Notice
March 5, 2012

Dennis M. Walcott
Chancellor

The Proposed Temporary Co-location of Multiple Grades of Harlem Prep Charter School (84M708) with M.S. 224 Manhattan East School for Arts & Academics (04M224), Academy of Environmental Science Secondary High School (04M635), and Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation (04M433) in Building M099 Beginning in the 2012-2013 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 and temporarily co-locate multiple grades of Harlem Prep Charter School (84M708, "Harlem Prep"), an existing public charter school that currently serves students in kindergarten through fifth grades, in Building M099 ("M099"), located at 410 East 100th Street, New York, NY 10029, in Community School District 4, for two years beginning in the 2012-2013 school year. If this proposal is approved, Harlem Prep would re-site its kindergarten through second grades to M099 for two years beginning in 2012-2013 and re-site its third grade to M099 for the 2013-2014 school year only. Harlem Prep would be co-located in M099 with M.S. 224 Manhattan East School for Arts & Academics (04M224, "Manhattan East"), an existing middle school that serves students in grades six through eight; Academy of Environmental Science Secondary High School (04M635, "AES"), an existing high school which currently serves students in grades ten through twelve and is in the process of phasing out; and Renaissance Charter High School for Innovation (84M433, "Innovation"), an existing public charter high school that currently serves students in grades nine and ten and will expand to serve students in grades nine through twelve. In a separate Educational Impact Statement ("EIS") posted on March 5, 2012, the DOE proposes to re-site Harlem Success Academy Charter School 3 (84M385, "HSA 3"), an existing public charter school that serves students in kindergarten through fourth grades, from its current location to M099 beginning in the 2013-2014 school year. If that proposal is approved, Harlem Prep would also be co-located with HSA 3 during the 2013-2014 school year. 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.

The phase-out of AES was approved by the Panel for Educational Policy ("PEP") on February 1, 2011. AES no longer admits new students and will close in June 2014. Innovation is currently phasing-in, adding a new grade of students each year until it reaches full scale and serves students in grades nine through twelve in the 2013-2014 school year.

Harlem Prep is an existing public charter school currently serving kindergarten through fifth grades in private space, building M174 ("M174"), located at 240 East 123rd Street, New York, NY 10035 in Community School District 4. If this proposal is approved, Harlem Prep would

continue to serve students in third through fifth grades in M174 in 2012-2013 and fourth and fifth grades in 2013-2014. The State University of New York ("SUNY") Charter Schools Institute authorized Harlem Prep to expand to serve students in sixth through eighth grades in addition to students in kindergarten through fifth grades on January 25, 2012. Thus, Harlem Prep will also expand to serve students in sixth through eighth grades by adding one grade each year over the next three years. If this proposal is approved, Harlem Prep would serve students in kindergarten through second grades in M099 in 2012-2013, and it would serve students in kindergarten through third grades in M099 in 2013-2014. Harlem Prep admits students at all grade levels, depending on availability of seats, through a lottery and gives preference first to siblings of students currently enrolled in Harlem Prep and then to students residing in District 4.

Although SUNY Charter Schools Institute has authorized Harlem Prep to expand to serve grades six through eight, after evaluating the space available in M174, the DOE has concluded that M174 will not be able to accommodate the school's currently existing grades along with its new middle school grades. Therefore, the DOE is proposing to temporarily co-locate the kindergarten through third grades of Harlem Prep in M099 for two years. Moreover, beginning in the 2013-2014 school year, Harlem Prep will also need additional space in order to accommodate its students in the seventh and eighth grades. This need is driven by the fact that Harlem Prep will increase the number of sections the school will offer for its middle school grades. Currently, the school offers one section of fifth grade, but for the 2012-13 school year, Harlem Prep will admit three additional sections by lottery in order to serve four total sections of sixth grade. Moving forward, each of its middle school grades will serve four sections. The DOE will consider all long-term options to accommodate the anticipated expansion of Harlem Prep in the future and, if necessary, will propose those options in a separate EIS.

