consolidation will allow the schools to combine the strengths and best practices of each individual school into a single, larger organization and will also provide opportunities for increased collaboration on the X113 campus. In the current school year, Young Scholars and Empowerment have been collaborating on peer inter-visitation, teacher-facilitated classroom visits focused on reciprocal reading. Consolidation will allow pedagogues from both schools to continue to share teaching practices, which is expected to positively impact their culture and professional development, yielding an increased quality of education for the students at the consolidated Empowerment. The consolidation will also facilitate professional learning communities in X113, in which teachers from the consolidated Empowerment and Leaders of Tomorrow will meet regularly to share expertise and work collaboratively to improve teaching skills and student academic performance.

This proposal has been developed by the District 11 Superintendent, in collaboration with various DOE offices and the school communities, as part of the X113 campus redesign. During the 2014-2015 school year, X113 housed four schools on its campus. The DOE's Office of School Renewal, Office of School Design and Charter Partnerships, and the District 11 Superintendent's team conducted various needs assessments for the four schools housed in X113 that examined the schools' enrollments, curricula, instruction, leadership, programming, and relationships with CBOs and other organizations. The findings identified a need to increase performance and enrollment and to rebrand the X113 campus.

In response to the needs of the campus, a detailed plan to redesign the campus was created, which included a proposed consolidation of Globe School for Environmental Research ("Globe School") with Leaders of Tomorrow (formerly the School of Diplomacy), two of the four schools on the X113 campus. On March 23, 2016, the Panel for Educational Policy ("PEP") approved a proposal to consolidate Globe School with Leaders of Tomorrow, which resulted in the consolidated Leaders of Tomorrow.⁸ The approval of that proposal effectively reduced the number of under-enrolled middle schools in the community and provided a stronger middle school option for middle school students in District 11. This plan further aims to support the campus redesign by replicating the success of the consolidation of Globe School and Leaders of Tomorrow, and by creating a campus with two strong Community Schools.

This proposal to consolidate Young Scholars with Empowerment further aims to support students residing in the zone, as well as students residing in District 11, by strengthening the middle school options in the zone and in the district. Young Scholars, Empowerment, and Leaders of Tomorrow currently share a zone. If this proposal is approved, students residing in the X113 zone will be zoned to Leaders of Tomorrow and Empowerment. As explained above, the consolidation of Young Scholars with Empowerment is intended to decrease the number of low-enrolled middle schools in the community by creating one school with a more robust enrollment. Therefore, if this proposal is approved, there will be two well-enrolled schools serving the zone, ensuring all zoned students have access to more robust resources and opportunities. Additionally, students residing in District 11 will have access to an improved option for middle school.

Community Engagement

Engagement was conducted in the course of creating this proposal, which included the following:

- On January 9, 2017 and January 12, 2017, the District 11 Superintendent held meetings with the administration of Empowerment to discuss the proposed consolidation.

⁸ Information on the proposal approved by the PEP on March 23, 2016 can be found online at: <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2015-2016/March232016SchoolProposals>.

- On January 9, 2017, letters were sent home with students at Young Scholars, Empowerment, and Leaders of Tomorrow to inform families of the consolidation proposal.
- On January 9, 2017 and January 24, 2017, the District 11 Superintendent held meetings with the administration of Young Scholars to discuss the proposed consolidation.
- On January 9, 2017, January 12, 2017, and January 24, 2017, the District 11 Superintendent held conversations with district and school leadership about the proposal, including school staff and leadership at both Young Scholars and Empowerment.
- On January 10, 2017, the DOE's Office of District Planning discussed the potential consolidation of Young Scholars and Empowerment during a presentation to Community Education Council 11.
- On January 17, 2017, the District 11 Superintendent held a parent meeting at both Young Scholars and Empowerment to discuss the proposed consolidation.

The DOE will provide additional community 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 will meet with the any of the school communities in X113 (upon request) to discuss the proposal and take questions, comments, and feedback.
- A Joint Public Hearing to be held at X113, which will be open to the public and at which attendees are encouraged to provide comments on this proposal.
- A dedicated phone line and email address to accept public comment at any time following the posting of this proposal. Comments can be submitted in any language by calling 212-374-5159 or emailing D11Proposals@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 welcomed 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 will be 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/2016-2017/March222017SchoolProposals>.

X113 has a target capacity to serve a total of 1,591 students⁹ and currently serves 975 students¹⁰ across Young Scholars, Empowerment, and Leaders of Tomorrow, yielding a building utilization rate of 61%.¹¹ If this proposal is approved, Empowerment will absorb the enrollment of Young

⁹ According to the 2015-2016 Enrollment, Capacity, and Utilization Report (the "Blue Book"), available online at: <http://www.nycsca.org/Community/Capital-Plan-Reports-Data#Enrollment-Capacity-Utilization-69>.

¹⁰ Enrollment is based on the 2016-2017 Unaudited Register as of October 31, 2016.

¹¹ The concept of "target capacity" and the related concept of "utilization rate" are explained in Appendix A of this EIS.

Scholars and will serve a projected 570-600 students in grades six through eight in the 2017-2018 school year. Leaders of Tomorrow will serve a projected 370-400 students in grades six through eight in the 2017-2018 school year. This will result in a total projected building enrollment of 940-1,000 students in X113, yielding a building utilization rate of 59-63%.

II. Proposed or Potential Use of Building

As noted in Section I above, X113 has the target capacity to serve 1,591 students. X113 currently serves 975 students across Young Scholars, Empowerment, and Leaders of Tomorrow, yielding a building utilization rate of 61%. If this proposal is approved, in the 2017-2018 school year, Empowerment will absorb the enrollment of Young Scholars and will serve a projected 570-600 students in sixth through eighth grades, and Leaders of Tomorrow will serve a projected 370-400 students in sixth through eighth grades. This will result in a total projected building enrollment of 940-1,000 students, yielding a projected building utilization rate of 59%-63%.

