



Notice
October 3, 2011

Dennis M. Walcott
Chancellor

The Proposed Opening and Co-location of KIPP NYC Washington Heights Academy Charter School (84MTBD) with Existing Schools M.S. 319 (06M319), M.S. 324 (06M324), and P.S. 138M (75M138) in Building M090

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

The New York City Department of Education (“DOE”) is proposing to open and site the middle school grades 4-8 of KIPP NYC Washington Heights Academy Charter School (84MTBD, “KIPP NYC Washington Heights Academy”), in Building M090 (“M090”), located at 21 Jumel Place, New York, NY 10032, in Community School District 6 beginning in 2012-2013. KIPP NYC Washington Heights Academy would be co-located in M090 with two existing district middle schools serving grades six through eight, M.S. 324 Patria Mirabal (06M324, “M.S. 324”), M.S. 319 Maria Teresa Mirabal (06M319, “M.S. 319”) and P.S. 138M (75M138, “P138M@M090”), a District 75 program serving students who are autistic, mentally retarded, or have multiple handicaps. 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 M.S. 319 and M.S. 324 admit students in sixth grade through the District 6 Middle School Choice application process, and are unscreened district choice middle schools. M.S. 319 also offers a Spanish dual-language program, which is screened for language requirements. P138M serves 475 students in grades K-12, spread across seven locations.¹ P138M@M090 served approximately 60 students in grades 6-8 in the 2010-11 school year.²

KIPP NYC Washington Heights Academy will be a new public charter school that will serve students in the fourth through eighth grades at scale. The charter for this school was authorized by the New York State Education Department (“SED”) in September 2011. Under this charter, KIPP NYC Washington Heights Academy is approved to serve grades K-12. However, this proposal deals only with grades 4-8 of KIPP NYC Washington Heights Academy. If this proposal is approved, KIPP NYC Washington Heights Academy would begin serving 80-90 fifth graders in the M090 building in 2012-13. In the 2013-2014 school year, KIPP NYC Washington Heights Academy would expand to serve approximately 75-85 students in sixth grade. In 2014-15, KIPP NYC Washington Heights Academy would expand to serve approximately 75-85 students in seventh grade. In 2015-16, the final year of expansion, KIPP NYC Washington Heights Academy would serve approximately 70-80 students in eighth grade and add

¹ 2010-11 Audited Register

² 2010-11 Blue Book

approximately 90-120 students in fourth grade. At that point, KIPP NYC Washington Heights Academy would serve approximately 390-460 students in fourth through eighth grade.

While KIPP NYC Washington Heights Academy is phasing in, it would enroll fifth-grade students through a lottery, giving preference to students who qualify for free and reduced price lunch residing in District 6. However, once KIPP NYC Washington Heights Academy reaches full scale, it intends to admit fourth grade students who articulate from KIPP S.T.A.R. elementary charter school (84M726), a K-3 school also operated by the KIPP Charter Management Organization (“CMO”), which opened this year in District 6.³ KIPP NYC Washington Heights Academy would then use its lottery only to fill any remaining seats.

M090 has the capacity to serve 1,776 students.⁴ In 2010-11, the building only served 1,124 students,⁵ yielding a utilization rate of just 63%.⁶ This includes the two existing middle schools, the eighth grade of M.S. 321 Minerva (06M321), which fully closed in June 2011, and P138M@M090. Currently, the building serves approximately 1,135 students, yielding a utilization rate of 64%.⁷ If this proposal were approved, KIPP NYC Washington Heights Academy would be co-located with M.S. 319 and M.S. 324, as well as the District 75 program. Once KIPP NYC Washington Heights Academy has completed its expansion, there will be approximately 1,636 students served in the building by M.S. 319, M.S. 324, P138M, and KIPP NYC Washington Heights Academy, yielding a building utilization rate of only 92%.⁸

The DOE believes in KIPP’s record of success and supports the permanent placement of a KIPP charter school in District 6 in order to continue providing excellent educational opportunities for students and families. In 2010-11, 39% of students enrolled in the middle grades at KIPP Infinity, located in District 5, were District 6 students.

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

³ KIPP S.T.A.R. operates under a separate K-12 charter, authorized by SUNY. Currently, its middle grades are located in District 5. KIPP CMO is working with its charter authorizers (both SUNY and SED) to identify a method by which students from KIPP S.T.A.R. can articulate to KIPP NYC Washington Heights Academy, thereby remaining in District 6. If this cannot be achieved, KIPP CMO will propose to open elementary grades in District 6 under the KIPP NYC Washington Heights Academy charter, and, subject to approval, those students would ultimately articulate to the fourth grade in the M090 building.

⁴ 2010-11 Blue Book

⁵ 2010-11 Audited Registers

⁶ The utilization rate reported here may differ from that published in the 2010-2011 Enrollment Capacity Utilization Report (the “Blue Book”) because the Blue Book enrollment includes Long Term Absences (“LTAs”), students who have been absent continuously for 30 days or more as of October 31st, 2010. The building capacity figures quoted here are consistent with the Blue Book. However, the building enrollment figures referenced throughout this EIS and used in the calculation of utilization rates only include the number of students estimated to be regularly attending the school, and thus does not include LTAs. This methodology is consistent with the manner in which the DOE conducts planning and calculates space allocations and funding for all schools. In determining the space allocation for co-located schools, the Office of Space Planning will conduct a detailed site survey and space analysis of the building to assess the amount of space available in the building.

⁷ September 15, 2011 Unaudited Register

⁸ The official target capacity and utilization rates for the 2011-2012 school year and beyond are not yet available. All references to building utilization rates in this document are based on target capacity data from the 2010-11 Blue Book. As discussed above, utilization rates referenced herein only include the projected number of students who may actually attend the school and do not include Long Term Absences (LTAs).

The Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”) can be found on the Department of Education’s Web site: <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2011-2012/Nov2011PEP.htm>

Copies of the EIS are also available in the M.S. 319 and M.S. 324 main offices, and P138M office in M090.

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.

Tuesday, November 1, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

Building M090

21 Jumel Place

New York, NY 10032

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.

November 17, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

Frank Sinatra School of the Arts

35-12 35th Avenue

Queens, NY 11106