



Notice  
1/26/2012

Dennis M. Walcott  
Chancellor

## **The Proposed Co-location of Launch Expeditionary Learning Charter School (84KTBD) with Existing School P.S. 243 The Weeksville School (16K243) in Building K243 Beginning in 2012-2013.**

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

The New York City Department of Education (“DOE”) is proposing to site Launch Expeditionary Learning Charter School (84KTBD, “Launch Charter School”) in Building K243 (“K243”), located at 1580 Dean Street in Brooklyn’s Community School District 16 beginning in 2012-2013. Launch Charter School is a new public charter school that has been approved by its authorizer, the New York State Education Department (“NYSED”) to serve up to 461 students in sixth through tenth grade. Only Launch Charter School’s sixth through eighth grades will be co-located in K243. Launch Charter School would be co-located in K243 with existing elementary school P.S. 243 The Weeksville School (16K243, “P.S. 243”), which serves students in grades kindergarten through five and offers a pre-kindergarten program. K243 also houses four community based organizations (“CBOs”) that offer varied programming to the P.S. 243 school community. A “co-location” means that two or more school organizations are located in the same building and may share large, common spaces like the auditoriums, gymnasiums and cafeterias.

According to the 2010-2011 Enrollment Capacity Utilization Report (the “Blue Book”), K243 has the capacity to serve 895 students. Currently, the building serves 357 students, yielding a building utilization rate of approximately 40%. If this proposal is approved, in 2012-2013, the first year of the proposed co-location, Launch Charter School will serve approximately 90-115 students in sixth grade. Launch Charter School will then add one grade each year until serves approximately 244-312 students in sixth through eighth grades in 2014-2015. At that time, K243 is projected to serve approximately 540-668 students enrolled in P.S. 243 and Launch Charter School, yielding an estimated building utilization rate of 60%-75%. Thus, K243 has sufficient space to accommodate the proposed co-location.

Expeditionary Learning, an educational service provider with approximately 170 schools in its network, has been approved by NYSED, its charter authorizer, to open Launch Charter School for the 2012-2013 school year. Launch Charter School has been approved by NYSED to serve up to 461 students in sixth through tenth grade. However, the DOE has informed Launch Charter School that K243 cannot accommodate both the school’s middle and high school grades based on the space available in the building, which is why this proposal is for the siting of Launch Charter School’s middle school grades only. The DOE will consider all long-term options to accommodate the anticipated growth of Launch Charter School, which may include siting some of its grades at a different location. Any proposal to re-site or co-locate Launch Charter School in another building would be posted in another Educational Impact Statement subject to a vote by the Panel for Educational Policy.

The DOE believes in the potential of Launch Charter School and supports the placement of this charter school in District 16 in order to continue providing educational opportunities for students and families.

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

The Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”) and Building Utilization Plan (“BUP”) regarding this proposal can be found on the DOE’s Web site:

<http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2011-2012/Mar212012Proposals.htm>

Copies of the EIS and BUP are also available in the main office of P.S. 243.

**III. Submission of public comment.**

Written comments can be sent to [D16Proposals@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:D16Proposals@schools.nyc.gov)

Oral comments can be left at 212-374-0208

**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: Toby Shepherd  
Office: Division of Portfolio Planning  
Address: 52 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007  
Email: [D16Proposals@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:D16Proposals@schools.nyc.gov)  
Phone: 212-374-0208

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

Thursday, March 8, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.  
Building K243  
1580 Dean Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11213

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.**

March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.  
The High School of Fashion Industries  
225 West 24<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10011