



Dennis M. Walcott
Chancellor

Public Comment Analysis

Date: March 20, 2012

Topic: The Proposed Co-Location of a New High School 08X559, with Existing School Jane Addams High School for Academic Careers (08X650) and a New Public Charter High School, New Visions Charter High School for Advanced Math and Science II (84XTBD) in Building X650 Beginning in 2012-2013

Date of Panel Vote: March 21, 2012

Summary of Proposal

On February 3, 2012, the New York City Department of Education (“DOE”) issued an Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”) describing a proposal to co-locate a new Career and Technical Education (“CTE”) high school, 08X559 (“08X559”), located at 900 Tinton Avenue, Bronx, NY 10456, within the geographical confines of Community School District 8 (“District 8”), with Jane Addams High School for Academic Careers (08X650, “Jane Addams”) and New Visions Charter High School for Advanced Math and Science II (84XTBD, “AMS II”), beginning in 2012-2013. In addition, X650 houses a Living for the Young Family through Education (“LYFE”) program that would also be co-located with 08X559. 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.

In a separate EIS, originally posted on December 22, 2011 and amended on February 3, 2012, the DOE proposed to phase out Jane Addams, an existing CTE high school currently located in building X650.

The DOE proposed to phase out Jane Addams after an extensive review of data and community feedback indicating that the school lacks the capacity to turn around quickly to better support student needs.

The phase-out proposal was approved by the Panel for Educational Policy (“PEP”) at its February 9, 2012 meeting. As a result, Jane Addams will no longer admit new ninth-grade students after the conclusion of the 2011-2012 school year. The school’s enrollment will decrease gradually over the next three years, and the school will complete its phase-out in June 2015.

In another EIS published on February 3, 2012, the DOE also proposed to open and co-locate a new charter high school, AMS II, in building X650 beginning in 2012-2013. If that proposal is approved, 08X559 will also be co-located in building X650 with AMS II throughout the course of its phase-in and

thereafter. AMS II will be open to students through a charter lottery application process, and students who reside in District 8 will receive priority in the lottery.

The proposed co-location of 08X559 in building X650 is part of the DOE's central goal to create new school options that will better serve future students and the community at large. 08X559 will offer a rigorous, college-preparatory program with a CTE component, will be open to students through the Citywide High School Admissions Process, and will have an unscreened selection method. The new school will open for the 2012-2013 school year, when it will serve approximately 130-140 students in the ninth grade. 08X559 will gradually phase in by adding one grade per year. The school is expected to reach full scale in 2015-2016 when it will serve approximately 520-560 students in grades nine through twelve.

In the current 2011-2012 school year, the building is serving approximately 706 students, yielding a target utilization rate of 57%. In 2017-2018, once Jane Addams has completed its phase-out and both AMS II and 08X559 have reached full scale, there will be approximately 1,100-1,200 students served in the building. This yields a projected target building utilization rate of approximately 89-97%.

The details of this proposal have been released in an EIS which can be accessed here:

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

Copies of the EIS are also available in Jane Addams' main office.

Summary of Comments Received at the Joint Public Hearings

A joint public hearing regarding this proposal was held at school building X650 on March 12, 2012. At that hearing, interested parties had an opportunity to provide input on the proposal. Approximately 15 members of the public attended the hearing, and 2 people spoke. Present at the meeting were District 7 Community Superintendent Yolanda Torres; New York State Education Department Representative, Jamal Young; Jane Addams School Leadership Team Representatives, including I.A. Principal Joel Dibartolomeo;; Scott Torres from the Office of Charter Schools; and Amanda Cahn and Stephanie Crane from the Division of Portfolio Planning. While representatives from Community Education Council ("CEC") 8 confirmed that at least one CEC member would attend the hearing, no CEC 8 members appeared at the hearing.

The following questions, comments, and remarks were made at the joint public hearing:

There were no comments made regarding the proposal to co-locate New High School 08X559, with Jane Addams and AMS II in Building X650 beginning in 2012-2013.

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

The DOE received no written comments and no oral comments through the dedicated Web site and phone line for this proposal.

Analysis of Issues Raised, Significant Alternatives Proposed and Changes Made to the Proposal

There were no comments made at the joint public hearing or submitted to the DOE regarding this proposal.

Changes Made to the Proposal

No changes have been made to this proposal.