

EDUCATIONAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

The Proposed Grade Expansion of P.S. 396 (10X396) to a K-5 School

I. Summary of Proposal

P.S. 396 (10X396, “P.S. 396”) is an existing elementary school located in building X026, at 1930 Andrews Avenue, Bronx, NY, 10453, in Community School District 10. P.S. 396 currently serves students in kindergarten through fourth grade and offers a pre-kindergarten program. P.S. 396 is co-located with M.S. 390, a middle school that currently serves students in grades five through eight. Currently, most P.S. 396 students attend M.S. 390 for middle school.

This is a proposal to implement a “grade expansion” so that P.S. 396 will serve kindergarten through fifth grade. This means that P.S. 396 would continue to serve existing students as they are promoted to fifth grade in the 2011-2012 school year. P.S. 396 would complete its grade expansion in September 2011, at which point it would enroll students in Kindergarten through fifth grade and continue to offer a pre-kindergarten program.

This proposal would allow P.S. 396 students to attend their zoned elementary school for grades K-5, the standard grade span in New York City. The proposed grade expansion will help standardize elementary school grade spans in District 10, giving P.S. 396 students the typical six years in elementary school and instructional continuity. Once P.S. 396 serves students in grades K-5 in 2011-2012, fifth-grade students will be able to attend their zoned middle school, M.S. 390, or apply to middle schools through the Middle School Choice process.

In a separate Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”), the DOE has proposed to truncate M.S. 390 so that it would serve grades six through eight, the standard middle school grade span in New York City. This truncation will help to create grade alignment in District 10 and allow for greater access to middle school options for students at many District 10 elementary schools, including P.S. 396.

As a result of this proposal, there will be an increase in the number of students being served by P.S. 396 by approximately 45-55 students. The building in which P.S. 396 is located has space to accommodate the fifth grade. School building X026 has a target capacity of 1,121 and a target utilization rate of 71 percent. No further construction or facilities changes are necessary to implement the grade expansion.

II. Proposed or Potential Use of Building

P.S. 396 is located in X026, which has a target capacity of 1,121 and a target utilization rate of 71 percent,¹ meaning that the building was underutilized in the 2009-2010 school year. P.S. 396 is co-located with M.S. 390, a middle school that currently serves students in grades 5-8. The DOE is proposing to expand P.S. 396 and P.S. 226 (another elementary school whose students typically matriculate to M.S. 390 for grades 5-8), and to truncate M.S. 390. Since the building is already underutilized and there is a proposal to further reduce the number of students being served by M.S. 390, there will be sufficient space in X026 to accommodate fifth graders at P.S. 396. M.S. 390 plans to offer a Middle School Choice program in the 2011-2012 school year.

¹ The official target capacity and utilization rates for the 2010-11 school year are not yet available. All references to building utilization rates in this document are based on data from the 2009-10 Enrollment Capacity Utilization Report (the “Blue Book”).

Current enrollment for P.S. 396 for the 2010-2011 school year is 224 students. The projected enrollment for the 2011-2012 school year with the addition of the fifth grade is approximately 270-280 students. There would be approximately 45-55 fifth graders in P.S. 396 during the 2011-2012 school year.

School Year	Grades Served	Enrollment
2010-2011	K-4	224
2011-2012	K-5	270-280 ²

III. Impact of the Proposal on Affected Students, Schools, and Community

A. Students

The proposed expansion will provide P.S. 396 students with an uninterrupted elementary school experience for grades kindergarten through fifth grade.