If this proposal is approved, the grade spans served by each of the current and proposed school organizations in X113 will be as follows:

DBN	School Name	2016-2017	2017-2018
11X287	Empowerment	6-8	6-8
11X289	Young Scholars	6-8	-
11X370	Leaders of Tomorrow	6-8	6-8

The table below shows current and projected enrollment and building utilization rates for X113, if this proposal is approved:¹²

DBN	School Name	2016-2017 Enrollment ¹³	2017-2018 Projected Enrollment
11X287	Empowerment	263	570 - 600
11X289	Young Scholars	319	-
11X370	Leaders of Tomorrow	393	370 - 400
Total Building Enrollment		975	940 – 1,000
Utilization		61%	59% - 63%

¹² All references throughout this Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”) to building utilization rates in 2016-2017 and beyond are based on target capacity data from the 2015-2016 Blue Book and the 2016-2017 Unaudited Register as of October 31, 2016. 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/Capital-Plan-Reports-Data#Enrollment-Capacity-Utilization-69>.

¹³ Enrollment for the 2016-2017 school year is based on the 2016-2017 Unaudited Register as of October 31, 2016. Projected enrollment is based on 2016-2017 enrollment.

More information on target capacity and building utilization is available in Appendix A of this EIS. If this proposal is approved, the newly consolidated Empowerment and Leaders of Tomorrow will each 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. The Footprint, which guides space allocation and use in City schools, can be found on the DOE website at:

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

There are currently no other proposed uses for X113. Any future significant changes to school utilization in X113 would be proposed in a future EIS and be subject to separate approval by the PEP in accordance with Chancellor’s Regulation A-190.

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

A. Students

Young Scholars and Empowerment currently serve students in sixth through eighth grades in X113. The DOE is proposing to consolidate Young Scholars with Empowerment to support enrollment and improve efficiency of resources in X113. If this proposal is approved, Young Scholars and Empowerment will be combined such that students, staff, and resources of Young Scholars will become part of Empowerment, and Young Scholars will no longer exist as a distinct school option as of the 2017-2018 school year.

Impact on Current and Future Students at Young Scholars and Empowerment

If this proposal is approved, current Young Scholars students in sixth and seventh grade, as well as Young Scholars students in the eighth grade who do not meet the requirements for promotion, will be served in Empowerment beginning in the 2017-2018 school year in X113. It is expected that all current Young Scholars students, with the exception of those articulating to high school, will attend the consolidated Empowerment. However, any current Young Scholars students who prefer a different school option may seek a transfer for the 2017-2018 school year through the Office of Student Enrollment (“OSE”) by speaking first with school administrators and then visiting a Family Welcome Center, which will work to match students based on their needs and seat availability, in accordance with Chancellor’s Regulation A-101. Current eighth grade students who are on track to graduate will complete middle school at their current school (Young Scholars or Empowerment) at the end of the 2016-2017 school year, provided they meet promotional criteria, and have the opportunity to apply for high school through the citywide high school admissions process.¹⁴

Current Empowerment students who do not move on to high school at the end of the 2016-2017 school year will continue to be served at the school alongside their new classmates from Young Scholars. This will increase the number of students enrolled at Empowerment to an estimated 570-600 students in the 2017-2018 school year. If this proposal to consolidate Young Scholars with Empowerment is approved, new students will no longer enroll in Young Scholars after the conclusion of the 2016-2017 school year.

¹⁴ More information about the high school admissions process can be found online at: <http://schools.nyc.gov/ChoicesEnrollment/High/default.htm>.

This proposal, if approved, is not expected to impact enrollment at Young Scholars or Empowerment for the remainder of the 2016-2017 school year. However, in the 2017-2018 school year and beyond, Empowerment's enrollment is expected to increase as it absorbs Young Scholars' enrollment and serves an increased number of incoming sixth grade students who would have otherwise enrolled in Young Scholars.

This proposal is not expected to impact any particular academic or extra-curricular programs currently offered at Young Scholars or Empowerment for the remainder of the 2016-2017 school year. Both schools will continue to offer all programs to support current students as they work to meet promotional requirements for the remainder of the current school year.

If approved, this proposal may impact educational and/or extra-curricular programming available to students of the consolidated Empowerment, as the consolidated school may offer new opportunities currently provided by Young Scholars in place of or in addition to its current offerings. Students currently attending Young Scholars will gain access to the programming available at the consolidated Empowerment and will no longer be served by Young Scholars as of the 2017-2018 school year, although many of the programs and services currently provided by Young Scholars may be offered instead by Empowerment. The DOE expects that the consolidation will increase the programmatic opportunities available to students due to the combination of the schools' individual resources. For example, the DOE expects that the following resources will be available to all students of the consolidated Empowerment:

- Middle School Quality Initiative (MSQI)
- Collaboratively developed curriculum in Humanities
- Learning Partners Program
- Kaplan Specialized High School Preparation Coursework
- SmartBoards, laptops, i-Pads, software programs and/or Apps that will allow students to use blended learning programs such as iReady and MyON

Young Scholars and Empowerment serve general education students and students requiring special education services, including students currently enrolled in Integrated Co-Teaching ("ICT") and Self-Contained ("SC") special education classes and students receiving Special Education Teacher Support Services ("SETSS") and related services. Special education services are tailored to meet the individual needs of currently enrolled students with disabilities and, as such, may vary from year to year. Students with disabilities will continue to receive services in accordance with their Individualized Education Programs ("IEPs") for the remainder of the current school year. If this proposal is approved, all students enrolled in the consolidated Empowerment will receive all mandated special education services in accordance with their IEPs.

