



Notice
March 5, 2012

Dennis M. Walcott
Chancellor

The Proposed Closure of John Dewey High School (21K540) and the Opening and Co-Location of New School (21K415) with a District 75 Inclusion Program 75K721 (P721K@K540) in Building K540 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 John Dewey High School (21K540, “John Dewey High School”) an existing district high school in building K540 (“K540” or “Dewey Campus”), located at 50 Avenue X, Brooklyn, NY 11223 in Community School District 21. It currently serves students in grades nine through twelve. The DOE is proposing to immediately replace John Dewey High School with New School (21K415, “New School”), a new district high school serving students in grades nine through twelve in K540. If this proposal is approved, John Dewey High School 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.

John Dewey High School is co-located in K540 with P721K@K540 (75K721, “P721K@K540”), a District 75 inclusion program. 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. In an inclusion program, students are enrolled in John Dewey High School’s general education classes, and depending on their individual needs, receive Special Education Teacher Support Services (“SETSS”). Students are admitted to P721K@K540 through the District 75 placement process, which is described in more detail in Section III of this proposal. If this proposal is approved, P721K@K540 students will be enrolled in general education classes offered by New School and will continue to receive all mandated services.

John Dewey High School currently admits students through the Citywide High School Admissions Process via four admissions programs: 1) an Experimental School program in the Humanities and Interdisciplinary interest area that admits students through an educational option method; 2) Bilingual Chinese Experimental School program in the Humanities and Interdisciplinary interest area with a screened admissions method based on language; 3) Health Careers Exploration Program in the Health Professions interest area with an Ed. Opt admissions method; and 4) a Computer Science Institute in the Computer Science & Technology interest area with a screened admissions method. John Dewey High School also offers two Career and Technical Education (“CTE”) programs in the Business Management and Administration and the Information Technology career clusters. Additional information about CTE programming and the High School Admissions Process are contained in Section III 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 John Dewey High School and replacing it with New School, the DOE is seeking to expeditiously improve educational quality on the John Dewey High School campus. If this proposal is approved, New School will develop rigorous, school-specific competencies to measure and screen prospective staff – including John Dewey High School 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 \$1,650,000 in supplemental federal funding under the federal School Improvement Grant (“SIG”) program. New School will build on the strongest elements of John Dewey High School and incorporate new elements, including new talent designed to better meet student needs. Thus, the immediate closure and replacement of John Dewey High School 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 John Dewey High School’s main office.

III. Submission of public comment.

Written comments can be sent to D21Proposals@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: D21Proposals@schools.nyc.gov
Phone: 212-374-0208

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

April 17, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.
John Dewey High School
50 Avenue X
Brooklyn, NY 11223

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