



Notice
August 30, 2013

Dennis M. Walcott
Chancellor

The Proposed Co-Location of Success Academy Charter School – New York 2 (84XTBD) with Existing Schools J.H.S. 131 Albert Einstein (08X131) and Soundview Academy for Culture and Scholarship (08X448) in Building X131 Beginning in 2014-2015

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 grades kindergarten through five of a new public charter school, Success Academy Charter School – New York 2 (84XTBD, “SA – New York 2”) in building X131 (“X131”), located at 885 Bolton Avenue, Bronx, NY 10473 in Community School District 8 (“District 8”) beginning in the 2014-2015 school year. If this proposal is approved, SA – New York 2 would be co-located with J.H.S. 131 Albert Einstein (08X131, “J.H.S. 131”), and with Soundview Academy for Culture and Scholarship (08X448, “Soundview Academy”), both district middle schools serving students in grades six through eight. 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.

SA – New York 2 will be operated by Success Academy Charter Schools (“SACS”), a charter management organization (“CMO”) that currently operates 18 public charter schools in New York City, including six new public elementary schools serving students for the first time in 2013-2014. The four SACS schools that received a Progress Report for the 2011-2012 school year all received an overall grade of A.

SA – New York 2 has submitted a preliminary application for charter authorization from the State University of New York Trustees (“SUNY”) to serve students in kindergarten through fifth grades. The proposal to open and co-locate SA – New York 2 in X131 described in this Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”) is contingent upon SUNY’s approval of SA – New York 2’s application for charter authorization. Only SUNY has the authority to approve or deny SA – New York 2’s application for charter authorization. For the purpose of this proposal, it is assumed that SUNY will approve SA – New York 2’s application.

If this proposal is approved, SA – New York 2 will open in the 2014-2015 school year and will serve approximately 120-180 students in kindergarten and first grade, and will add one grade each year until it reaches full scale in 2018-2019. At that time, SA – New York 2 will serve

approximately 450-540 students in kindergarten through fifth grades. The school will admit students via the charter lottery application process, with preference given to District 8 residents, as described below in more detail.

Concurrently, the DOE is planning to reduce the enrollment at J.H.S. 131 over a period of three years beginning in September 2014. Beginning in September 2014, J.H.S. 131 will admit a smaller incoming sixth-grade class of approximately 175-185 students, as opposed to the approximately 245-255 students it has served in sixth grade in recent years. The school will continue to admit approximately 175-185 sixth-grade students in future years until all grades, six through eight, serve fewer sections in 2016-2017. J.H.S. 131 currently admits students to two programs: a zoned program that is opened to zoned students; and an unscreened program that is open to all District 8 students. These admissions methods will be unchanged as a result of this proposal but the unscreened program will admit fewer students in the coming years.

Additionally, X131 houses a community-based organization (“CBO”), ASPIRA.

X131 has the capacity to serve 1,401 students, but in the 2013-2014 school year, J.H.S. 131 and Soundview Academy are only serving approximately 1,046 students. This yields a building utilization rate of approximately 75%, which demonstrates that the building is “underutilized” and has space to accommodate additional students. As such, X131 has been identified as an underutilized building. If this proposal is approved, when SA – New York 2 reaches full scale and after the enrollment reduction of J.H.S. 131 is complete, in 2018-2019, SA – New York 2, J.H.S. 131, and Soundview Academy will collectively serve approximately 1,260-1,410 students in the building, which yields a projected utilization rate of 90%-101%. As discussed in Section II.B and in the attached Building Utilization Plan (“BUP”), while the projected range for the building utilization rate signifies the possibility of a building utilization rate slightly in excess of 100%, all schools will receive at least their baseline (or adjusted baseline) footprint allocation of space.

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

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

<http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2013-2014/Oct15SchoolProposals>

Copies of the EIS and BUP are also available in the main offices of J.H.S. 131 and Soundview Academy.

III. Submission of public comment.

Written comments can be sent to D08Proposals@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: D08Proposals@schools.nyc.gov
Phone: 212-374-5149

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

Wednesday, October 9, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.
Building X131
885 Bolton Avenue
Bronx, NY 10473

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.

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

October 15th at 6:00 p.m.
Prospect Heights Campus
883 Classon Ave,
Brooklyn, New York 11225