

Educational Impact Statement

Co-location of Explore Empower Charter School (84K742) and M.S. 394 in School Building K210

I. Summary of Proposal

In the 2010-2011 school year, Explore Empower Charter School (84K742, “Explore Empower”), an existing charter school currently serving students in grades Kindergarten-2, will move from its current location in Community School District 17 (“District 17”) to school building K210 (hereinafter referred to as “K210”), located at 188 Rochester Avenue, Brooklyn, also in District 17. Once it is located in K210, Explore Empower will continue to add one grade per year until it reaches its full growth in the 2015-2016 school year as a Kindergarten-8th grade school, pending renewal in 2014 by Explore Empower’s authorizer, the New York City Department of Education.

Explore Empower is currently housed in school building K138, located at 760 Prospect Place, Brooklyn and is co-located with P.S. 138 Brooklyn (17K138, “P.S. 138”), a Pre-Kindergarten-8 school. The space made available in K138 will be used to serve additional Pre-Kindergarten-8 grade students at P.S. 138.

M.S. 394 (17K394, “M.S. 394”), an existing school serving grades Pre-Kindergarten-8, is currently housed in K210 and will remain in the building at its current grade configuration. Explore Empower will co-locate with M.S. 394. K210 has a capacity of 1,350, and its 2008-2009 target utilization rate was 52%. K210 has sufficient space to accommodate Explore Empower and M.S. 394 at full organizational capacity.

The move of Explore Empower will relieve overcrowding in the K138 building, enable Explore Empower to continue to add one grade per year until the 2016-2017 school year, and provide high quality options to the District 17 community.

II. Enrollment, Admissions, and School Performance Information

A. Explore Empower

1. Enrollment

Current Grades Served: K-2

Current Enrollment (As of
10/31/2009 ATS
Unaudited Register): 156

Grades Served 2010-2011: K-3

Proposal for a Significant Change in the Utilization of School Building K210

Release date: 1/8/10

Projected 2010-2011
Enrollment: 196-216

Grades Served At Scale
(2015-2016): K-8

Projected Enrollment
at Scale (2015-2016): 380-430

2. Admissions

Pursuant to New York State Education Law, Explore Empower admits students via lottery. District 17 residents are given priority in the charter school lottery process.

3. School Performance

The New York Charter Schools Act enables the creation of charter schools, which are independently run and publicly funded.

The Charter Schools Act states that charter schools shall be held to “performance-based” accountability systems and must meet measurable student achievement results. The DOE and the State University of New York (SUNY) hold schools they authorize to a minimum standard of 75% of students achieving proficiency.

Progress Report and state ELA and Math data are not available because Explore Empower opened in 2009-2010.

Federal accountability data are not available because Explore Empower opened in September 2009.

Average Attendance
(2008-2009):

Average attendance data for the 2008-2009 school year is not available because Explore Empower opened in 2009-2010.

B. M.S. 394

1. Enrollment

Current Grades Served: PreK-8

Current Enrollment (As of
10/31/2009 ATS
Unaudited Register): 716

Proposal for a Significant Change in the Utilization of School Building K210

Release date: 1/8/10

Grades Served 2010-2011: PreK-8

Projected 2010-2011
Enrollment: 680-730

2. Admissions

Pre-K admissions are done through the citywide process.
K-5 admissions are zoned.

Preference for 6th grade seats is given to students enrolled at M.S. 394 in grade 5.
Additional available seats in grades 6-8 are filled by a school based admissions process.

3. School Performance

Progress Report Grades

2007-2008: A

2008-2009: A

Math Score (2008-2009): 80.6% of students scored at Level 3 or 4

English Language Arts Score (2008-2009): 75.8% of students scored at Level 3 or 4

Quality Review Scores

2007-2008: Well Developed

2008-2009: N/A

Accountability Status

Overall Federal Status (2008-2009): In Good Standing

Overall State Status (2008-2009): In Good Standing

Status with Differentiated Accountability (2009-2010): In Good Standing

To access school performance and accountability information for M.S. 394, please visit <http://schools.nyc.gov/SchoolPortals/12/X214/AboutUs/Statistics>.

Proposal for a Significant Change in the Utilization of School Building K210

Release date: 1/8/10

Average Attendance
(2008-2009): 92.7%

To access copies of the Attendance Reports for M.S. 394, please visit
<http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/data/stats/attendance>.

III. Proposed or Potential Use of K138 and K210

K210 will house M.S. 394 and Explore Empower. M.S. 394 will remain in the building at its current grade configuration (PreK-8) and Explore Empower will continue to add one grade per year until the 2016-2017 school year when it serves grades K-8, pending renewal in 2014 by Explore Empower's authorizer, the New York City Department of Education.

The space made available in K138 will be used to serve additional Pre-Kindergarten-8 grade students at P.S. 138.