In addition, English Language Learner ("ELL") students currently enrolled at Young Scholars and Empowerment receive English as a New Language ("ENL") services. This proposal will not impact the provision of ENL services in the current school year. If this proposal is approved, ENL services will continue to be provided at the consolidated school, and all students will receive their mandated services.

Young Scholars' extra-curricular activities, academics, and sports include:¹⁵

- **Extra-curricular activities:** SASF (Sports and Arts in Schools Foundation) Robotics, STEM, Journalism, Step, Culinary Program, Leadership Program, Choir, Performing Arts, PBIS Incentive Trips (Camp Ramapo, Lake Compounce, Rye Playland), Arts-Focused Field Trips (BAM, Intrepid)

¹⁵ Information from school reported data as of January 25, 2017 and the Middle School Directory available at: <http://schools.nyc.gov/ChoicesEnrollment/Middle/Resources/default.htm>.

- **Academics:** Extended Learning Time/Homework Help/BIO Bus, Middle School Quality Initiative – Urban Word, Debate Teams
- **Sports:** Flag Football, Soccer, Track and Field, Volleyball

Empowerment’s extra-curricular activities, academics, and sports include:¹⁶

- **Extra-curricular activities:** After-School Programs (in partnership with Sports and Arts), Common Threads Culinary Program, Creative Arts Theater Program, Creative Connections, The Leadership Group, Bronx Historical Society, Dance, Chess, Choir, Hip-Hop, Drumming, Entrepreneur Club
- **Academics:** Spanish, Art, Reciprocal Reading with J.H.S. 144
- **Sports:** Basketball, Dance, Flag Football

If this proposal is approved, the consolidated Empowerment 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 at all City schools, which modify extra-curricular offerings annually based on student demand and available resources. The consolidated school may also offer programs and partnerships that are currently offered by Young Scholars as it will cease to operate as a distinct school and therefore no longer offer its current programs and partnerships. The DOE expects the consolidation to increase the programmatic opportunities available to students due to the combination of the schools’ individual resources.

Young Scholars and Empowerment both admit sixth-grade students through the middle school admissions process. Both schools use an unscreened admissions method. Empowerment gives priority to students living in the zone shared by Young Scholars, Empowerment, and Leaders of Tomorrow, then to students and residents of District 11. Young Scholars gives priority to students residing in the shared zone, then to students and residents of District 11 then to students and residents of the Bronx. If this proposal is approved, the consolidated Empowerment will continue to utilize its current admissions method, with priority to students living in the zone shared by the consolidated Empowerment and Leaders of Tomorrow, then to students and residents of District 11.

Impact on Current and Future Students Attending Leaders of Tomorrow

As previously noted, Leaders of Tomorrow currently serves students in grades six through eight in X113. This proposal is not expected to impact the current or projected student enrollment at Leaders of Tomorrow. Furthermore, this proposal, if approved, is not expected to impact any particular academic or extracurricular programs currently offered at Leaders of Tomorrow for the duration of the current school year (2016-2017) or in future school years.

Leaders of Tomorrow serves general education students and students requiring special education services, including students currently enrolled in ICT and SC special education classes and students receiving SETSS and related services. Students with disabilities will continue to receive services in accordance with their IEPs. Services are tailored to meet the individual needs of currently enrolled students with disabilities and, as such, may vary from year to year. All current

¹⁶ Information from school reported data as of January 25, 2017 and the Middle School Directory available at: <http://schools.nyc.gov/ChoicesEnrollment/Middle/Resources/default.htm>.

and future students enrolled at Leaders of Tomorrow will receive all mandated special education services in accordance with their IEPs, if this proposal is approved.

In addition, ELL students currently enrolled at Leaders of Tomorrow receive ENL services. If this proposal is approved, these services will continue to be provided at Leaders of Tomorrow and all students will receive their mandated services.

Leaders of Tomorrow currently offers the following extra-curricular activities, academics and sports:¹⁷

- **Extra-curricular activities:** Student Government, Drums, Drama, Dance, Art, Urban Dance and Boxing, Step, Comic Book Club, Robotics, and Aviation Club
- **Academics:** Spanish, Omni-Learn Science, Earth Science Regents, and Algebra Regents
- **Sports:** Fitness Club, Basketball, Boxing, Flag Football, Soccer, and Track and Field

If this proposal is approved, Leaders of Tomorrow 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.

This proposal is not expected to impact the middle school admissions process at Leaders of Tomorrow, which admits sixth-grade students via an unscreened admissions method, with a priority to students living in the zone shared by Young Scholars, Empowerment, and Leaders of Tomorrow, then to students and residents of District 11, and then to students and residents of the Bronx. As noted, the zone will be shared across Empowerment and Leaders of Tomorrow as of the 2017-2018 school year, if this proposal is approved.

Impact on Future Middle School Students in District 11

If this proposal is approved, Young Scholars will no longer be a distinct school option and will cease to admit students as of the 2017-2018 school year. As such, students in District 11 will no longer have the opportunity to enroll in Young Scholars for middle school; however, they will still have access to a broad range of middle school options, including Empowerment. Furthermore, the consolidated Empowerment will offer admissions to the sixth grade seats previously available at Young Scholars. Therefore, if approved, this proposal will not impact the number of available middle school seats in District 11.

Leaders of Tomorrow, Empowerment, and Young Scholars share a zone. All three schools offer priority to the students who live in their shared zone, in accordance with Chancellor's Regulation A-101. If this proposal is approved, Empowerment and Leaders of Tomorrow will continue to serve the zone. Additionally, and as stated above, if this proposal is approved, Leaders of Tomorrow and the consolidated Empowerment will continue to admit students through the middle school admissions process utilizing the priority structure outlined above.

