



**Dennis M. Walcott**  
*Chancellor*

### **Public Comment Analysis**

Date: March 20, 2012

Topic: The Proposed Opening and Co-Location of a New High School, 09X564, with Urban Assembly Academy for History and Citizenship for Young Men (09X239), Bronx Collegiate Academy (09X227), DreamYard Preparatory School (09X329), Bronx High School of Business (09X412), Bronx High School for Medical Science (09X413), and Jonathan Levin High School for Media and Communications (09X414) in School Building X410, Beginning in 2012-2013

Date of Panel Vote: March 21, 2012

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### **Summary of Proposal**

The New York City Department of Education (“DOE”) is proposing to open and co-locate 09X564, a new district high school, in school building X410, the William Howard Taft Educational Campus (“X410” or “Taft Campus”), beginning in the 2012-2013 school year. The Taft Campus is located at 240 East 172<sup>nd</sup> Street, Bronx, NY 10457, within the geographical confines of Community School District 9 (“District 9”). 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.

09X564 is designed to serve English Language Learners (“ELLs”), students who are of limited English proficiency. The school’s mission is to create a stimulating, academically rigorous, and nurturing learning community that prepares ELL students for success in college and beyond. The school would serve both “newcomers,” students who are new to the country, and long-term ELLs, students who have completed six years of ELL services in New York City schools and continue to require such services. 09X564 would be open to students who are considered ELLs through the Citywide High School Admissions Process and through the over-the-counter admissions process, and would have a screened admissions method to serve only ELL students.

If this proposal is approved by the Panel for Educational Policy (“PEP”), 09X564 would be co-located in X410 with the following six district schools: Urban Assembly Academy for

History and Citizenship for Young Men (09X239, “UAA History and Citizenship”), an existing high school serving students in grades ten through twelve; Bronx Collegiate Academy (09X227, “Bronx Collegiate”), an existing high school serving students in grades nine through twelve; DreamYard Preparatory School (09X329, “DreamYard”), an existing high school serving students in grades nine through twelve; Bronx High School of Business (09X412, “School of Business”), an existing high school serving students in grades nine through twelve; Bronx High School for Medical Science (09X413, “School for Medical Science”), an existing secondary school serving students in grades six through twelve; and Jonathan Levin High School for Media and Communications (09X414, “Jonathan Levin”), an existing school serving students in grades nine through twelve. In addition, building X410 houses a Living for the Young Family through Education (“LYFE”) program.

UAA History and Citizenship is currently in its first year of phasing out pursuant to a proposal that was approved by the PEP on February 1, 2011. The DOE proposed to phase out and eventually close UAA History and Citizenship due to its poor performance. The school began phasing out in September 2011 and will close at the conclusion of the 2013-2014 school year, at which time the school will no longer enroll students.

Building X410 has a target capacity of 2,780 students. In the 2011-2012 school year, the building is serving 2,035 students, yielding a target utilization rate of 73%. If this proposal is approved, 09X564 would open in X410 in September 2012 and would serve approximately 75-85 students in the ninth grade. 09X564 would gradually phase in by adding one grade per year through 2015-2016. The school is expected to reach full scale in 2015-2016, when it would serve approximately 300-340 students in grades nine through twelve. At that point, there would be approximately 2,090-2,360 students served in the building, resulting in a projected target utilization rate of 75-85%. Thus, X410 has sufficient space to accommodate the proposed co-location of 09X564.

The details of this proposal have been released in an Educational Impact Statement (“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 the main offices of UAA History and Citizenship, Bronx Collegiate, DreamYard, School of Business, School for Medical Science, and Jonathan Levin.

### **Summary of Comments Received at the Joint Public Hearing**

A Joint Public Hearing regarding this proposal was held at school building X410 on March 6, 2012. At that hearing, interested parties had an opportunity to provide input on the proposal. Approximately 6 members of the public attended the hearing, and no one spoke. Also present at the meeting were: Carron Staple, Bronx High School Superintendent; Community Education Council (“CEC”) 9 Representatives Marilyn Espada and Ana Mercado; Avis Terrell, Principal of UAA History and Citizenship; Rod Bowen, Principal of DreamYard; Enrique Lizardi, Principal of School of Business; Joanna Giddings, Assistant Principal of School of Business; Elizabeth Solis, member of the School Leadership Team for School of Business;

Darryl White, Principal of Bronx Collegiate; William Quintana, Principal of School for Medical Science; Nasib Hoxha, Principal of Jonathan Levin; Dennis Sánchez, Children’s First Network Leader for Jonathan Levin; and Rosa Fernández and Neeta Boddapati from the Division of Portfolio Planning.

**The following comments and remarks were made at the Joint Public Hearing**

The DOE did not receive any comments at the Joint Public Hearing held on March 6, 2012 related to the co-location proposal.

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

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

**Changes Made to this Proposal**

No changes have been made to this proposal.