Notice
February 28, 2012

Dennis M. Walcott
Chancellor

The Proposed Closure of I.S. 339 (09X339) and the Opening and Co-Location of a New Middle School (09X570) with I.S. 313 School of Leadership Development (09X313) in Building X147 Beginning in 2012-2013

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

The New York City Department of Education ("DOE") is proposing to close I.S. 339 (09X339, "I.S. 339"), an existing district middle school in building X147 ("X147"), located at 1600 Webster Avenue, Bronx, NY 10457, in Community School District 9. It currently serves students in grades six through eight. The DOE is proposing to immediately replace I.S. 339 with New School (09X570, "New School"), a new district middle school serving students in grades six through eight, in building X147.

If this proposal is approved, I.S. 339 will close at the conclusion of the 2011-2012 school year. All current students who have not been promoted to high school before the start of the 2012-2013 school year will be guaranteed a seat and automatically enrolled in New School.

I.S. 339 is co-located with I.S. 313 School of Leadership Development (09X313, "I.S. 313"), an existing district middle school that currently serves 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.

Both I.S. 339 and I.S. 313 admit students through the Middle School Choice Process with priority to students residing in each school's respective zone, and then to students and residents of Districts 9 and 10. Additional information about the Middle School Choice Process is contained in Section III.A of this 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. By closing I.S. 339 and replacing it with New School, the DOE is seeking to expeditiously improve educational quality on the I.S. 339 building. If this proposal is approved, New School will develop rigorous, school-specific competencies to measure and screen prospective staff – including I.S. 339 staff who apply to work at New School. Based on these criteria, and in accordance with the staffing requirements in Article 18-D of the DOE's existing contract with the United Federation of Teachers ("UFT"), New School will put in place a process aimed at hiring the best possible staff, thus immediately improving teacher quality and, by extension, improving the quality of learning. New School plans to

develop new programs and school supports that are intended to improve student outcomes. By doing this important work to improve the quality of teaching and learning in the school, DOE also will maximize New School's chance of receiving up to $1,000,000 in supplemental federal funding under the federal School Improvement Grant ("SIG") program. New School will build on the strongest elements of I.S. 339 and incorporate new elements, including new talent designed to better meet student needs. Thus, the immediate closure and replacement of I.S. 339 with New School should give students access to a higher-quality educational option while they continue to attend school in the same building.

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

The Educational Impact Statement ("EIS") can be found on the Department of Education's Web site: http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2011-2012/April2012Proposals.

Copies of the EIS are also available in I.S. 339's main office.

III. Submission of public comment.

Written comments can be sent to D09Proposals@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: Elaine Gorman
Office: Division of Portfolio Planning
Address: 52 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007
Email: D09Proposals@schools.nyc.gov
Phone: 212-374-5159

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

April 5, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.
I.S. 339
1600 Webster Avenue
Bronx, NY, 10457

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.

April 26, 2012 at 6:00 P.M.
Prospect Heights Campus
883 Classon Ave
Brooklyn, NY 11225