



Notice
December 3, 2010

Joel I. Klein
Chancellor

The Proposed Grade Truncation of M.S. 390 (10X390) to a 6-8 School

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

M.S. 390 (10X390, “M.S. 390”) is an existing zoned middle school, located at 1930 Andrews Avenue, Bronx, NY 10453, in Community School District 10. M.S. 390 is co-located with P.S. 396, an elementary school that serves students in kindergarten through fourth grade and offers a pre-kindergarten program.

It currently serves students in grades five through eight. This is a proposal to implement a “grade truncation,” meaning that the school would no longer enroll fifth graders after the current 2010-2011 school year. At the close of the 2010-2011 school year, all M.S. 390 fifth graders who meet promotional standards will continue at the school for sixth grade. Beginning in September 2011, M.S. 390 would serve students only in sixth through eighth grade.

The Department of Education (DOE) strives to ensure that all students in New York City have access to high-quality schools at every stage of their education. Having middle schools that begin in different grades (i.e., 5-8 versus 6-8) creates unequal levels of access for students based simply on the year they exit elementary school. Elementary schools typically terminate in grade five. Middle schools typically enroll students beginning in sixth grade.

M.S. 390 is one of two remaining 5-8 middle schools in District 10. The proposed grade truncation will help standardize middle school application and entry grades in District 10. Furthermore, M.S. 390 will become a Middle School Choice option for District 9 and 10 fifth graders applying to sixth grade during the 2010-2011 school year. All rising sixth graders who live in the M.S. 390 zone will still be guaranteed a seat at this school.

The DOE is also proposing the expansion of P.S. 226 and P.S. 396, the two elementary schools serving students in the same zone as M.S. 390 whose students typically matriculate to M.S. 390, from K-4 to K-5 schools. P.S. 396 is co-located with M.S. 390 in X026, and P.S. 226 is located in buildings X826 and X827. If these expansion proposals are approved, starting in September 2011, fourth graders attending P.S. 396 and P.S. 226 will be able to remain at their elementary school for fifth grade, and will no longer need to attend M.S. 390 in fifth grade as they do now.

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/2010-2011/Jan2011Proposals>

A copy of the EIS is also available in M.S. 390’s main office.

III. Submission of public comment.

Written comments can be sent to D10Proposals@schools.nyc.gov.

Oral comments can be left at 212-374-5159.

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: Izaak Orlansky
Office: Division of Portfolio Planning
Address: 52 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007
Email: D10Proposals@schools.nyc.gov
Phone: 212-374-5159

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

January 4, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.
M.S. 390 / P.S. 396
1930 Andrews Avenue
Bronx, NY 10453

Questions about the proposal can 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. Interpretation services will be provided in Spanish. To request interpretation services in another language, please contact Mr. Orlansky at the e-mail address or telephone number above.

VI. Date, time and place of the Panel for Educational Policy meeting at which the Panel will vote on the proposed item.

January 19, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.
Brooklyn Technical High School
29 Fort Greene Place
Brooklyn, NY 11217