



Amended Notice
December 1, 2011

Dennis M. Walcott
Chancellor

The Proposed Grade Expansion of Esperanza Preparatory Academy (04M372) to a 6-12 School Beginning in 2012-2013

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

This amended notice reflects a change to where the Panel for Educational Policy meeting will be held and where the vote for this proposal will take place, as indicated in Section VI below.

The DOE is proposing to expand Esperanza Preparatory Academy (04M372, “EPA”) to serve sixth through twelfth grades. EPA is an existing choice middle school serving students in sixth through eighth grades in building M117 at 240 East 109th Street, New York, NY 10029, in Community School District 4. EPA is co-located with another middle school, Global Neighborhood Secondary School (04M381, “Global Neighborhood”), TAG Young Scholars (04M012, “TAG”), a Citywide Gifted and Talented school serving students in kindergarten through eighth grade, and a District 75 school, P138M (75M138, “P138M@M117”). 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 EPA and Global Neighborhood currently admit sixth graders through the District 4 Middle School Choice Process. Both schools admit students through a limited unscreened process, and EPA also offers a dual language program that is screened for language requirements. TAG admits students through the Citywide Gifted and Talented admissions process in the elementary grades and through a school-based application process in the middle grades. P138M@M117 is one location of P138M, which serves 475 students in grades K-12 and is split-sited across nine locations.¹ P138M@M117 currently serves approximately 35 students in grades 6-8.²

EPA currently serves students in sixth through eighth grade. If this proposal is approved, EPA would begin enrolling ninth grade students for the 2012-2013 school year and continue to add one grade each year until 2015-2016, when it would reach full scale and serve sixth through twelfth grades. The high school portion of EPA would be entirely Spanish dual language.

EPA opened in September 2008 and graduated its first eighth-grade cohort in June 2011. If this proposal is approved, eighth-grade students enrolled in EPA would be able to stay at EPA for ninth grade and continue their dual language education, or choose to apply to other high schools through the Citywide High School Admissions Process. Other eighth-grade students throughout New York City could also enroll in EPA for ninth grade, depending on seat availability at EPA.

¹ 2010-11 Audited Register and School-reported data

² School-reported data

Priority for the new EPA high school seats would be given to EPA's eighth-grade students.

Global Neighborhood currently serves students in sixth through eighth grade. When Global Neighborhood opened in September 2008, it was intended to serve sixth through twelfth grades at scale. The school decided not to open high school grades and instead serve only sixth through eighth grades. Therefore, the additional space in M117 that had been intended for Global Neighborhood's high school grades can be used to serve EPA's proposed high school grades.

The M117 building has a capacity of 1,313 students and served 981 students in 2010-2011, yielding a utilization rate of 75%. If this proposal is approved, the building would serve approximately 1,239-1,453 students and have a utilization rate of 94-111% in 2015-16 when EPA reaches full scale. As discussed in section III.B. of the Educational Impact Statement ("EIS"), the building has sufficient space to provide all three schools with at least their baseline room allocations. Therefore, the M117 building has the capacity to accommodate all existing schools along with the proposed addition of high school grades of EPA.

The proposal to expand EPA initially came from the school community. In May 2011, a grade expansion team composed of EPA teachers and administrators submitted a formal application to expand the grades served by the school. This grade expansion would allow EPA to serve both middle and high school grades at full scale. The expansion of EPA would provide an option for students from dual language middle school programs, including EPA's, and other Spanish-speaking students to further their dual language education in high school and become biliterate

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

The EIS can be found on the Department of Education's Web site:

<http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2011-2012/Dec2011Proposals.htm>

Copies of the EIS are also available in the EPA, Global Neighborhood, and TAG main offices, and the P138M offices in each of its nine sites.

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: Yael Kalban
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.

Wednesday, December 7, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

Building M117
240 East 109th 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.

December 14, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.
Newtown High School
48-01 90th Street
Queens, NY 11373