¹⁷ Information from school reported data as of January 25, 2017 and the Middle School Directory available at: <http://schools.nyc.gov/ChoicesEnrollment/Middle/Resources/default.htm>.

If this proposal is approved, fifth grade students who have submitted a middle school application ranking Young Scholars as an option will have that choice removed, and all other rankings will be moved up on the students' middle school applications.¹⁸

This proposal is not expected to impact the admissions process at any other District 11 middle school. Through the middle school admissions process, students are offered the opportunity to apply to a range of middle schools within their district, and/or schools with borough-wide or citywide eligibility. Students may also choose to apply to a number of schools that manage their own admissions process. Information about all of these options is printed in each district's Middle School Directory, which is updated yearly and can be found on the DOE's website at: <http://schools.nyc.gov/ChoicesEnrollment/Middle/Publications/default.htm>.

General information about the middle school admissions process can also be found in Appendix B of this EIS.

Impact on Over-the-Counter Students

In addition to admitting students through the middle school admissions process, the three schools in X113 currently admit students through the over-the-counter ("OTC") process. If this proposal is approved, Young Scholars will no longer be a distinct school option and will cease to admit new students as of the 2017-2018 school year. The consolidated Empowerment and Leaders of Tomorrow will continue to admit some students through the OTC process. The consolidation is not expected to impact the DOE's ability to accommodate future OTC middle school students in the district since the consolidated Empowerment will have adequate capacity to accommodate students who would have been admitted through the OTC process to either Empowerment or Young Leaders. Please see Appendix B of this EIS for more information on the OTC process.

Impact on CBOs Located in X113

X113 houses the following CBOs: Astor, which provides mental health services for children and families and serves Young Scholars, Empowerment, and Leaders of Tomorrow; Phipps, which helps children, youth, and families in low-income communities rise above poverty and serves Young Scholars, Empowerment, and Leaders of Tomorrow; and Sports and Arts, an after-school program that provides skill-based activities designed to improve academic performance, health and wellness, self-confidence, and character and serves Young Scholars and Empowerment. The DOE does not anticipate that this proposal will impact the services offered by these programs or the space granted to these programs in X113.¹⁹

B. Schools

If this proposal is approved, pursuant to the Footprint, there will be sufficient space to accommodate Empowerment and Leaders of Tomorrow after Young Scholars is consolidated with Empowerment. This proposal is not expected to have an impact on the Footprint allocation of Leaders of Tomorrow. Please see Appendix C of this EIS for more information on the Footprint, which guides space allocation and use in City schools. To access the Footprint, please visit the DOE's website at: <http://schools.nyc.gov/Offices/OSP/KeyDocuments/InstructionalFootprint>.

¹⁸ All fifth grade students will have the opportunity to participate in the appeals round of the middle schools admissions process.

¹⁹ According to school-reported information the contract with Sports and Arts expires at the end of the 2016-2017 school year. Should the schools decide to retain the partnership with Sports and Arts beyond the conclusion of the 2016-2017 school year, Sports and Arts will continue to provide services and maintain space in X113.

According to a space assessment of X113 completed on July 14, 2016 by a representative from the Office of Space Planning, X113 has 68 full-size rooms, 17 half-size rooms, 8 quarter-size rooms, and 6.5 full-size equivalent (“FSE”) rooms of designed administrative space. X113 also has two gymnasiums, an auditorium, and two cafeterias, all of which are currently shared among the schools in X113. Leaders of Tomorrow and the consolidated Empowerment will continue to share these spaces if this proposal is approved. The below spaces are also currently shared by the schools:

- The teachers’ cafeteria occupies 1 full-size room
- The school-based health clinic occupies 1 full-size room
- The dance room occupies 1 full-size room
- Phipps CBO occupies 1 full-size room
- Sports and Arts CBO occupies 1 full-size room
- Astor CBO occupies 1 full-size room
- The custodian’s office occupies 1 half-size room
- Shared IT occupies 1 quarter-size room
- The mental health office occupies 1 quarter-size room
- The School-Based Support Team occupies 1.0 FSE rooms of designed administrative space
- The nurse’s office occupies 0.5 FSE rooms of designed administrative space

Excluding the shared spaces outlined above, X113 has a total of 62 full-size rooms, 16 half-size rooms, 6 quarter-size rooms, and 5.0 FSE rooms of designed administrative space remaining to be allocated in X113.

Per the Footprint, Young Scholars’ current baseline Footprint allocation is 12 full-size rooms, 4 half-size rooms, and 3.5 FSE spaces for administrative use. Due to a lack of half-size spaces suitable for instructional use, the DOE has adjusted Young Scholars’ baseline Footprint allocation to substitute 3 full-size rooms in lieu of 3 half-size rooms. Thus, Young Scholars’ adjusted baseline allocation is 15 full-size rooms, 1 half-size room, and 3.5 FSE rooms for administrative use, comprised of 1 half-size room, 2 quarter-size rooms and 2.5 FSE rooms of designed administrative space, for a total of 15 full-size rooms, 2 half-size rooms, 2 quarter-size rooms, and 2.5 FSE rooms of designed administrative space. Currently, Young Scholars is using 20 full-size rooms, 2 half-size rooms, 2 quarter-size rooms, and 2.5 FSE rooms of designed administrative space. Therefore, Young Scholars is using 5 full-size rooms in excess of its adjusted Footprint allocation.

