



Notice
August 29, 2013

Dennis M. Walcott
Chancellor

The Proposed Co-Location of the High School Grades of Icahn Charter School 1 (84X717), Icahn Charter School 2 (84X378), Icahn Charter School 3 (84X422), Icahn Charter School 4 (84X496), Icahn Charter School 5 (84X538), Icahn Charter School 6 (84X133), and Icahn Charter School 7 (84X362) with J.H.S. 144 Michelangelo (11X144) and Pelham Gardens Middle School (11X566) in Building X144 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 the high school grades of Icahn Charter School 1(84X717, “Icahn 1”), Icahn Charter School 2 (84X378, “Icahn 2”), Icahn Charter School 3 (84X422, “Icahn 3”), Icahn Charter School 4 (84X496, “Icahn 4”), Icahn Charter School 5 (84X538, “Icahn 5”), Icahn Charter School 6 (84X133, “Icahn 6”), and Icahn Charter School 7 (84X362, “Icahn 7”), collectively known as Icahn Charter High School (“Icahn Charter High School”), in building X144 (“X144”), located at 2545 Gunther Avenue, Bronx, NY 10469 in Community School District 11 (“District 11”) beginning in 2014-2015. If this proposal is approved, Icahn Charter High School will be co-located in building X144 with J.H.S. 144 Michelangelo (11X144, “J.H.S. 144”) and Pelham Gardens Middle School (11X566, “Pelham Gardens”), both existing zoned district middle schools. 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.

J.H.S. 144 currently serves students in sixth through eighth grades, and Pelham Gardens currently serves students in sixth and seventh grades and will reach full scale in 2014-2015, when it will serve students in sixth through eighth grades. If this proposal is approved, beginning in the 2014-2015 school year, Icahn Charter High School will enroll ninth grade students who completed eighth grade at one of the seven existing charter schools operated by the Icahn Network throughout the Bronx (subject to the availability of seats). The majority of these schools—Icahn 2, Icahn 3, Icahn 4, and Icahn 5—are located in District 11 and serve a large number of students who live within the district, so it is anticipated that Icahn Charter High School will serve a significant number of District 11 students.

Icahn Charter Schools 1 through 4 are currently authorized to serve students in kindergarten through eighth grades. Icahn Charter Schools 5 through 7 are currently authorized to serve students in kindergarten through sixth grades. The Icahn Network has informed the DOE that it plans to apply to its authorizer, the State University of New York Trustees (“SUNY”) to revise the charters of Icahn 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 to allow these schools to serve high school grades; Icahn High School will be the continuation of Icahns 1 through 7 for ninth through twelfth grades. Only SUNY has the authority to approve or deny Icahn Network’s application for charter revision. For the purpose of this proposal, it is assumed that SUNY will approve Icahn Network’s applications for charter revisions.

If this proposal is approved, beginning in the 2014- 2015 school year, Icahn Charter High School will serve approximately 40-50 students in ninth grade, and will add one grade each year until it reaches its full grade span of ninth through twelfth grades in 2017-2018. At that time, Icahn Charter High School will serve approximately 270-310 students in ninth through twelfth grades. As each of the seven Icahn schools reaches eighth grade and more students from Icahn 1 through Icahn 7 articulate to ninth grade, Icahn Charter High School will continue to increase enrollment and section count each year. In 2019-2020, Icahn Charter High School will reach stable section count, but will continue to increase enrollment until the 2023-2024 school year. At that time, Icahn Charter High School is projected to reach a stable enrollment and serve approximately 600-640 students.

With respect to J.H.S. 144, in the 2012-2013 school year, the DOE began reducing the school’s enrollment based on a determination that it was struggling to serve its students. By 2015-2016, J.H.S 144 will reach a stable, reduced enrollment of approximately 555-585 students in grades six through eight.

Concurrent with the planned enrollment reduction of J.H.S. 144, a new school, Pelham Gardens, was opened and co-located in the X144 building in 2012-2013 in order to provide a new, high-quality middle school option for families. In 2014-2015, Pelham Gardens will reach full scale to serve students in sixth through eighth grades. In 2015-2016, Pelham Gardens will reach a stable enrollment and serve approximately 480-510 students in grades six through eight.

According to the 2011-2012 Enrollment, Capacity, Utilization, Report (the “Blue Book”), building X144 has the capacity to serve 1,559 students. During the 2013-2014 school year, the building serves a total of approximately 1,007 students, yielding a building utilization rate of approximately 65%. According to the Under-utilized Space Memorandum, building X144 is “under-utilized” and has extra space to accommodate additional students. If this proposal is approved, in 2023-2024, Icahn Charter High School, J.H.S 144, and Pelham Gardens will collectively serve approximately 1,635-1,735 students in the building, which yields a projected utilization rate of approximately 105%-111%. As discussed in Section II.B and in the attached Building Utilization Plan (“BUP”), while the building utilization rate is projected to exceed 100%, all three schools will receive their baseline space allocations pursuant to the Citywide Instructional Footprint over the course of the proposal.

The DOE strives to ensure that all students in New York City have access to a high-quality school at every stage of their education. The co-location of Icahn Charter High School in

building X144 is intended to provide an additional option to students and families in District 11 and the Bronx, and specifically to allow Icahn middle school students to continue their education with Icahn through high school.

Icahn Network currently operates seven charter schools across the Bronx, four of which are located in District 11. Of the seven existing schools, four received Progress Report grades in 2011-2012. All four of those schools (Icahns1-4) received As on their overall Progress Report grades for 2011-2012. Icahns 5, 6, and 7 are in the process of phasing in and are not yet eligible to receive Progress Reports.

The DOE believes in the Icahn Network's overall record of success and supports the permanent placement of Icahn Charter High School in District 11 in order to continue providing excellent educational opportunities for students and families.

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

The Educational Impact Statement ("EIS") and Building Utilization Plan ("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 J.H.S 144's and Pelham Gardens' main offices.

III. Submission of public comment.

D11Proposals@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: Keely Faulkner
Office: Division of Portfolio Planning
Address: 52 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007
Email: D11Proposals@schools.nyc.gov
Phone: 212-374-5159

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

Monday, October 7th, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.
Building X144
2545 Gunther Avenue
Bronx, NY 10469

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.

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