



**Department of
Education**

Carmen Fariña, Chancellor

Notice

February 2, 2017

The Proposed Consolidation of Pablo Neruda Academy (08X305) with Bronx Guild (08X452) in Building X450 Beginning in the 2017-2018 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 consolidate Pablo Neruda Academy (08X305, “Pablo Neruda”) with Bronx Guild (08X452), two existing district high schools both currently serving students in ninth through twelfth grades, beginning in the 2017-2018 school year. 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. Pablo Neruda and Bronx Guild are co-located in building X450 (“X450”), located at 1980 Lafayette Avenue, Bronx, NY 10473 in Community School District 8.

The DOE is proposing to consolidate Pablo Neruda with Bronx Guild in an effort to improve the learning environment for current and future students by formalizing the collaboration between the two schools and promoting efficient use of resources. The proposed consolidation is intended to support enrollment, realign duplicative services, increase colleague collaboration and professional development opportunities, and allow the consolidated school to provide multiple sections across subject areas. If this proposal is approved, Pablo Neruda and Bronx Guild will be combined such that students, staff, and resources of Pablo Neruda will become part of Bronx Guild, and Pablo Neruda will no longer exist as a distinct school option as of the 2017-2018 school year.

Pablo Neruda and Bronx Guild are co-located in building X450 with five other schools: Millennium Art Academy (08X312, “Millennium”), a district high school serving grades nine through twelve; Antonia Pantoja Preparatory Academy: A College Board School (08X376, “APPA”), a district secondary school serving grades six through twelve; Bronx Community High School (08X377, “Bronx Community”), a transfer high school serving grades nine through twelve; Bronx Bridges High School (08X432, “Bronx Bridges”), a district high school serving grades nine through twelve; and Bronx Compass High School (08X561, “Bronx Compass”), a district high school serving grades nine through twelve.

X450 also contains a Pathways to Graduation Program (79Q950), the Adlai E. Stevenson Campus Young Adult Borough Center (08X507), and a Living for the Young Family through Education (“LYFE”) program. Additionally, the X450 campus includes an Alternate Learning Center (88X996, “ALC – Stevenson”), which provides an educational setting for students in grades nine through twelve who are on a Superintendent’s suspension for up to 90 days. ALC – Stevenson is

currently located in Transportable Classroom Units (“TCUs”) X922 on the campus; however, given the excess space that will become available in the X450 building when Pablo Neruda and Bronx Guild are consolidated, the DOE is planning to move ALC – Stevenson into X450 beginning in the 2017-2018 school year, if this proposal is approved, which will provide an improved learning environment for those students, as well as allow for the removal of the TCUs from the Stevenson Campus.

X450 also houses the following community-based organizations: Good Shepherd, New York City Mission Society (“Mission”), and Leadership Program. If this proposal is approved, Good Shepherd, Mission, and Leadership program will continue to provide services and maintain space in X450.

As noted above, X450 has the target capacity to serve 3,483 students. X450 currently serves 2,562 students across Pablo Neruda, Bronx Guild, Millennium, APPA, Bronx Community, Bronx Bridges, Compass, Pathways, and ALC – Stevenson, yielding a building utilization rate of 74%. The concept of “target capacity” and the related concept of “utilization rate” are explained in Appendix A of the Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”). If this proposal is approved, X450 will serve a total of approximately 2,390-2,765 students in the 2017-2018 school year, resulting in a projected utilization rate of 69% - 79%. Any future significant changes to school utilization in X113 would be proposed in a future EIS, if one is required pursuant to Chancellor’s Regulation A-190, and be subject to separate approval by the PEP in accordance with Chancellor’s Regulation A-190.

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

The EIS can be found on the Department of Education’s website at: <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2016-2017/March222017SchoolProposals>.

Copies of the EIS are also available in the main offices of all schools in X450.

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 Panel for Educational Policy (“PEP”) meeting at which this proposal is subject to a vote in order to be mentioned in the Public Comment Analysis to be published and provided to the PEP the evening before the PEP votes.

Written comments can be sent to D08Proposals@schools.nyc.gov.

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

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: Max Applebaum
Office: Office of District Planning
Address: 100 Gold Street, Suite 3200, New York, NY 10038

Email: D08Proposals@schools.nyc.gov
Phone: 212-374-5159

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

March 6, 2017 at 6:00 PM at
Building X450
1980 Lafayette Avenue
Bronx, NY 10473

Questions about the proposal should be directed as indicated in Section IV above.

Speaker sign-up will begin 30 minutes before the hearing, at 5:30 PM, and will close 15 minutes after the start of the hearing.

VI. Date, time and place of the PEP meeting at which the PEP will vote on the proposed item.

March 22, 2017 at 6:00 PM
High School of Fashion Industries
225 W. 24th Street
Manhattan, NY 10011