



**Department of
Education**

Dennis M. Walcott, Chancellor

Public Comment Analysis

Date: March 20, 2012

Topic: The Proposed Re-siting of P373R@R065 (75R373) to Buildings R058 and R861, Consolidation with P373@R058 (75R373) and P373@R861 (75R373) and Co-location with P.S. 58 Space Shuttle Columbia School (31R058) and P.S./I.S. 861 Staten Island School of Civic Leadership (31R861)

Date of Panel Vote: March 21, 2012

Summary of Proposal

On February 3, 2012, the New York City Department of Education (“DOE”) issued a proposal to re-site P373R, an existing District 75 (“District 75”) school¹ serving students in grades K-5 at six different sites in Staten Island. P373R@R065 (75R373) is one of these sites, and serves students with Individualized Education Programs (“IEPs”) in grades K-5 at 98 Grant Street, Staten Island, NY 10301, in Community School District 31, in Building R829 (“R829”).²

If this proposal is approved, beginning in the 2012-2013 school year, P373R@R065’s two 6:1:1 programs (six students are assigned to one teacher and one paraprofessional) would be served in the R058 building where the school would be consolidated with another P373R site, P373@R058. P373@R058 also serves students in grades K-5 with IEP classifications of autistic, cognitively delayed, intellectually disabled, or speech impaired. The consolidated P373R@R065 and P373@R058 programs would be “co-located” with P.S. 58 Space Shuttle Columbia School (31R058, “P.S. 58”), an existing zoned elementary school serving grades K-5 which also offers two sections of half-day pre-kindergarten. The R058 building is approximately 7.5 miles from the R829 building. Additionally, P373R@R065’s 8:1:1 program (eight students are assigned to one teacher and one paraprofessional) would be served in the R861 building where the school would be consolidated with another P373R site, P373@R861. P373@R861 serves students in grades K-8 with IEP classifications of cognitively delayed or speech impaired. The consolidated P373R@R065 and P373@R861 programs would be “co-located” with P.S./I.S. 861 Staten Island School of Civic Leadership (31R861, “P.S./I.S. 861”), an existing zoned school currently serving grades K-3 and 6-8 that also offers two sections of full-day pre-kindergarten. P.S./I.S. 861 will serve grades K-8 when it reaches full scale in the 2013-2014 school year. The R861 building is approximately 6 miles from the R829 building.

¹ District 75 provides Citywide educational, vocational, and behavioral support programs for students who are on the autism spectrum, have significant cognitive delays, or are severely emotionally challenged, sensory impaired and/or multiply disabled. District 75 consists of 56 school organizations, home and hospital instruction, and vision and hearing services. District 75 schools and programs are located at more than 310 sites in the Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queens, Staten Island and Syosset, New York. For a complete list of District 75 organizations, please see the District 75 directory ([http://schools.nyc.gov/documents/District 75/schools/DIRECTORY complete.pdf](http://schools.nyc.gov/documents/District%2075/schools/DIRECTORY_complete.pdf)).

² P373R currently serves students in six sites other than P373R@R065: (1) P373@21R; (2) P373R@22R; (3) P373@Robert Randall School; (4) P373@R058; (5) P373R@College of Staten Island; and (6) P373R@R861.

A “re-siting” means a school will be located in different building(s) than the building it is located in currently. A “co-location” means that two or more school organizations will be located in the same building and may share common spaces such as auditoriums, gymnasiums, and cafeterias.

The 2011-2012 total enrollment of R058 is 830 students and the utilization rate of the building is approximately 106%.^{3,4} If this proposal is approved, in the 2012-2013 school year, once P373R@R065 is consolidated with R373@R058 in building R058, the enrollment will be approximately 830-900 and the utilization rate of the building would be approximately 106-115%. If this proposal is approved, in the 2013-2014 school year, once P373R@R065 is consolidated with R373@R058 in building R058, the enrollment will be approximately 835-905 and the utilization rate of the building would be approximately 107-116%.

