



Dennis M. Walcott
Chancellor

Public Comment Analysis

Date: November 16, 2011

Topic: The Proposed Co-location of a New District 75 School Site (75X017) in Building X040

Date of Panel Vote: November 17, 2011

Summary of Proposal

The New York City Department of Education (“DOE”) is proposing to permanently co-locate a new site of a District 75 school (75X017, “P017X”) in building X040 (“X040”), located at 468 East 140th Street, Bronx, New York 10454, in Community School District 7 (“District 7”). A “co-location” means that two or more school organizations are located in the same building and may share common spaces such as auditoriums, gymnasiums, libraries, and cafeterias.

If this proposal is approved by the Panel for Educational Policy (the “Panel”), the new District 75 P017X site will be permanently co-located in building X040 with P.S. 179 (07X179, “P.S. 179”) and Young Leaders Elementary School (07X369, “Young Leaders”). P.S. 179 and Young Leaders are existing zoned elementary schools serving students in kindergarten through fifth grades. Both schools also offer pre-kindergarten programs.

P017X is an existing District 75 school that served a combined total of 350 students in kindergarten through eighth grades during the 2010-2011 school year. P017X currently has four sites in the Bronx, other than the newly co-located site in building X040. Students are placed in District 75 programs based on their individual needs and recommended special education services, and are referred to District 75 during a period that extends into the summer.

In summer 2011, there was a significant, unanticipated increase in need for District 75 seats in the Bronx for the 2011-2012 school year. It was necessary to create a new P017X site to serve two additional class sections of incoming District 75 kindergarten students, totaling twelve students, who could not be accommodated at the existing P017X sites or in other existing District 75 programs serving students with similar needs in the Bronx.

To immediately co-locate the new District 75 P017X site with P.S. 179 and Young Leaders in building X040 for the start of the 2011-2012 school year, the Chancellor issued an Emergency Declaration on September 8, 2011, which provides for the co-location to be in effect for a six-month period, and to

continue thereafter if approved by the Panel.

If this proposal is approved by the Panel, the new District 75 P017X site in building X040 will continue to serve a total of twelve kindergarten students in two Self-Contained sections in a 6:1:1 classroom setting (ratio of students: teacher: paraprofessional). These twelve District 75 kindergartners will progress each year in building X040 until they complete the fifth grade.

The DOE does not anticipate that this proposal will impact current or future student enrollment or instructional programming at P.S. 179 or Young Leaders. All students zoned to P.S. 179 and Young Leaders will continue to have the opportunity to attend these schools. Additionally, P.S. 179 and Young Leaders will continue to offer pre-kindergarten programs, subject to continued funding and demand.

Summary of Comments Received at the Joint Public Hearing

A Joint Public Hearing regarding this proposal was held at building X040 on November 14, 2011. At that hearing, interested parties had an opportunity to provide input on the proposal. Approximately 1 member of the public attended the hearing and no comments were made. Also present at the meeting were: District 7 Community Superintendent Yolanda Torres; District 7 Community Education Council President Almeta Trammel; District 7 Community Education Council First Vice-President Tanya Jones; Sherry Font-Williams, Principal of P.S. 179; Dr. Karen Collins, Principal of Young Leaders Elementary School; Jacqueline Colon, Assistant Principal of the District 75 P017X school; Rosa Fernández from the Division of Portfolio Planning; Ariel Guerrero and Percy Forrest from the Division of Family and Community Engagement.

Summary of Issues Raised in Written and/or Oral Comments Submitted to the DOE

The DOE received no written and/or oral comments through the dedicated phone line and website for this proposal.

Changes Made to the Proposal

No changes have been made to this proposal.