



Date: December 17, 2009

Topic: Proposed Grade Truncation of P.S. 246 Poe Center (10X246)

Date of Panel Vote: December 17, 2009

Summary of Proposal

This is a proposal to change the grade configuration of P.S. 246. In the 2010-2011 school year, P.S. 246 Poe Center (10X246, P.S. 246), an existing school serving grades K-6, will implement a grade reconfiguration plan to change its current grade configuration to K-5. P.S. 246 is housed in school building X843, located at 2641 Grand Concourse, Bronx in Community School District 10. This proposal will create grade alignment, will increase access to middle school choice by standardizing the grades students will apply to and enroll in middle school, and will alleviate overcrowding in X843. The Educational Impact Statement was posted on the Department of Education's Web site on November 2, 2009.

Comments Received at the Joint Public Hearing

A joint public hearing regarding this proposal was held at P.S. 246 on December 9, and all interested parties had an opportunity to provide input on the proposal. Two members of the public spoke. Both opposed the truncation of P.S. 246. They cited concerns about travel and about 5th grade students' readiness to transition into middle school.

Summary of Issues Raised in Written and Oral Comments and Significant Alternatives Suggested

Two written comments and no oral comments were received regarding this proposal. One written comment opposed the truncation noting that the proposal does not cite research done to prove the positive effect this action will have on children. Also, the comment notes that sixth grade parents do not want their children in middle school any sooner. A second commenter suggested tabling the reconfiguration proposal until after an upcoming Community Education Council vote on a zoning change proposal.

**Analysis of Issues Raised, Significant Alternatives Proposed
and Changes Made to the Proposal**

The DOE chose not to accept the recommendation that a vote on this proposal be delayed because the grade truncation proposal is not contingent on approval of the zoning change. The DOE has made no changes to the proposal to change the grade configuration of P.S. 246. The proposal will be presented to the PEP as it is posted.

A copy of the educational impact statement for this proposal can be obtained at:
http://schools.nyc.gov/NR/ronlyres/58B16C3D-B443-46DD-9F35-8716877EDF37/70592/10X246_EIS_Final_112095.pdf