Per the Footprint, Empowerment’s current baseline Footprint allocation is 9 full-size rooms, 4 half-size rooms, and 3.5 FSE spaces for administrative use, comprised of 1 full-size room and 2.5 FSE rooms of designed administrative space, for a total of 10 full-size rooms, 4 half-size rooms, and 2.5 FSE rooms of designed administrative space. Currently, Empowerment is using 13 full-size rooms, 5 half-size rooms, and 2.5 FSE rooms of designed administrative space. Therefore, Empowerment is using 3 full-size rooms and 1 half-size room in excess of its Footprint allocation.

If this proposal is approved, Young Scholars will no longer exist as a distinct school option as of 2017-2018, and will therefore no longer be allocated space in X113. Empowerment will absorb the enrollment of Young Scholars, and its Footprint allocation will increase accordingly. In the 2017-2018 school year, the consolidated Empowerment’s baseline Footprint allocation will be 22 full-size rooms, 9 half-size rooms, and 5.0 FSE spaces for administrative use. Due to a lack of half-size spaces suitable for instruction, the consolidated Empowerment’s baseline Footprint allocation will be adjusted to include 5 full-size rooms in lieu of 5 half-size rooms. Thus, the consolidated Empowerment’s adjusted baseline allocation for the 2017-2018 school year and beyond will be 27 full-size rooms, 4 half-size rooms, and 5.0 FSE spaces for administrative use.

Per the Footprint, Leaders of Tomorrow’s current baseline Footprint allocation is 13 full-size rooms, 6 half-size rooms, and 4.0 FSE spaces for administrative use. Due to a lack of half-size spaces suitable for instructional use, the DOE has adjusted Leaders of Tomorrow’s baseline Footprint allocation to substitute 3 full-size rooms in lieu of 3 half-size rooms. Thus, Leaders of Tomorrow’s adjusted baseline allocation is 16 full-size rooms, 3 half-size rooms, and 4.0 FSE rooms for administrative use, comprised of 6 half-size rooms and 4 quarter-size rooms, for a total allocation of 16 full-size rooms, 9 half-size rooms, and 4 quarter-size rooms. Currently, Leaders of Tomorrow is using 29 full-size rooms, 9 half-size rooms, and 4 quarter-size rooms. Therefore, Leaders of Tomorrow is using 13 full-size rooms in excess of its adjusted Footprint allocation.

Based on enrollment projections for the 2017-18 school year and beyond, Leaders of Tomorrow’s baseline Footprint allocation will be 16 full-size rooms, 7 half-size rooms, and 4.0 FSE spaces for administrative use. Due to a lack of half-size spaces suitable for instruction, Leaders of Tomorrow’s baseline Footprint allocation will be adjusted to include 4 full-size rooms in lieu of 4 half-size rooms. Thus, Leaders of Tomorrow’s adjusted baseline allocation will be 20 full-size rooms, 3 half-size rooms, and 4.0 FSE rooms for administrative use, comprised of 6 half-size rooms and 4 quarter-size rooms, for a total allocation of 20 full-size rooms, 9 half-size rooms, and 4 quarter-size rooms.

If this proposal is approved, the current and anticipated adjusted baseline Footprint allocations of full-size rooms for each organization in X113, and the current and anticipated number of excess full-size rooms in the building are as follows:

DBN	School Name	2016-2017	2017-2018
11X289	Young Scholars	15	-
11X287	Empowerment	10	27
11X370	Leaders of Tomorrow	16	20
TOTAL		41	47
TOTAL FULL-SIZE ROOMS TO BE ALLOCATED		62	62
ROOMS IN EXCESS OF ADJUSTED BASELINE ALLOCATIONS OF FULL-SIZE ROOMS		21	15

All necessary adjustments for administrative or other purposes have been reflected in the table 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 of Space Planning 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. There are no other proposed uses or plans for X113 at this time.

Building Safety and Security

If this proposal is approved, Empowerment and Leaders of Tomorrow will develop a safety and security plan for the building prior to the first day of school in September 2017.

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

The DOE believes that the consolidation of Young Scholars with Empowerment will benefit the District 11 community by strengthening middle school options in the district, providing improved resources and services at Empowerment, and improving the X113 campus overall.

As noted above, the X113 campus has been undergoing a comprehensive redesign effort with the goal of strengthening the campus for current students attending school in X113 and future District 11 students. The DOE believes that the proposed consolidation will support the redesign effort by improving academic and social outcomes for all current and future students in X113. Furthermore, the DOE believes that the consolidated Empowerment will be able to enhance the programs offered, creating a stronger, more cohesive school environment, and an improved middle school option for current and future District 11 students.

One of the many benefits of consolidating Young Scholars with Empowerment is that programs currently available at either school will become available to all students of the consolidated school. If this proposal is approved, the following community programs and services that are currently available to either Young Scholars or Empowerment students are expected to be available to all students of the consolidated Empowerment beginning in the 2017-2018 school year:

- Common Threads Culinary Arts Program
- Partnership with the Bronx Historical Society
- MS Extra After-School Reading Program
- Phipps Neighborhoods
- A full time mental health clinician from Astor Services for Children and Families who provides groups of students with additional socio-emotional and mental health support services

As mentioned above, Young Scholars and Leaders of Tomorrow belong to a cohort of 86 schools that have been designated by the DOE as Renewal Schools. As Renewal Schools, Young Scholars and Leaders of Tomorrow have been transformed into Community Schools. 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 consolidated Empowerment would be a Community School, which will allow it to benefit from wraparound services that support students’ social, emotional, physical, and academic needs.

This proposal is not expected to impact the ability of community members and organizations to obtain school building use permits at X113. This proposal is not expected to impact the accessibility of X113, which is partially accessible.

