



**Notice**  
March 5, 2012

**Dennis M. Walcott**  
*Chancellor*

## **The Proposed Closure of Cobble Hill School of American Studies (15K519) and the Opening and Co-location of New School (15K413) with a District 75 Inclusion Program (75K373) in Building K804 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 Cobble Hill School of American Studies (15K519, “Cobble Hill”), an existing district high school in building K804 (“K804”), located at 347 Baltic Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201, within the geographical confines of Community School District 15. It currently serves students in grades nine through twelve. The DOE is proposing to immediately replace Cobble Hill with a new school (15K413, “New School”), a district high school which will serve students in grades nine through twelve in K804. If this proposal is approved, Cobble Hill will close at the conclusion of the 2011-2012 school year. All current students who have not graduated before the start of the 2012-2013 school year will be guaranteed a seat and automatically enrolled in New School.

Cobble Hill is currently co-located in K804 with one site of a multi-sited District 75 inclusion program (75K373, “P373K@Cobble Hill”), which serves students in grades nine through twelve. Its students are enrolled in Cobble Hill’s general education classes, and depending on their individual needs receive Special Education Teacher Support Services (“SETSS”). 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.

Cobble Hill admits students through the Citywide High School Admissions Process through an educational option admissions method. The school also offers Career and Technical Education (“CTE”) programming in one career cluster. Additional information about the Citywide High School Admissions Process and CTE programming is contained in Section III of this proposal. Students are admitted to P373K@Cobble Hill through the District 75 placement process, described in more detail in Section III of this proposal. If this proposal to close Cobble Hill and open New School is approved, P373K@Cobble Hill will continue to exist after Cobble Hill closes and will be associated with New School, so that the inclusion program will continue to be provided in K804.

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 Cobble Hill and replacing it with New School, the DOE is seeking to expeditiously improve educational quality at K804. If this

proposal is approved, New School will develop rigorous, school-specific competencies to measure and screen prospective staff – including Cobble Hill 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. 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 \$994,888 in supplemental federal funding under the federal School Improvement Grant (“SIG”) program. New School will build on the strongest elements of Cobble Hill and incorporate new elements, including new talent designed to better meet student needs. Thus, the immediate closure and replacement of Cobble Hill 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 the main office of Cobble Hill School of American Studies.

**III. Submission of public comment.**

Written comments can be sent to [D15Proposals@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:D15Proposals@schools.nyc.gov)

Oral comments can be left at 212-374-0208.

**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: [D15Proposals@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:D15Proposals@schools.nyc.gov)  
Phone: 212-374-0208

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

April 19, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.  
Cobble Hill School of American Studies  
347 Baltic Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11201

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