



**Withdrawal Notice**  
March 4, 2011

**Cathleen P. Black**  
*Chancellor*

**The Proposed Re-siting of South Bronx Academy for Applied Media (07X296) to Building X162 and Co-location with J.H.S. 162 Lola Rodriguez de Tio (07X162), Green Dot NY Charter School (84X393), and X010@X162 (75X010), a District 75 School**

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

South Bronx Academy for Applied Media (07X296, “SBAAM”) is an existing district choice middle school serving students in grades 6-8. SBAAM is located at 778 Forest Avenue, Bronx, NY 10456, in Community School District 7, in Building X184 (“X184”).

On January 31, 2011, the DOE issued an Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”) describing a proposal to re-site SBAAM into Building X162 (“X162”), at 600 Saint Ann’s Avenue, Bronx, NY 10455.

Under the proposal, beginning in the 2011-2012 school year, all SBAAM students in grades 6-8 would have been served in the X162 building where the school would have been “co-located” with J.H.S. 162 Lola Rodriguez de Tio (07X162, “J.H.S. 162”), an existing zoned middle school serving grades 6-8, Green Dot NY Charter School (84X393, “Green Dot”), an existing public charter high school serving grades 9-11, an existing District 75 (“D75”) school, X010@X162 (75X010, “X010@X162”) serving middle school-aged students with Individualized Education Plan classifications of mentally retarded and emotionally disturbed. X162 also houses an Alternative Learning Center (88X998, “ALC”).

A “re-siting” means a school will be located in a different building than the building it is located in currently. A “co-location” means that two or more school organizations will be located in the same building and may share common spaces such as auditoriums, gymnasiums, and cafeterias.

After receiving community feedback, however, the DOE has determined to withdraw the proposal to re-site SBAAM into Building X162. As a result, the joint public hearings originally scheduled for March 8, 2011 (at X184) and March 10, 2011 (at X162) have been cancelled, and the proposal will not be considered by the Panel for Educational Policy at its meeting on March 23, 2011. SBAAM will continue to be located in the Building X184.

This proposal had been made in response to the request by City University of New York (“CUNY”) and Hostos Community College to move Hostos-Lincoln Academy of Science (07X500, “Hostos”), an existing school serving students in grades 6-12, out of its current space in the X500 Building on the Hostos Community College campus prior to the beginning of the 2011-2012 school year.

In a separate EIS also released on January 31, 2011, the DOE had proposed to re-site Hostos to building X184. That proposal was withdrawn on March 3, 2011 and will not be considered by the PEP at its meeting on March 23, 2011. A new re-siting proposal for Hostos will be released today.

## **II. Summary of all public comment received to date.**

The DOE received 30 written comments regarding the proposed re-siting of SBAAM to X162.

- Multiple commentators expressed their support for the SBAAM community, its positive school environment, its school leadership and staff, and its academic success.
- Multiple commentators stated that SBAAM should stay in building X184.
- Multiple commentators stated that the X184 community has made progress in their current environment and that the proposal would impede this progress. Specifically, multiple commentators stated that the X184 building was identified as a “persistently dangerous” building in 2007, but the building is now safe.
- Multiple commentators raised concerns about safety in the X162 building, the X162 neighborhood, and the impact it would have on SBAAM students.
- Multiple commentators expressed concerns that the proposal would disrupt the quality of academic instruction and the school environment at SBAAM and within the X184 building.
- Multiple commentator expressed concerns that the SBAAM community has invested in technology infrastructure (e.g. Smartboards, TVs) and other building improvements in X184 that would be lost as a result of the proposed re-siting.
- Multiple commentators expressed concern that SBAAM’s performance and reputation would be hurt if the school moved to the X162 building.
- Multiple commentators expressed concerns about the distance and travel to the proposed site for SBAAM students. Multiple commentators expressed concern over public transportation to the school. A commentator predicted that students would transfer as a result of the proposal because the new proposed co-location was far away from X184.
- Multiple commentators stated that future SBAAM students should have similar experiences to their own in the X184 building.
- Multiple commentators stated their opposition to the proposal because SBAAM originated in the X184 building. A commentator expressed concern that alumni and community members would not know how to find SBAAM in its proposed new location.
- Multiple commentators expressed concern that after-school programs and special activities for SBAAM students would be affected by the proposed re-siting.
- Multiple commentators expressed concern that it would be difficult for SBAAM to re-create a school community at its new location.
- A commentator stated that their parents chose SBAAM over I.S. 162.
- A commentator expressed concern that teachers would leave as a result of the proposed re-siting.
- A commentator expressed concern that SBAAM would have less space in its new location.

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

The Educational Impact Statement concerning the proposed re-siting and co-location of SBAAM on the X162 campus can be found on the Department of Education's Web site:

<http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2010-2011/Mar232011Proposals>.

**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.**

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