Families seeking to enroll their children into P.S. 396 for kindergarten can visit the following websites to learn more about zoning and the DOE’s sibling priority policy:

<http://schools.nyc.gov/ChoicesEnrollment/Elementary> and <http://docs.nycenet.edu/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-341/A-190%20FINAL.pdf>

In 2011-2012, P.S. 396 fifth graders will be eligible to apply to middle schools through the Middle School Choice Process. For more information on middle school admissions please visit this website:

<http://schools.nyc.gov/ChoicesEnrollment/Middle>

P.S. 396 currently offers services for English Language Learner (“ELL”) students, including a free standing ESL Program for grades kindergarten through four. The pre-kindergarten program at P.S. 396 offers one Spanish bilingual section. ELL students receive Academic Intervention Services and tutoring throughout the day as well as push-in and pull-out services. The DOE does not anticipate that the proposed grade expansion would impact ELL students or students with disabilities. P.S. 396 would continue to meet the needs of its ELL students or students with disabilities in all grades.

P.S. 396 offers an ASD Nest program, which is designed to help higher functioning children with autism, or Asperger’s Syndrome, thrive in mainstream settings and in the community. For more information about ASD Nest, please visit this website:

http://schools.nyc.gov/Academics/SpecialEducation/SchoolImprovement/Projects/About_ASD.htm. ASD Nest is offered to students in grades kindergarten through four. The program began at P.S. 396 in the 2006-2007 school year. With the expansion of P.S. 396, P.S. 396 would be able to offer the ASD Nest program to kindergarten through fifth grade.

There is currently one community based organization (CBO), Morris Heights Health Clinic, operating in the X026 building. Morris Heights Health Clinic provides health services for all P.S. 396 students.

P.S. 396 also offers the following extracurricular programs:

- Art Club
- Sports Club
- Music

² Projected enrollment for this grade expansion is based on the anticipated number of incoming kindergarten students and historical discharge rates in current kindergarten and grade 1 enrollment at P.S. 396.

P.S. 396 offers the following academic programs:

- Homework Club
- Saturday Academy
- Book Club
- Tutoring in ELA and Math

Neither these programs nor the CBO partnership are expected to be impacted by the expansion. With the expansion at P.S. 396, additional extracurricular programs such as sports and arts programs may be offered at the school.

P.S. 396 currently operates two sections of a full-day pre-kindergarten program. Barring unforeseen circumstances, we expect pre-kindergarten to continue being offered at P.S. 396.

B. Schools

The proposed grade expansion will increase the number of students being served by P.S. 396 by approximately 45-55 students. The projected enrollment at P.S. 396 for the 2011-2012 school year is approximately 270-280 students. As discussed above, M.S. 390 is a middle school currently serving students in grades 5-8, which is co-located with P.S. 396 in X026.

Also, as discussed above, the DOE has proposed to truncate M.S. 390. If the truncation is approved, M.S. 390 would no longer serve fifth grade after the 2010-2011 school year, and would only serve students in grades 6-8. This truncation will help to create grade alignment in District 10 and give students the option at P.S. 396 to attend M.S. 390, their zoned middle school, or participate in the Middle School Choice process as fifth graders. Elementary schools typically enroll students from kindergarten to fifth grade (K-5). Middle schools typically enroll students from sixth through eighth grade (6-8).

Building X026, which houses P.S. 396 and M.S. 390, has a target capacity of 1,121³. P.S. 396 has 224 students enrolled during the 2010-2011 school year. M.S. 390 has 536 students enrolled during the 2010-2011 school year.

The proposed grade expansion at P.S. 396 will increase the number of grades being served at the school, but the proposed grade truncation at M.S. 390 would offset that increase and the total number of grades being served in the building would not change. Building X026 was below capacity in the 2009-2010 school year and is likely to continue to be under-enrolled despite the two grade configuration changes proposed for 2011-2012. M.S. 390 will lose approximately 135 incoming fifth grade students in 2011-2012. P.S. 396 will gain approximately 45-55 fifth graders in the 2011-2012 school year.

