



Notice
December 3, 2010

Joel I. Klein
Chancellor

The Proposed Re-Siting and Grade Expansion of P.S. 78 to a K-8 School To Be Implemented No Later than the 2014-2015 School Year

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

P.S. 78 (30Q078 or “P.S. 78”) is an existing elementary school located at 48-09 Center Boulevard, Long Island City, NY 11109, in school building Q868, in Community School District 30. It currently serves students in kindergarten through fifth grade and offers a pre-kindergarten program.

This is a proposal to implement a “grade expansion” so that P.S. 78 would serve grades K-8, and continue to offer a pre-kindergarten program. This means that P.S. 78 would begin enrolling sixth graders in the first year of expansion, upon relocation to a larger building, and then grow to serve an additional grade in each subsequent year. When P.S./I.S. 78 completes its grade expansion, it will enroll students in kindergarten through eighth grade.

The Department of Education (“DOE”) is also proposing to “re-site” P.S./I.S. 78, which means the school would be located in a different building. The School Construction Authority (“SCA”) is currently pursuing a site located at 46-08 5th Street, Long Island City, NY 11101 (“Q312”), which is also located in District 30. The DOE is proposing to re-site P.S. 78 into this new building upon its completion in either August 2013 or 2014.

The DOE is proposing to re-site P.S. 78 for two reasons. First, P.S. 78’s current building, Q868, does not have an auditorium or gymnasium. Second, the school’s current facility does not have room for the additional three grades. Thus, the school’s grade expansion is contingent on the school first moving to a large enough building, at which point the school would have sufficient space to accommodate the additional grades, and would begin phasing in its middle school grades.

The idea to expand P.S. 78 into a K-8 school came from the school community. In the spring of 2009, the principal of P.S. 78 submitted a letter of intent to apply for a grade expansion, and in the summer of 2009 a team of P.S. 78 teachers and administrators submitted an application to expand the school. That application was supported by P.S. 78 parents and the broader community surrounding the school, including elected officials representing the community. A grade expansion panel then interviewed the P.S. 78 applicant team and concluded that the school was positioned to successfully begin a middle school expansion.

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 P.S. 78’s main office.

III. Submission of public comment.

Written comments can be sent to D30Proposals@schools.nyc.gov.

Oral comments can be left at 212-374-7621.

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: Gentian Falstrom
Office: Division of Portfolio Planning
Address: 52 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007
Email: D30Proposals@schools.nyc.gov
Phone: 212-374-7621

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

January 5, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.
P.S. 78
48-09 Center Boulevard
Long Island City, NY 11109

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.

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