



Notice
February 2, 2012

Dennis M. Walcott
Chancellor

The Proposed Opening and Co-Location of The Young Women’s Leadership School of the Bronx (09X568) with Existing School M.S. 117 Joseph H. Wade Academies in School Building X117, 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 open and co-locate the Young Women’s Leadership School of the Bronx (09X568, “YWLS Bronx”), a new all-girls middle school, in school building X117 (“X117”), located at 1865 Morris Avenue, Bronx, NY 10453, in Community School District 9, beginning in 2012-2013. YWLS Bronx’s grades six through eight would be co-located in building X117 with M.S. 117 Joseph H. Wade Academies (09X117, “M.S. 117”), an existing DOE middle school currently serving students in grades six through eight. Building X117 also provides space to SAPIS and community-based organization Beacon. A “co-location” means that two or more school organizations are located in the same building and may share common spaces like auditoriums, gymnasiums, libraries, and cafeterias.

This proposal only involves grades six through eight of YWLS Bronx. However, the school has applied with the DOE to be a secondary school and has been internally approved to serve grades six through twelve. The DOE anticipates finding a site for the high school grades (nine through twelve) of YWLS Bronx by September 2015, when the founding class would articulate to high school. If the DOE does not identify a site for the high school grades by September 2015, rising ninth-grade students would attend a different high school, and YWLS Bronx would continue to serve only middle school grades until a site for the high school grades is identified. The DOE would publish another Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”) to site the school’s grades nine through twelve in future years once a site has been identified.

YWLS Bronx is designed to serve female students only. The school is part of the Young Women’s Leadership Network, an organization that helps create single-gender public schools and college access programs across the country, and whose mission is to raise expectations, improve student performance, and inspire leadership for young girls.

If this proposal is approved, YWLS Bronx would begin serving a total of approximately 75-85 sixth-grade students in 2012-2013 in building X117. In the 2013-2014 school year, YWLS Bronx would expand to serve seventh grade and would serve a total of approximately 150-170 students. In the 2014-2015 school year, the third and final year of expansion, YWLS Bronx would expand to serve eighth grade and would serve a total of

approximately 225-255 students. At that point and beyond, YWLS Bronx would serve approximately 225-255 students in grades six through eight at this location.

Building X117 has the capacity to serve 1,169 students. Currently, in 2011-2012, X117 serves a total of 706 students in M.S. 117, yielding a target utilization rate of 60%. This means that the building is under-utilized and that the space could be used more efficiently to serve more students. Once YWLS Bronx has completed its expansion, there would be a total of 915-975 students served collectively by M.S. 117 and YWLS Bronx, yielding a projected target utilization rate between 78-83%.

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

The Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”) can be found on the DOE’s Web site at: <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2011-2012/Mar212012Proposals.htm>.

Copies of the EIS are also available in the main office of M.S. 117.

III. Submission of public comment.

Written comments can be sent to D09Proposals@schools.nyc.gov.
Oral comments can be left at 212-374-5159.

IV. The name, office, address, e-mail, and telephone number of the city district representative, knowledgeable on the item under consideration, from whom information may be obtained concerning the item.

Name: Rosa Fernández
Office: Division of Portfolio Planning
Address: 52 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007
Email: D09Proposals@schools.nyc.gov
Phone: 212-374-5159

V. Date, time, and place of Joint Public Hearing for this proposal.

Wednesday March 14, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.
Building X117
1865 Morris Avenue,
Bronx, New York 10453

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.

Wednesday, March 21, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.
The High School for Fashion Industries
225 West 24th Street
New York, NY 10011