According to the 2010 building walkthrough conducted by the Director of Bronx Space Planning, P.S. 396's building (X026) has 59 full rooms, 13 half size rooms, 1 science lab and 1 designed general office. The school also has a gym, an auditorium, three cafeterias, and a library. If this proposal is approved, there will continue to be sufficient space to serve students pursuant to the Citywide Instructional Footprint (the "Footprint") after the grade expansion is completed. Please visit the New York City Department of Education website to access the Instructional Footprint, which guides space allocation and use in City schools: http://schools.nyc.gov/NR/rdonlyres/8CF30F41-DE25-4C30-92DE-731949919FC3/87633/NYCDOE_Instructional_Footprint_Final9210TNT.pdf. For the 2010-2011 school year, under the baseline Footprint allocation, P.S. 396 would be allocated 18 full size spaces, 2 half size spaces, and 3 administrative spaces. In fact, however, P.S. 396 is currently allocated 22 full size spaces, 8

³The official target capacity and utilization rates for the 2010-11 school year are not yet available. All references to building utilization rates in this document are based on data from the 2009-10 Enrollment Capacity Utilization Report (the "Blue Book").

half size spaces, and 1 general office. For the 2010-2011 school year, under the baseline Footprint allocation, M.S. 390 would be allocated 19 full size spaces, 4 half size spaces, 1 science lab, and 3 administrative spaces. In fact, however, M.S. 390 is currently allocated 34 full size spaces, 2 half size spaces, 1 science lab, and 1 general office.

There are approximately 17 full size available spaces in the X026 building above the baseline Footprint allocation. These will be used to accommodate P.S. 396’s expansion and the students who apply to M.S. 390 for the Middle School Choice program in the 2011-2012 school year. Projections for the Middle School Choice program will happen in early 2011. Some space in the X026 building will be used to accommodate these students. The rooms will be allocated consistent with the baseline Footprint allocation, and any excess rooms will be distributed equitably between the schools based on their respective enrollments.

C. Community

The proposed expansion of P.S. 396 to serve K-5 is one of the current efforts to standardize elementary school grade spans in District 10. For example, last year a proposal to truncate the grades served at P.S. 246 to K-5 was approved by the Panel for Educational Policy at its December 17, 2009 meeting. This year, the grade reconfiguration of several other District 10 elementary schools is under consideration for proposal.

P.S. 226 is another K-4 elementary school whose students are also zoned to M.S. 390 for middle school. In a separate EIS, the DOE has proposed to expand the grades served at P.S. 226 from K-4 to K-5. As mentioned above, the DOE has also proposed to truncate M.S. 390 from a 5-8 school to a 6-8 school. This will allow two elementary schools — P.S. 226 and P.S. 396 — to have a grade span of K-5 and M.S. 390 to serve students in grades 6-8. In 2010-2011, 35-45 students who previously attended P.S. 226 for fourth grade now attend M.S. 390 and 35-45 students who previously attended P.S. 396 now attend M.S. 390. In 2011-2012, fourth graders at P.S. 226 and P.S. 396 will likely remain at their respective schools for fifth grade if these grade expansion proposals are approved.

This proposal is not expected to impact the ability of community members and organizations to obtain school building use permits at X026.

IV. Enrollment, Admissions and School Performance Information

Two schools are impacted by this proposal: P.S. 396 and M.S. 390. Both schools are co-located in X026.

P.S. 396

Admissions Data

Current Admissions	Pre-K: Standard Universal Pre-K Admissions K-4: Zoned
Admissions after Grade Reconfiguration is Completed	Pre-K: Standard Universal Pre-K Admissions K-5: Zoned

Enrollment Data

Current Grades Served	K-4
Current 2010-2011 Enrollment	224
Grades Served after Grade Reconfiguration in 2011-2012	K-5
Projected 2011-2012 Enrollment	270-280 ⁴

Demographic Data⁵

Percentage Students With Disabilities (2009-2010) ⁶	18%
Percentage English Language Learner Students (2009-2010)	15%
Poverty Percentage (2009-2010)	89% ⁷