IV. Enrollment, Admissions and School Performance Information

Young Scholars

Admissions Data

Current Admissions	Grades 6-8: middle school admissions process Admissions Method: unscreened with zone priority
Admissions if this proposal is approved	N/A

Enrollment Data²⁰

	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Total Enrollment
2016-2017	113	101	105	319
2017-2018 (projected)	-	-	-	-

Demographic Data²¹

% Students with Disabilities (any student receiving an IEP)	26%
% English Language Learners	12%
% Students qualifying for free or reduced price lunch or eligible for Human Resources Administration (HRA) benefits	75%

²⁰ 2016-2017 enrollment data is based on the Unaudited Register as of October 31, 2016.

²¹ Based on the 2015-2016 Audited Register as of October 31, 2015, as reported in the citywide Demographic Snapshot, which is available at: <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/schools/data/default.htm>.

School Performance Data

Young Scholars	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016
School Quality Indicators²²			
1.1 Curriculum	N/A	Proficient	Proficient
1.2 Pedagogy	N/A	Developing	Proficient
2.2 Assessment	N/A	Proficient	Developing
3.4 High Expectations	N/A	Proficient	Proficient
4.2 Teacher Teams and Leadership Development	N/A	Developing	Proficient
Performance Data²³			
English Language Arts % Proficient (Levels 3 and 4)	7%	8%	10%
Math % Proficient (Levels 3 and 4)	12%	7%	6%
Other Key Performance Indicators			
Attendance Rate	89%	91%	90%
2016-2017 State Accountability Status²⁴	Priority School		

Empowerment

Admissions Data

Current Admissions	<p>Grades 6-8: middle school admissions process</p> <p>Admissions Method: unscreened with zone priority</p>
Admissions if this proposal is approved	<p>Grades 6-8: middle school admissions process</p> <p>Admissions Method: unscreened with zone priority</p>

²² The 2015-2016 Quality Review Reports formally reports on these five Quality Indicators. Full descriptions of these Quality Indicators can be found in the 2016-2017 Quality Review Rubric, which is available at:

<http://schools.nyc.gov/NR/rdonlyres/8C11A001-7E78-469D-996F-BOC3703CEA81/0/201617QualityReviewRubric.pdf>. Not all schools receive Quality Reviews every year. Young Scholars did not have a Quality Review for the 2013-2014 school year.

²³ Performance data is from the School Quality Reports available at: <http://schools.nyc.gov/Accountability/tools/report/default.htm>.

²⁴ This status is determined by SED under the New York State waiver for the No Child Left Behind Act. For more information, please visit the SED website at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/accountability/ESEADesignations.html>.

Enrollment Data²⁵

	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Total Enrollment
2016-2017	94	76	93	263
2017-2018 (projected)	200-210	200-210	170-180	570-600

Demographic Data²⁶

% Students with Disabilities (any student receiving an IEP)	25%
% English Language Learners	8%
% Students qualifying for free or reduced price lunch or eligible for Human Resources Administration (HRA) benefits	83%

School Performance Data

Empowerment	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016
School Quality Indicators ²⁷			
1.1 Curriculum	Developing	Proficient	N/A
1.2 Pedagogy	Developing	Developing	N/A
2.2 Assessment	Developing	Proficient	N/A
3.4 High Expectations	Developing	Proficient	N/A
4.2 Teacher Teams and Leadership Development	Proficient	Proficient	N/A
Performance Data ²⁸			
English Language Arts % Proficient (Levels 3 and 4)	9%	6%	16%
Math % Proficient (Levels 3 and 4)	6%	3%	5%
Other Key Performance Indicators			
Attendance Rate	89%	89%	91%
2016-2017 State Accountability Status ²⁹	Priority School		

²⁵ 2016-2017 enrollment data is based on the Unaudited Register as of October 31, 2016. Projected Enrollment is based on 2016-2017 enrollment.

²⁶ Based on the 2015-2016 Audited Register as of October 31, 2015, as reported in the citywide Demographic Snapshot, which is available at: <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/schools/data/default.htm>.

²⁷ The 2015-2016 Quality Review Reports formally reports on these five Quality Indicators. Full descriptions of these Quality Indicators can be found in the 2016-2017 Quality Review Rubric, which is available at:

<http://schools.nyc.gov/NR/rdonlyres/8C11A001-7E78-469D-996F-B0C3703CEA81/0/201617QualityReviewRubric.pdf>. Not all schools receive Quality Reviews every year. Empowerment did not have a Quality Review for the 2015-2016 school year.

²⁸ Performance data is from the School Quality Reports available at: <http://schools.nyc.gov/Accountability/tools/report/default.htm>.

²⁹ This status is determined by SED under the New York State waiver for the No Child Left Behind Act. For more information, please visit the SED website at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/accountability/ESEADesignations.html>.

Leaders of Tomorrow

Admissions Data

Current Admissions	Grades 6-8: middle school admissions process Admissions Method: unscreened with zone priority
Admissions if this proposal is approved	Grades 6-8: middle school admissions process Admissions Method: unscreened with zone priority

Enrollment Data³⁰

	Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8	Total Enrollment
2016-2017	123	134	136	393
2017-2018 (projected)	120-130	120-130	130-140	370-400

Demographic Data³¹

% Students with Disabilities (any student receiving an IEP)	31%
% English Language Learners	19%
% Students qualifying for free or reduced price lunch or eligible for Human Resources Administration (HRA) benefits	86%

³⁰ 2016-2017 enrollment data is based on the Unaudited Register as of October 31, 2016. Projected Enrollment is based on 2016-2017 enrollment. .

³¹ Based on the 2015-2016 Audited Register as of October 31, 2015, as reported in the city wide Demographic Snapshot, which is available at: <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/schools/data/default.htm>.