Any proposal regarding the future siting and/or co-location Harlem Prep's kindergarten through third grades in DOE space would be proposed in a future EIS subject to approval by the Panel for Educational Policy.

As previously mentioned, the DOE has issued a separate EIS to re-site HSA 3 to M099 beginning in 2013-2014, where it would re-site one grade each year from its current location in building M101, located at 141 East 111th Street, New York, NY 10029, beginning with its kindergarten in 2013-2014, until it serves students in kindergarten through fourth grade in M099 in 2017-2018. Each new cohort of students that enrolls in HSA 3 beginning in 2013-2014 would be served in M099 through fourth grade.

Any additional significant change in the use of M099 beyond 2013-2014 would be proposed in a future EIS.

M099 also currently houses Renaissance School of the Arts (04M377, "Renaissance"), an existing district middle school that serves students in grades six through eight. On February 28, 2012, the DOE published a proposal to re-site Renaissance to building M155 ("M155"), which is located at 319 East 117th Street, New York, NY 10035 in Manhattan's Community School District 4, beginning in the 2012-2013 school year. If for any reason Renaissance's re-siting is delayed beyond the beginning of the 2012-2013 school year, the DOE would consider alternate

options and, if necessary, address the proposed temporary co-location of the kindergarten through third grades of Harlem Prep in a new or revised proposal.

According to the 2010-2011 Enrollment Capacity Utilization Report (the "Blue Book"), M099 has the capacity to serve 1,301 students. Currently, the building serves 865 students, yielding a building utilization rate of 66%. If this proposal is approved, during the 2012-2013 school year, Harlem Prep would serve 134-172 students in kindergarten through second grades in M099. During the 2013-2014 school year, Harlem Prep would serve 182-233 students in kindergarten through third grades in M099.

In 2013-2014, M099 would serve approximately 956-1,210 students in total at Harlem Prep, Manhattan East, AES, and Innovation, yielding an estimated building utilization rate of 73%-93%. The utilization rate will not increase significantly in 2012-2013 because, as stated above, Renaissance is proposed to be re-sited to M155 in 2012-2013. As discussed in the Educational Impact Statement ("EIS") and in the attached Building Utilization Plan ("BUP"), the building has sufficient space to provide all these schools with at least their baseline room allocations under the Citywide Instructional Footprint ("Footprint"). Therefore, the M099 building has the capacity to accommodate Manhattan East, AES and Innovation along with the proposed temporary addition of the kindergarten through third grades of Harlem Prep beginning in September 2012, and the proposed co-location of HSA 3 beginning in September 2013.

Democracy Prep Public Schools ("DPPS") currently manages a total of three public charter schools in Manhattan and will manage four beginning in 2012-2013. Beginning in the 2011-2012 school year, DPPS took over Harlem Prep, which was previously called Harlem Day Charter School, as part of a turnaround project. DPPS's previously existing schools, Democracy Preparatory Charter School (84M350, "Democracy Prep") and Democracy Preparatory Harlem Charter School (84M481, "DP Harlem"), have a strong track record of academic achievement. In 2009-2010, Democracy Prep was the highest rated middle school in New York City on the annual Progress Report, and its Progress Report score has been in the top 13% of middle schools Citywide during all four years that it has received a Progress Report. Though DP Harlem has not yet received a Progress Report score, in 2010-2011, the proportion of its students that received proficient scores on the Math and ELA state tests were in the top 23% and top 21% of middle schools Citywide.

The DOE believes DPPS's record of success supports the growth of Harlem Prep. This proposal to co-locate Harlem Prep's kindergarten through third grades in M099 would allow DPPS to continue providing educational opportunities for students and families.

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/2011-2012/April2012Proposals.

Copies of the EIS and BUP are also available in main offices of Manhattan East, AES, Innovation, and Harlem Prep.

III. Submission of public comment.

Written comments can be sent to D04proposals@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: Drew Patterson
Office: Division of Portfolio Planning
Address: 52 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007
Email: D04proposals@schools.nyc.gov
Phone: 212-374-3466

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

April 4, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.
Building M099
410 East 100 Street,
New York, NY 10029

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