School Performance Data

	2008-2009	2009-2010	Website
Progress Report Scores	A	B	http://schools.nyc.gov/SchoolPortals/10/X396/AboutUs/Statistics/default.htm
ELA Score (% Level 3 and 4)	57%	39%	http://schools.nyc.gov/SchoolPortals/10/X396/AboutUs/Statistics/default.htm
Math Score (% Level 3 and 4)	86%	72%	http://schools.nyc.gov/SchoolPortals/10/X396/AboutUs/Statistics/default.htm
State Accountability Status	In good standing	In good standing	http://schools.nyc.gov/SchoolPortals/10/X396/AboutUs/Statistics/default.htm
Average Attendance	92.1%	92.7%	http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/data/stats/attendance

M.S. 390

Admissions Data

Current Admissions	5-8: Zoned
Admissions after Grade Reconfiguration in 2011-2012	6-8: Zoned; Limited Unscreened

⁴ Projected enrollment for this grade expansion is based on the anticipated number of incoming kindergarten students and historical discharge rates in current kindergarten and grade 1 enrollment at P.S. 396.

⁵ Data regarding the percentage of students with disabilities, ELL students, and students who qualified for free or reduced-price meals were taken from the audited October 31, 2009 register of students.

⁶ Students with disabilities as percentage of total students. This count does not include SETSS or students receiving speech or language services.

⁷ Poverty percentage is based on the number of free and reduced lunch eligible pupils divided by the number of enrolled students.

Enrollment Data

Current Grades Served	5-8
Current 2010-2011 Enrollment	536
Grades Served after Grade Reconfiguration in 2011-2012	6-8
Projected 2011-2012 Enrollment	400-540 ⁸

Demographic Data⁹

Percentage Students With Disabilities (2009-2010)¹⁰	12%
Percentage English Language Learner Students (2009-2010)	31%
Poverty Percentage (2009-2010)¹¹	93%

School Performance Data

	2008-2009	2009-2010	Website
Progress Report Scores	A	C	http://schools.nyc.gov/SchoolPortals/10/X390/AboutUs/Statistics/default.htm
ELA Score (% Level 3 and 4)	53%	19%	http://schools.nyc.gov/SchoolPortals/10/X390/AboutUs/Statistics/default.htm
Math Score (% Level 3 and 4)	67%	32%	http://schools.nyc.gov/SchoolPortals/10/X390/AboutUs/Statistics/default.htm
State Accountability Status	Restructuring (year 2) Focused	Restructuring (advanced) Comprehensive	http://schools.nyc.gov/SchoolPortals/10/X390/AboutUs/Statistics/default.htm
Average Attendance	89.7%	92.9%	http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/data/stats/attendance

V. Initial Costs and Savings

P.S. 396 will receive a one-time award of approximately \$3,680 during the first year of the grade expansion to help offset the costs of materials, such as new furniture and supplies, needed to support the additional grades. This figure is estimated based on current funding allocations awarded to schools undergoing grade expansions, and is subject to some annual variation. Going forward, annual replacement of furniture and other materials needed at the school will be funded out of the school’s general supply budget, as is the case with all schools citywide.

⁸ Projected enrollment for this grade expansion is based on the anticipated number of incoming kindergarten students and historical discharge rates in current kindergarten and grade 1 enrollment at P.S. 396.

⁹ Data regarding the percentage of students with disabilities, ELL students, and students who qualified for free or reduced-price meals were taken from the audited October 31, 2009 register of students.

¹⁰ Students with disabilities as percentage of total students. This count does not include SETSS or students receiving speech or language services.

¹¹ Poverty percentage is based on the number of free and reduced lunch eligible pupils divided by the number of enrolled students.