School Performance Data

Leaders of Tomorrow	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016
School Quality Indicators³²			
1.1 Curriculum	Developing	Proficient	Proficient
1.2 Pedagogy	Proficient	Developing	Proficient
2.2 Assessment	Developing	Proficient	Developing
3.4 High Expectations	Proficient	Proficient	Proficient
4.2 Teacher Teams and Leadership Development	Developing	Proficient	Proficient
Performance Data³³			
English Language Arts % Proficient (Levels 3 and 4)	8%	12%	17%
Math % Proficient (Levels 3 and 4)	6%	6%	7%
Other Key Performance Indicators			
Attendance Rate	86%	88%	92%
2016-2017 State Accountability Status³⁴	Focus School ³⁵		

V. Initial Impact on Budget and Costs of Instruction

Most funding in schools' budgets is allocated on a per-pupil basis, based on Fair Student Funding ("FSF") per capita allocation levels. As shown in Section IV above, Empowerment's total enrollment is expected to increase as a result of the consolidation, and as a result, the consolidated Empowerment's budget is expected to increase to reflect the additional pupils.

Schools also receive additional funds for students with disabilities, English Language Learners, and those students with other supplemental academic needs. Please refer to the FSF Guide³⁶ and FY17 School Allocation Memoranda³⁷ 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.

Empowerment has been provisionally approved to receive SIG Cohort 7 funding in the amount of approximately \$2,500,000 over the course of five years, beginning in the 2016-2017 school year.

³² The 2015-2016 Quality Review Reports formally reports on these five Quality Indicators. Full descriptions of these Quality Indicators can be found in the 2016-2017 Quality Review Rubric, which is available at: <http://schools.nyc.gov/NR/rdonlyres/8C11A001-7E78-469D-996F-B0C3703CEA81/0/201617QualityReviewRubric.pdf>.

³³ Performance data is from the School Quality Reports available at: <http://schools.nyc.gov/Accountability/tools/report/default.htm>.

³⁴ This status is determined by SED under the New York State waiver for the No Child Left Behind Act. For more information, please visit the SED website at: <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/accountability/ESEADesignations.html>.

³⁵ SED identifies Focus Schools based on the following, as defined in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act ("ESEA") waiver guidance: Schools with the lowest achievement of subgroups in terms of proficiency on the statewide assessments that are part of the state's differentiated recognition, accountability and support system and are not making progress as defined by New York's progress filters.

³⁶ The FSF Guide is available at:

http://schools.nyc.gov/offices/d_chanc_oper/budget/dbor/allocationmemo/fy16_17/fy17_pdf/fsf_guide.pdf.

³⁷ The FY17 School Allocation Memoranda are available at:

http://schools.nyc.gov/offices/d_chanc_oper/budget/dbor/allocationmemo/fy16_17/AM_FY17_pg1.html.

This proposal, if approved, is not expected to affect the availability of that funding. The DOE does not receive SIG funding to support Young Scholars.

Additionally, if this proposal is approved, the consolidated Empowerment would not be designated as a Renewal School, as Young Scholars is, but it would be newly designated as a Community School. Accordingly, while Young Scholars currently receives funding through the Community School and a Renewal School programs, the consolidated Empowerment would only receive funding through the Community School program.

This proposal, if approved, is not expected to impact costs of instruction or the operating budget at Leaders of Tomorrow.

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

A. Personnel Needs

If this proposal is approved, some Young Scholars and Empowerment staff may be excessed³⁸ when the schools are consolidated. Where possible, the DOE will seek to minimize excessing of represented staff during any approved school consolidation. In the event that staff excessing is required, all contractual rules regarding excessing and agreements between parties 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 (“ATR”) pool, 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 Leaders of Tomorrow.

B. Administration

If this proposal is approved, some Young Scholars and Empowerment administrators may be excessed when the schools are consolidated. Again, where possible, the DOE will seek to minimize excessing of represented staff during any consolidation.

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.

This proposal is not expected to impact administrative positions at Leaders of Tomorrow.

C. Transportation

This proposal is not expected to affect transportation practices at Young Scholars, Empowerment, or Leaders of Tomorrow in the current 2016-2017 school year, or at the consolidated Empowerment or Leaders of Tomorrow in future school years.

³⁸ Excessing of staff occurs when a school requires fewer positions than the number of staff currently in the license area or job title.

If this proposal is approved, transportation will continue to be provided to students attending all schools in X113 according to Chancellor's Regulation A-801, which is available at: <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		X113
Type of Building		IS/JHS
Year Built		1937
Overall BCAS rating		2.54
2015-2016 Blue Book Target Building Utilization*		61%
2015-2016 Blue Book Target Building Capacity*		1591
FY 2016 Maintenance Costs	Labor	\$36,789
	Materials	\$14,804
	Maintenance, repair, and service contracts	\$89,454
	Custodial operations costs— Materials	\$11,005
	Custodial operations costs— Custodial Allocation	\$445,155
FY 2016 Energy Costs	Electric	\$168,812
	Gas	\$1,409
	Steam	N/A
	Oil	\$71,321
Projects completed during the current or prior school year		AUDITORIUM: House Lighting: Lighting Fixture - Fluorescent, House Lighting: Lighting Fixture - Incandescent, Theater Lighting System: Dimming System, Theater Lighting System: Theater Lighting INTERIOR: Classrooms/Corridors/Admin Spaces: Floor Finish HEATING PLANT: Boiler Auxiliaries, Boiler System, Fuel Systems
Projects proposed in the capital plan		FY16 RESO A SCIENCE LAB UPGRADES - Scope in Progress FUEL OIL TANK LEAKAGE/CLIMATE CTRL - 5/11/2013 F ELECTRICAL LIGHTING FIXTURES - 10/9/16 F IEH PO18-PRINCIPALS OFFICE ROOM 227 - Construction in Progress
Accessibility of the building		Partially Accessible
Building attributes		Art Rooms Auditorium Cafeteria Computer Rooms Gymnasium Library Nurse's Office

