



**Department of  
Education**

*Carmen Fariña, Chancellor*

**Notice**

February 2, 2017

## **The Proposed Closure of Monroe Academy for Visual Arts & Design (12X692) in Building X420 at the End of the 2016-2017 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 Monroe Academy for Visual Arts & Design (12X692, “MAVAD”) at the end of the 2016-2017 school year. MAVAD is an existing district high school serving students in ninth through twelfth grades in building X420 (“X420”), located at 1300 Boynton Avenue, Bronx, NY 10472 in Community School District 12 (“District 12”). MAVAD is currently co-located in X420 with Pan American International High School at Monroe (12X388, “Pan American”), a district high school serving students in grades nine through twelve; the Metropolitan Soundview High School (12X521, “Metropolitan”), a district high school serving students in grades nine through twelve; and High School of World Cultures (12X550, “World Cultures”), a district high school serving students in grades nine through twelve. X420 also houses an Alternate Learning Center – Monroe (88X995, “ALC – Monroe”), which provides an educational setting for students in ninth through twelfth grade who are on a Superintendent’s Suspension for up to 90 days, as well as a Learning to Work Young Adult Borough Center (12X428, “Learning to Work YABC”) and a Living for the Young Family Through Education program (79M984, “LYFE Center”).

The DOE is proposing to close MAVAD based on a consistent decline in enrollment, low performance, and low demand by students and families. If this proposal is approved, MAVAD will close at the end of the 2016-2017 school year and will no longer exist as a high school option beginning in the 2017-2018 school year. Current ninth-, tenth- and eleventh-grade students, as well as twelfth-grade students who are not on track to graduate or who do not meet graduation requirements, will work individually with DOE staff and will be offered seats in other high schools. Current twelfth-grade students who meet mandated graduation requirements at the end of the current school year will graduate from MAVAD.

There is sufficient capacity in high schools throughout the Bronx to accommodate current non-graduating MAVAD students, as well as future students who might have enrolled in MAVAD. If the proposed closure of MAVAD is approved, all non-graduating students will receive individualized enrollment support from the superintendent’s staff and Family Welcome Center (“FWC”) counselors, which will help students and families in thinking through the options presented in order to ensure that students choose the right school to continue their education for the 2017-2018 school year and beyond. This will involve an application process by which students will be offered options including higher-performing high schools. All non-graduating students will receive alternative high school options before being discharged from the closing school.

If this proposal is approved, MAVAD will close at the end of the 2016-2017 school year and will no longer exist as a school option. As noted above, X420 is currently serving a total of 1,727 students and is therefore operating below the target capacity. If the closure of MAVAD is approved by the PEP, in 2017-2018, X420 is projected to serve 420-460 students in Pan American, 395-435 students in Metropolitan, 400-440 students in World Cultures, and 55-80 students in ALC – Monroe, for a total building enrollment of 1,270-

1,422, yielding a projected utilization rate of 60% -67%. X420 will then be considered “under-utilized” and will have excess space available.

MAVAD belongs to a cohort of 86 schools that have been designated by the DOE as Renewal Schools. Schools selected to be Renewal Schools were assigned the state accountability status of “Priority” or “Focus” by the New York State Education Department (“SED”), demonstrated low academic achievement (for the three school years prior to selection), and scored “Proficient” or below on their most recent Quality Review. In four instances, which did not include MAVAD, schools were selected to be Renewal Schools per the Chancellor’s discretion. MAVAD is also designated by the SED as a Priority School and a Struggling School. As a Struggling School, it has been a Priority School since the 2012-13 school year and is currently under Chancellor’s Receivership.

Renewal Schools 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 can congregate to share resources and address their common challenges. As such, MAVAD is a Renewal School and a Community School.

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

The Educational Impact Statement (“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 MAVAD, Pan American, World Cultures, Metropolitan, and ALC – Monroe.

## **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 [D12Proposals@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:D12Proposals@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: Jyoti Folch  
Office: Office of District Planning  
Address: 100 Gold Street, Suite 3200, New York, NY 10038  
Email: [D12Proposals@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:D12Proposals@schools.nyc.gov)  
Phone: 212-374-5159

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

March 15, 2017 at 6:00 PM at

Building X420  
1300 Boynton Avenue  
Bronx, NY 10472

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. 24<sup>th</sup> Street  
Manhattan, NY 10011