VI. Effect on Personnel Needs, Costs of Instruction, Administration, Transportation and Other Support Services

A. Personnel Needs

Over the course of the expansion, P.S. 396 will need to hire additional teachers as it expands in the 2011-2012 school year. The precise number of positions needed for the 2011-2012 school year will be determined once annual enrollment projections are released in the spring of 2011. Similarly, the number of new positions created to serve elementary students will be determined based on annual enrollment projections available as the school grows to serve those grades. It is worth noting that teachers working in elementary schools typically hold a common branches license for grades 1-6. The school will continue to hire appropriately licensed and credentialed teachers to work with its students as it expands to serve additional elementary students.

Administrative staff and non-pedagogical positions at P.S. 396 may also be added over the course of the grade reconfiguration. Those decisions will be made at the school level based on need and budgetary considerations.

B. Cost of Instruction

Once the grade expansion is fully implemented, P.S. 396 is expected to receive approximately \$186,746.66 in total additional funding annually based on projected increases in total enrollment. These estimates are based on current Fair Student Funding (FSF) per capita allocation levels and are subject to annual variation. FSF covers basic instructional expenses and FSF funds may, at the school's discretion, be used to hire staff, purchase supplies and materials, or implement instructional programs. As the total number of students enrolled grows, the overall budget increases accordingly, allowing the school to meet the instructional needs of its larger student population.

In addition, FSF awards supplemental allocations on a per pupil basis for students who have additional needs and therefore cost more to educate. For example, during the 2010-2011 school year, schools received an additional \$1,623 per pupil for each English Language Learner they enrolled. It is difficult to project the total supplemental funding that P.S. 396 will receive with its expanded size because future students' achievement levels and needs cannot be predicted for each of the next three years, but the school will be awarded supplemental funding for higher-need students according to the same formula as all other schools citywide, ensuring that funds are in place to meet those students' needs.

As with all other schools citywide, P.S. 396 may receive additional "categorical" funding based on student characteristics and needs. For example, federal Title I funding is awarded to schools based on the proportion of low-income students they enroll. P.S. 396 is currently a Title I school. Assuming that the school continues to meet Title I criteria, the school's Title I funding award would grow as the school population grows.

While schools do receive supplemental support for students with disabilities through Fair Student Funding, that only represents part of the funding provided to support those students. Schools are budgeted to meet the needs of their students with disabilities as defined by their Individualized Education Plans (IEPs). As P.S. 396 expands, funding will continue to be provided to meet the needs of all students with disabilities in accordance with their IEPs.

Please note that increased or reduced per capita funds allocated to the school as a result of this proposal do not represent net/incremental system costs. All dollar amounts are based on FY10 allocations and are subject to annual variation based on adjustments to the DOE's overall operating budget.

C. Administration

P.S. 396 may hire school supervisory and/or administrative personnel as needed as a result of its grade expansion.

D. Transportation

Transportation will be provided according to Chancellor’s regulation A-801:
<http://schools.nyc.gov/NR/rdonlyres/21A1B11A-886B-4F74-9546-E875EE82A14C/40303/A801.pdf>.
 There will be no change to existing transportation practices at P.S. 396 due to this proposal.

E. Other Support Services

Other support services will continue to be provided consistent with citywide policy.

VII. Building Information

Building	X026
Type of Building	Elementary School
Year Built	1922
Overall BCAS rating	2.52
2009-2010 Target Building Utilization	71%
2009-2010 Target Building Capacity	1121
FY 2010 Maintenance Costs	Labor: \$44,998.59 Materials: \$31,768.69 Maintenance and repair contracts: \$188,409.14 Service contracts: \$4,052.28 Custodial operations costs—Materials: \$8,671.32 Custodial operations costs—Custodial Allocation: \$340,121.66
FY 2009 Energy Costs	Electric: \$135,386.38 Gas: \$3,622.04 Oil: \$121,311.00
Projects completed during the current or prior school year	Water Penetration, Reso "A" Desk Computers & Smartboards
Projects proposed in the capital plan	Flood Elimination
Accessibility of the building	Functionally Partially Programmatic Accessible
Building attributes	Auditorium, Cafeteria (3), Gymnasium, Library, & Science Lab