



Notice
February 1, 2013

Dennis M. Walcott
Chancellor

Amended: The Proposed Co-location of South Bronx Classical Charter School II (84XTBD) in Building X154 with Existing School P.S. 154 Jonathan D. Hyatt (07X154) Beginning in 2013-2014

I. Description of the subject and purpose of the proposed item under consideration.

The New York City Department of Education (“DOE”) is proposing to co-locate a new public charter school, South Bronx Classical Charter School II (84XTBD, “SBCCS II”), which will serve students in kindergarten through fifth grades, in building X154 (“X154”), located at 333 East 135th Street, Bronx, NY 10454, in Community School District 7 (“District 7”), beginning in the 2013-2014 school year. Building X154 also houses P.S. 154 Jonathan D. Hyatt (07X154, “P.S. 154”), an existing elementary school currently serving students in kindergarten through fifth grades and offering a pre-kindergarten program. If this proposal is approved, in 2013-2014, SBCCS II will be co-located with P.S. 154 in building X154, opening with kindergarten and first grade, and adding one grade each year to serve students in kindergarten through fifth grades.

On February 1, 2013, the accompanying Building Utilization Plan (“BUP”) for this proposal, originally posted on January 31, 2013, was amended to remove erroneous references to another proposal and to correct various typographical errors, primarily contained in the section of the BUP addressing the Shared Space Plan. The amendment did not significantly revise the proposal itself.

If this proposal is approved, SBCCS II will begin serving 110-130 kindergarten and first-grade students in 2013-2014 in building X154. In 2014-2015, SBCCS II will add second grade and serve 165-195 students in kindergarten through second grades. In 2015-2016, SBCCS II will add third grade and serve 220-260 students in kindergarten through third grades. In 2016-2017, SBCCS II will add fourth grade and serve 275-325 students in kindergarten through fourth grades. In 2017-2018, its final year of phase-in, SBCCS II will serve 330-390 students in kindergarten through fifth grades. The school will admit students via its charter lottery application process, with preference given to District 7 residents.

Concurrently, the DOE is planning an enrollment reduction at P.S. 154. Beginning in September 2013, P.S. 154 will admit a smaller incoming kindergarten class of 45-55 students, as opposed to the 70-80 students it has served in recent years. The school will continue to take in 45-55 kindergarten students in future years until all grades, kindergarten through five, serve fewer sections in 2018-2019. P.S. 154 will continue to offer its pre-kindergarten program at its current size, assuming continued demand and funding. P.S. 154 is currently a zoned school but next year will participate in the new District 7 Elementary School Choice Admissions Process; as

discussed in greater detail in the Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”), on November 26, 2012, the District 7 Community Education Council (“CEC”) independently voted to unzone the elementary schools in District 7.

According to the 2011-2012 Enrollment Capacity Utilization Report (“Blue Book”), X154 has a target capacity of 634 students. In 2012-2013, P.S. 154 is serving 495 students in kindergarten through fifth grades and 34 students in its pre-kindergarten program, yielding a building utilization rate of 83%. This means that the building could be used more efficiently to serve more students. If this proposal is approved, in 2018-2019, once SBCCS II’s kindergarten through fifth grades have fully phased in and P.S. 154’s enrollment reduction is complete, SBCCS II is projected to serve 330-390 students and P.S. 154 is projected to serve 306-366 students, for a total of 636-756 students, yielding a building utilization rate of approximately 100%-119%.

As described in greater detail in the EIS and its attached amended BUP, the DOE believes the building has sufficient space to accommodate both schools despite the possibility of a utilization rate over 100%. Although a utilization rate in excess of 100% may suggest that a building will be over-utilized or over-crowded in a given year, this rate does not account for the fact that rooms may be programmed for more efficient or different uses than the standard assumptions in the utilization calculation. In addition, charter school enrollment plans are frequently based on larger class sizes than target capacity, contributing to building utilizations above 100% while not impacting the utilization of the space allocated to the traditional public school. Therefore, the DOE believes that the X154 building has the capacity to accommodate P.S. 154 and SBCCS II at full scale.

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

The EIS and amended BUP can be found on the Department of Education’s Web site:

<http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2012-2013/Mar202013Proposals.htm>

Copies of the EIS and amended BUP are also available in the main office of P.S. 154.

III. Submission of public comment.

Written comments can be sent to D07Proposals@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: Ashley Davies
Office: Division of Portfolio Planning
Address: 52 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007
Email: D07Proposals@schools.nyc.gov
Phone: 212-374-5159

V. Date, time and place of joint public hearings for this proposal.

Thursday, March 14, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.

P.S. 154 Jonathan D. Hyatt
333 East 135 Street
Bronx, NY 10454

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

Speaker sign-up will begin 30 minutes before the hearing and will close 15 minutes after the start.

VII. Date, time and place of the Panel for Educational Policy meeting at which the Panel will vote on the proposed item.

March 20, 2013 at 6:00pm

Brooklyn Technical High School
29 Fort Greene Pl.
Brooklyn, NY 11217