



Notice
November 5, 2012

Dennis M. Walcott
Chancellor

The Proposed Grade Expansion of Professor Juan Bosch Public School (06M178) from a K-2 School to a K-5 School Beginning in 2013-2014

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

On September 20, 2012 the New York City Department of Education (“DOE”) proposed to implement a “grade expansion” at Professor Juan Bosch Public School (06M178, “P.S. 178”). That proposal was scheduled to be considered by the Panel for Educational Policy (“PEP”) on November 8, 2012.

The DOE is now reissuing the proposal in the wake of disruptions caused by Hurricane Sandy; this re-issued proposal will be subject to a vote at the PEP’s meeting on December 20, 2012. This reissued proposal includes updated information on P.S. 178’s admissions method. P.S. 178 is an existing zoned district elementary school serving students in kindergarten through second grades in building M178 (“M178”) at 12-18 Ellwood Street, New York, NY 10040, in Community School District 6. P.S. 178 is an early childhood center (“ECC”). ECCs are small elementary schools that focus on early childhood education, typically kindergarten through second grade.

P.S. 178 currently serves 224 students in kindergarten through second grade. It currently offers a Spanish dual-language program and an ASD Nest program, in addition to a monolingual program. If this proposal is approved, second-grade students currently enrolled in P.S. 178 would be able to stay at P.S. 178 for third through fifth grades. P.S. 178 would add one grade each year until 2015-2016, when it would reach full scale and serve students in kindergarten through fifth grade.

M178 has a capacity of 292 students and currently serves 224 students in kindergarten through second grades, yielding a utilization rate of 77%. If this proposal is approved, the building would serve approximately 320-380 students and have a utilization rate of 110-130% in 2015-2016 when P.S. 178 reaches full scale. This utilization rate is expected to decrease in later years after 2015-2016, as larger cohorts graduate. As discussed in section III.B. of the Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”), the building has sufficient space to provide P.S. 178 with at least its baseline room allocations. Therefore, M178 has the capacity to accommodate the proposed grade expansion of P.S. 178.

The proposal to expand P.S. 178 initially came from the school community. In February 2012, the P.S. 178 School Leadership Team submitted a letter of intent to the Office of New Schools to

expand the grades served by the school. That application was supported by parents and the broader school community. This suggests a high level of satisfaction within the school and its parent body and the expectation that an expanded P.S. 178 will suit the needs of the children in District 6.

In addition to this proposal for the grade expansion of P.S. 178, the DOE approved a change in P.S. 178's admissions policy such that P.S. 178 will be a choice elementary school, rather than a zoned elementary school. P.S. 178 currently shares a zone with P.S. 152 Dyckman Valley (06M152, "P.S. 152"), which serves kindergarten through fifth grade and offers a pre-kindergarten program at 93 Nagle Avenue, New York, NY 10040, less than one-tenth of a mile from M178. Students who live within this zone currently receive priority for admission at either P.S. 178 or P.S. 152. Beginning in September 2013, P.S. 178 will become a choice school. As a choice school, P.S. 178 would be open for admission to all students in District 6, without giving priority to students who live in the school's current zone. However, the zone itself will not change, and all students in the zone will continue to be zoned to P.S. 152. This change in admissions at P.S. 178 will occur regardless of whether this grade expansion proposal is approved.

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/2012-2013/Dec2012Proposals.htm>

Copies of the EIS are also available in the main office of P.S. 178.

III. Submission of public comment.

Written comments can be sent to D06Proposals@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: D06Proposals@schools.nyc.gov
Phone: 212-374-3466

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

Date: Thursday, December 6th
Time: 6:00 PM
Location: Building M178
Professor Juan Bosch Public School
12-18 Ellwood Street
Manhattan, New York, 10040

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. This document further serves as formal notice that in the event of cancellation of the above-noticed joint public hearing date and time due to inclement weather or other unforeseen occurrence, event, or emergency, the joint public hearing will be held on the following alternate schedule:

Alternate Date: Friday, December 14th
Alternate Time: 6:00pm
Alternate Location: Building M178
Professor Juan Bosch Public School
12-18 Ellwood Street
Manhattan, New York, 10040

Please reserve both the original scheduled and alternate dates, times, and locations in your calendars. In the event of cancellation of the original scheduled joint public hearing due to the reasons set forth above, the alternate date, time, and location set forth above will automatically serve as the operative joint public hearing schedule without further formal notice.

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

December 20, 2012 at 6:00 PM
High School for Fashion Industries
225 West 24th Street
New York, NY 10011