Appendix A: Target Capacity and Utilization

As described in more detail in the Blue Book, available online at: <http://www.nycsca.org/Community/Capital-Plan-Reports-Data#Enrollment-Capacity-Utilization-69>, a building's 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 ["UFT"] 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 2015-2016. As described above, the DOE's projected utilization rates for the 2016-2017 school year and beyond are based on the 2015-2016 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 2016-2017 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

Middle School Admissions

Through the middle school admissions process, students are offered the opportunity to apply to a range of middle schools within their district, as well as to schools with borough-wide or citywide eligibility. Students may also choose to apply to a number of schools that manage their own admission process. Information about all of these options is printed in each district's Middle School Directories, which can be found at: <http://schools.nyc.gov/ChoicesEnrollment/Middle/Publications/default.htm>. Please note that these directories are updated yearly. General information about the middle school admissions process can be found on the DOE's website at: <http://schools.nyc.gov/ChoicesEnrollment/Middle/default.htm>.

With the middle school admissions process, students rank their preferences from among their eligible choices, which are pre-populated on each student's customized middle school application. These options may include:

- Middle schools or programs with a screened admissions method (admission is based on criteria designated by the school) or composite score admissions method (a combination of factors are used to create one score for each applicant);
- Middle schools or programs with an unscreened or limited unscreened admissions method (limited unscreened schools admit students on the same basis as unscreened schools except that they give preference to students who have attended a school information session);
- Zoned middle schools;
- K-8 schools with a zoned, screened, or unscreened admissions method for the middle school grades that have available seats for middle school students;
- 6-12 schools with an unscreened, limited unscreened, or screened admissions method for middle school students;
- Schools with borough-wide or citywide eligibility with unscreened, limited unscreened, or screened admissions methods.

The citywide deadline for fifth-grade students to submit middle school applications for the 2017-2018 school year was December 1, 2016. Additionally, new middle schools designated to open throughout the city for the 2017-2018 school year will be available for students to consider in early 2017. Eligible students will have the opportunity to submit a "new schools" application in at that time. Information about middle school application deadlines will be available at the following link: <http://schools.nyc.gov/ChoicesEnrollment/Calendar>.

Middle school students with IEPs, with the exception of those recommending placement in a District 75 school, are admitted to schools in the same manner as general education students. Schools will ensure that students with disabilities continue to receive mandated services in accordance with their IEPs while also ensuring such students have opportunities to learn alongside their non-disabled peers to the greatest extent possible.

In accordance with DOE policy, ELL students are admitted to middle school in the same manner as their peers who are not ELL students. Any students requiring ELL services will continue to receive appropriate services in accordance with DOE policy.

OTC Placement

OTC is the method of enrolling students who need a school assignment because they were not part of any admissions process for entry grades and/or were not enrolled in a NYC school at the time school started. These students fall into one of four categories:

- New to the New York City school system; or

- Left the New York City school system and have returned;³⁹ or
- Are seeking transfers (based on the guidelines outlined in Chancellor's Regulation A-101); or
- Did not participate in the middle school or high school admissions processes for some other reason.

When a middle or high school-eligible student arrives for placement, his or her school assignment is determined by his or her interest, home address, which schools have available seats, and, where applicable, transfer guidelines. Students are eligible to attend middle school based on their district of elementary school attendance or the district to which the student's address is zoned for middle school. In un-zoned districts, the middle school student visits a Family Welcome Center where he or she meets with a counselor who reviews options that will meet the student's needs. In many districts, middle students may simply report to their zoned middle school. A high school student visits a Family Welcome Center directly.

There is a peak enrollment period occurring just prior to and into the opening of school when thousands of students arrive. Prior to the start of the peak enrollment period, schools are reminded about the number of OTC students they can expect. This number is based on a school's enrollment projection and the results of the admissions process.

If the Office of Student Enrollment determines that additional OTC seats may be needed, the number of seats available are reviewed and – if space allows – adjusted in those schools where the admissions methods are limited unscreened, educational option, or unscreened.

Screened programs (those that base admissions decisions on students' academic criteria) that have a two year track record of not meeting their enrollment targets through the high school admissions process are "de-screened" for OTC in order to increase the number of options for students. In addition, screened an audition schools, transfer schools,⁴⁰ international schools,⁴¹ and alternative programs are offered through referral. In this way, the DOE is able to offer individual students the widest breadth of options across a large number of schools.

The number of schools that admit students during the peak enrollment period has grown steadily over time, which means that students arriving during this period are being offered more options than in the past.

³⁹ Per Chancellor's Regulation A-101, students have the "right to return" to their prior school following discharge within one calendar year of discharge, subject to available seats. Therefore, it is possible that non-zoned students arriving for an OTC placement may be granted admission to a zoned school.

⁴⁰ Transfer schools are small, academically rigorous high schools designed to re-engage students who have dropped out of high school or have fallen behind. These schools are designed to create a personalized learning environment and to provide students with connections to colleges and careers. Students graduate with a high school diploma from the transfer school they attend. For more information about transfer schools, please visit the DOE website at: www.goingforme.org.

⁴¹ International schools are designed to provide quality education for recently arrived immigrant students through a unique educational model.

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 ICT section and a full-size or half-size room to accommodate each SC 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 the number of baseline classrooms for student support services, resource rooms, and administrative space based on the grades a school serves and its enrollment at scale.