



Notice  
August 30, 2013

Dennis M. Walcott  
Chancellor

## **The Proposed Re-siting and Co-location of Stephen T. Mather Building Arts & Craftsmanship High School (02M139) in Building M625 with Existing Schools High School of Graphic Communication Arts (02M625), Business of Sports School (02M393), Urban Assembly Gateway School for Technology (02M507) and Success Academy Charter School – Hell’s Kitchen (84M170), and New School Success Academy Charter School – Manhattan Middle School (84MTBD) Beginning in the 2014-2015 School Year**

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

The New York City Department of Education (“DOE”) is proposing to re-site Stephen T. Mather Building Arts & Craftsmanship High School (02M139, “Mather”) to school building M625 (“M625”) beginning in the 2014-2015 school year. M625 is located at 439 West 49<sup>th</sup> Street, New York, NY 10019 within the geographical confines of Community School District 2 (“District 2”). Currently, Mather is housed in building M520 (“M520”), located at 411 Pearl Street, Manhattan, New York 10038, also within the geographical confines of District 2. A “re-siting” means students will attend classes in a different building than the one they attended the previous year. If this proposal is approved, beginning in the 2014-2015 school year, Mather students will no longer attend classes in M520. Instead, they will attend classes in M625, where Mather will be co-located with five other schools: High School of Graphic Communication Arts (02M625, “Graphics”), an existing high school that currently serves students in grades ten through twelve; Business of Sports School (02M393, “BOSS”) an existing high school that serves students in grades nine through twelve; Urban Assembly Gateway School for Technology (02M507, “Gateway”), an existing high school that serves students in grades nine through eleven and is phasing in to serve students in grades nine through twelve; and Success Academy Charter School – Hell’s Kitchen (84M170, “SA – Hell’s Kitchen”), an existing elementary charter school which is in the process of phasing in to serve students in grades kindergarten through four and which will serve students in kindergarten and first grade in the 2013-2014 school year. Graphics is in the process of phasing out and will close at the end of the 2015-2016 school year. In addition, Success Academy Charter School – Manhattan Middle School (“SA - Manhattan MS”) will open in building M625 beginning in the 2015-2016 school year and will phase in to serve students in grades five 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, libraries, and cafeterias.

On March 11, 2013, the Panel for Educational Policy (“PEP”) approved a proposal to site and co-locate Mather in M520 with Murry Bergtraum High School for Business Careers (02M520, “Bergtraum”) beginning in the 2013-2014 school year. On March 11, 2013, the PEP also approved a proposal to site and co-locate The Urban Assembly School for Emergency Management (02M135, “UA-EM”) in M625 beginning in the 2013-2014 school year. As a result of facilities assessments that occurred after the PEP approved Mather’s siting in M520, the United States

National Park Service (“NPS”), Mather’s industry partner, and the DOE determined that M520 is an inappropriate site for Mather because the building cannot accommodate the lab space that Mather’s specialized curriculum requires. Building M625, on the other hand, is able to offer Mather the required lab space. This determination came too late in the year to propose the re-siting of Mather for the 2013-2014 school year. The DOE is therefore proposing to re-site Mather to M625 and UA-EM to M520 for the 2014-2015 school year. UA – EM will receive its required standard lab space in M520. Re-siting UA-EM to M520 and re-siting Mather to M625 will ensure that both schools are located in facilities that can support their respective instructional needs.

If both this proposal and the related proposal to re-site UA – EM are approved, in the 2014-2015 school year, Mather and UA – EM will effectively swap spaces in their respective buildings. NPS has worked with Mather to modify the school’s curriculum for the 2013-2014 school year in M520 to place more emphasis on coursework that does not require lab space.

Mather is a district high school currently sited in building M520. The school will offer a rigorous academic program with a Career and Technical Education (“CTE”) component that will prepare students for post-secondary education. CTE programs integrate rigorous academic study with workforce skills in specific career clusters. Students participate in programs that meet business and industry standards. Students receive instruction in an industry-related area and have the opportunity to graduate high school with industry-specific competencies and skills that lead to postsecondary education, further industry training and/or entry into the workforce. Mather admits students through the Citywide High School Admissions Process.

If this proposal is approved, Mather will move to M625 prior to the beginning of the 2014-2015 school year, when it will serve approximately 210-230 students in the ninth and tenth grades. Mather will gradually phase in by adding one grade per year. The school is expected to reach full scale in 2016-2017, when it will serve approximately 420-460 students in grades nine through twelve. If approved, this proposed re-siting will require students enrolled at Mather in the 2013-2014 school year to travel a potentially farther distance to a different school building in the 2014-2015 school year as M520 and M625 are located 4.3 miles apart. However, the DOE believes that the re-siting will not create significant travel hardships, since both buildings are located close to central public transportation hubs.

UA-EM is a district high school currently sited in building M625. UA-EM will serve ninth grade students beginning in September 2013 and will also offer CTE programming. UA-EM admits students through the Citywide High School Admissions Process and will serve students in grade nine during the 2013-2014 school year in M625. If the related proposal to re-site UA-EM is approved, UA-EM will be re-sited to M520 prior to the start of the 2014-2015 school year and will continue to add one grade level per year until it reaches full scale and serves students in grades nine through twelve in the 2016-2017 school year.

If the proposal to re-site UA – EM to M520 is not approved, the DOE will propose an alternate site for UA-EM, and will implement the re-siting of Mather from M520 to M625 subject to approval by the PEP.

M625 also houses two community-based organizations (“CBOs”), SPARK Drug Prevention and the Association of Progressive Dominicans. This proposal is not expected to impact the continued siting of the CBOs.

According to the 2011-2012 Enrollment, Capacity, Utilization Report (“Blue Book”), M625 has a target capacity to serve 2,247 students. During the 2013-2014 school year the building is expected to serve approximately 1,774 students, yielding a building utilization rate of 79%. This means that the building is “under-utilized” and has space to accommodate additional students.

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

The Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”) and Building Utilization Plan (“BUP”) describing this proposal 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 all schools mentioned above.

### **III. Submission of public comment.**

Written comments can be sent to [D02Proposals@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:D02Proposals@schools.nyc.gov).

Oral comments can be left at 212-374-3466.

### **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: Jennifer Peng  
Office: Division of Portfolio Planning  
Address: 52 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007  
Email: [D02Proposals@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:D02Proposals@schools.nyc.gov)  
Phone: 212-374-3466

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

September 30, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.  
Building M625  
439 West 49<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10019

October 9, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.  
Building M520  
411 Pearl Street  
New York, NY 10038

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 15, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.  
Prospect Heights Campus  
883 Classon Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 11225.