



### **Public Comment Analysis**

Date: March 22, 2011

Topic: The Proposed Opening of a New Middle School (05M514) and Co-Location with Existing Schools I.S. 195 (05M195) and KIPP Infinity Charter School (84M336) in Building M195

Date of Panel Vote: March 23, 2011

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### **Summary of Proposal**

The New York City Department of Education (“DOE”) is proposing to open a new District middle school I.S. 514 (05M514, “New School”) serving grades six through eight in Building M195, located at 625 West 133rd Street, New York, NY 10027 in Community School District 5. This new middle school would be co-located in M195 with an existing District choice middle school, I.S.195 Roberto Clemente (05M195, “I.S. 195”) and KIPP Infinity Charter School (84M336, “KIPP Infinity”), an existing public charter school currently serving Kindergarten and grades five through eight. In addition, in an Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”) posted on January 31, 2011, the DOE is proposing the temporary co-location of KIPP High School grades in M195 for the 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 school years. A “co-location” means that two or more school organizations are located in the same building and may share common spaces like auditoriums, gymnasiums, and cafeterias.

In an EIS published on December 18, 2010, the DOE proposed to gradually phase out and eventually close I.S. 195 because of its low performance and inability to turn around quickly to better support student needs. This proposal was approved by the Panel for Educational Policy on February 1, 2011. This new middle school is proposed to replace I.S. 195 and provide a high quality option to middle school students in District 5.

New School would open in September 2011 with sixth grade, and add one grade per year until it serves sixth through eighth grades. New School would offer up to three sections per grade of General Education/Collaborative Team Teaching (“CTT”) classes, Special Classes (also called Self-Contained special education classes, “SC”), and a special education program to serve students who are cognitively impaired. Admission to New School would be through the District 5 Middle School Choice process. New School would be a Limited Unscreened school, meaning students who express interest by attending an information session at the school or speaking to school representatives at a middle school fair would receive admission preference. Total enrollment at New School would be approximately 300-375 students at full scale. If all of the

proposals affecting M195 are approved, in 2011-12 New School would be co-located with KIPP Infinity, I.S. 195 as that school phases out, and KIPP High School.

On March 16, 2011, the DOE published an amended EIS and Building Utilization Plan which corrected typographical errors, removed an erroneous reference to the grade levels to be served by New School in building M195 and conformed that reference to the others in the EIS, which stated that New School would serve grades six through eight. The amended EIS did not substantially revise the proposal itself.

The details of this proposal have been released in an EIS which can be accessed here: <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2010-2011/Mar232011Proposals.htm>. Copies of the EIS and BUP are also available in the main offices of both I.S. 195 and KIPP Infinity Charter School.

### **Summary of Comments Received at the Joint Public Hearing**

A joint public hearing regarding this proposal and the separate proposal to co-locate KIPP High School in M195 was held at I.S. 195 / KIPP Infinity Charter School on March 3, 2011. At that hearing, interested parties had an opportunity to provide input on the proposal. Approximately 250 members of the public attended the hearing, and 14 people spoke. Present at the meeting were: District 5 Superintendent Gale Reeves; I.S. 195 School Leadership Team representative Sean Licata; KIPP Co-founder and Superintendent David Levin; and Jenny Sobelman of the DOE Office of Public Affairs. Although Community Education Council 5 had confirmed the hearing date and that they would be able to attend the hearing, no CEC 5 representatives were present.

No comments were made regarding this proposal at the joint public hearing. However, comments were made regarding the KIPP High School proposal. For a summary of those comments, please consult the separate Public Comment Analysis for that proposal, which can be found on the PEP site: <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2010-2011/Mar232011Proposals.htm>

### **Summary of Issues Raised in Written and/or Oral Comments Submitted to the DOE**

No written or oral comments were submitted to the DOE.

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

No comments were made regarding this proposal.

### **Changes Made to the Proposal**

No changes have been made to this proposal.