In 2011-2012, R861 had a capacity of 681 students, and schools in the building enrolled a total of 763 students, yielding a building utilization rate of 112%.⁵ If this proposal is approved, in the 2012-2013 school year, once P373R@R065 is consolidated with R373@R861 in building R861 the enrollment will be approximately 769-859 and the utilization rate of the building would be approximately 113-126%. If this proposal is approved, in the 2013-2014 school year, once P373R@R065 is consolidated with R373@R861 in building R861, the enrollment will be approximately 804-904 and the utilization rate of the building would be approximately 118 - 133%.

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 the main offices of P373R@R065, P373@R058, P373@R861, P.S. 58, and P.S./I.S. 861.

Summary of Comments Received at the Joint Public Hearings

There were three separate joint public hearings held at each of the impacted schools in Community School District 31 regarding this proposal. The first joint public hearing regarding this proposal was held in P373@R065 on March 6, 2012. At that hearing, interested parties had an opportunity to provide input on the proposal. No members of the public attended the hearing, and no one spoke. Present at the meeting were Community School District 31 Superintendent Erminia Claudio; District 31 Community Education Council Member Tamika Farley; P373 Principal Ilene Goldstein-Harnett; P.S. 65 Principal Sophie Scamardella had confirmed attendance, but could not attend due to unforeseen circumstances; P.S. 65 School Leadership

³ Based on the 2011-2012 audited register.

⁴ All references to building utilization rates in this document are based on target capacity data from the 2010-2011 Blue Book. Utilization rates referenced for the 2011-2012 school year is based on audited enrollment and do not include Long Term Absences (“LTAs”), students who have been absent continuously for 30 days or more as of October 31, 2011. This methodology is consistent with the manner in which the DOE conducts planning and calculates space allocations and funding for all schools. In determining the space allocation for co-located schools, the Office of Space Planning will conduct a detailed site survey and space analysis of the building to assess the amount of space available in the building.

⁵ Based on the 2011-2012 audited register.

Team (“SLT”) Member Edward Wu; P373@R065 SLT members Maritza Sabato, Danielle Simeoli, Bariante McNamara, and Analia Gerard; Stacey Minondo from District 75; and Emily Ades from the Office of Portfolio Management.

A second joint public hearing regarding this proposal was held in P373@R861 on March 14, 2012. At that hearing, interested parties had an opportunity to provide input on the proposal. No members of the public attended the hearing, and no one spoke. Present at the meeting were Community School District 31 Superintendent Erminia Claudio; District 31 Community Education Council Members John Harkins, Steven Beck, and Franca Okeiche; P373 Principal Ilene Goldstein-Harnett; P.S./I.S. 861 Principal Rose Kerr and Assistant Principal Donna Nilsen; P.S./I.S. 861 SLT Members Sandra Lippe and Beolrie Tale; P373@R065 SLT member Maria Cuffaro; and Emily Ades from the Office of Portfolio Management.

A third joint public hearing regarding this proposal was held in P373@R058 on March 15, 2012. At that hearing, interested parties had an opportunity to provide input on the proposal. Two members of the public attended the hearing, and no one spoke. Present at the meeting were Community School District 31 Superintendent Erminia Claudio; District 31 Community Education Council President Sam Pirozzolo; P373 Principal Ilene Goldstein-Harnett; P.S. 58 Principal RoseAnn Mezzacappa; P.S. 58 SLT Members Barbara Panzella, Maggi Mahoney, A. Himmelblau, Lauren Fallon, Tara Aielli, and Dina Galuti; P373@R065 SLT members Perian Wise, Maria Cuffaro, Analia Gerard, and Maria Cacace; and Emily Ades from the Office of Portfolio Management.

The following comments and remarks were made at the joint public hearings:

There were no remarks made at the hearings.

The DOE received no comments at the joint public hearings which did not directly relate to the proposal.

The DOE received no written and/or oral comments through its dedicated phone line and e-mail for this proposal.

Changes Made to the Proposal

As a result of no public feedback, the DOE will continue to recommend the Re-siting of P373R@R065 (75R373) to Buildings R058 and R861, Consolidation with P373@R058 (75R373) and P373@R861 (75R373) and Co-location with P.S. 58 Space Shuttle Columbia School (31R058) and P.S./I.S. 861 Staten Island School of Civic Leadership (31R861).