IV. Impact of the Proposed Grade Reconfiguration on the Community, Existing Schools and Students

A. Community Ramifications

The co-location of Explore Empower and M.S. 394 in K210 will not significantly impact the District 17 options.

B. Existing Schools

During the course of Explore Empower's grade reconfiguration, all schools will have sufficient instructional space to serve students in K210 as per the citywide instructional footprint. After implementation of the proposal, M.S. 394 and Explore Empower will have sufficient space to operate at full organization capacity. A space plan for all schools in the building will be developed based on the standard instructional footprint. Decisions regarding the programming of shared spaces in K210 will be made by school leaders.

To access the citywide instructional footprint, please visit the New York City Department of Education's ("DOE") Web site at http://schools.nyc.gov/NR/rdonlyres/8CF30F41-DE25-4C30-92DE-731949919FC3/65901/NYCDOE_Instructional_Footprint_revisedMay2009_noco.pdf.

C. Students

Beginning September 2010, students currently attending Explore Empower in K138 will be served in its new location at K210.

Pursuant to New York State Education Law, students are admitted to Explore Empower chart school via lottery in kindergarten. Available seats in grades 1-8 will be filled via a

Proposal for a Significant Change in the Utilization of School Building K210

Release date: 1/8/10

waitlist the school maintains. Students who are residents of District 17 will receive priority in the charter school lottery.

No students at M.S. 394 will be displaced as a result of this proposed co-location in K210. While the schools will have to share certain common spaces in the building, there will continue to be sufficient space in K210 for P.S. 394 to serve its students. As noted above, before the start of the 2010-2011 school year, a space plan for the building will be created and building leaders will determine the programming of the shared spaces.

V. Initial Costs and Savings

The estimated cost of moving supplies and materials to relocate the school is \$15,600.00. This estimate is based on previous school relocations. Actual costs incurred will be determined by multiple factors at the time of the move.

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

A. Personnel

Explore Empower expects to hire additional teachers due to the increased organizational capacity of its new building. No impacts on M.S. 394 personnel are expected as a result of this proposal.

B. Costs of Instruction

Charter schools receive a share of state foundation aid appropriated to New York City based upon New York State Per Pupil Allocation (PPA) rate. The cost of instruction at M.S. 394 will not be impacted by the co-location with Explore Empower in K210. M.S. 394 will continue to receive annual per capita funding based on Fair Student Funding.

C. Administration

No additional school supervisor and/or administrator positions are expected as a result of Explore Empower's grade expansion in K210. No impact on the school supervisor or administrator needs in M.S. 394 is expected as a result of this proposal.

D. Transportation

The co-location of Explore Empower and M.S. 394 will have no impact on transportation services provided to students at M.S. 394. Transportation will continue to be provided pursuant to Chancellor's Regulation A-801. To access Chancellor's Regulation A-801, please visit the DOE's Web site at <http://schools.nyc.gov/RulesPolicies/ChancellorsRegulations>.

E. Other Support Services

Other support services will continue to be provided consistent with citywide policy.

VII. Building Information

A. Building Type, Age and Physical Condition

K210 is a middle school building that was built in 1923. The building received an overall rating of 2.62 out of 5 on the 2008-2009 Building Condition Assessment Survey (“BCAS”). To view the key for BCAS ratings, please visit <http://schools.nyc.gov/Documents/BCAS/BCAS%20Key.pdf>.

To view the 2008-2009 BCAS Report for K210, please visit <http://schools.nyc.gov/community/facilities/BFIS>.

2008-2009 Target utilization rate: 52%

2008-2009 Target capacity: 1,350

The utilization and capacity information is from the Enrollment, Capacity and Utilization Report which is the standard by which the DOE measures the maximum capacity of the building compared to the enrollment. To access the Enrollment, Capacity and Utilization Report, please visit <http://schools.nyc.gov/Offices/SCA/Reports/CapPlan>.

B. Fiscal Year 2009 Maintenance Costs

Labor:	\$16,838.00
Materials:	\$13,211.00
Maintenance and Repair Contracts:	\$294,641.00
Service Contracts:	Not Applicable
Custodial Operations	
Materials:	\$7,753.00
Custodial Allocation:	\$306,225.00

A. Fiscal Year 2009 Energy Costs

Electric:	\$107,321.00
Gas:	\$7,399.00
Oil:	\$80,535.00

Proposal for a Significant Change in the Utilization of School Building K210

Release date: 1/8/10

B. Recent and Planned Improvements

Recent improvements to K210 include parapets, roofs, windows, exterior masonry in FY 2008-2009 and playground redevelopment FY 2009-2010.

No improvements are currently planned.

C. Special Features

The building has an auditorium, cafeteria, computer rooms/class rooms (2), gymnasiums (2), a library, a multi-purpose room and science lab/class rooms (4).

