



Notice
December 17, 2010

Joel I. Klein
Chancellor

The Proposed Phase-out of The Urban Assembly Academy for History and Citizenship for Young Men (09X239)

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

The Urban Assembly Academy for History and Citizenship for Young Men (X239, “UA History and Citizenship”) is an existing high school located at the William H. Taft campus (X410), 240 East 172 Street, Bronx, NY 10457, within the geographical confines of Community School District 9. It currently serves male students in grades nine through twelve. The New York City Department of Education (DOE) is proposing to phase out and eventually close UA History and Citizenship based on its poor performance and the DOE’s assessment that the school lacks the capacity to turn around quickly to better support student needs.

If the proposal is approved, UA History and Citizenship would no longer admit new ninth-grade students after the conclusion of the 2010-2011 school year. Current students will be supported as they progress towards graduation while remaining enrolled in UA History and Citizenship. In cases where students do not complete graduation requirements in time for the June 2014 closure date, the DOE will help students and families identify alternative programs or schools that meet their needs so that they may continue their education after UA History and Citizenship completes phasing out.

UA History and Citizenship is located in the William H. Taft building (X410) and is currently co-located with five other schools. All six schools on the campus opened within the past decade, and all are fully phased in, serving their full range of grades. Five of the schools – UA History and Citizenship, Bronx Expeditionary Learning High School (“Bronx Expeditionary”), Dreamyard Preparatory (“Dreamyard”), Bronx High School for Business (“Bronx HS for Business”), and Jonathan Levin School for Media and Communication (“Jonathan Levin”) – serve students in grades 9-12. Bronx High School for Medical Science (“BHSMS”) serves students in grades 6-12. X410 also houses the Living for the Young Family Through Education (“LYFE”) program.

In 2009-2010, X410 had a target capacity of 2,875 students, and the building enrolled 2,318 students, with a building utilization rate of 82% of target capacity. Currently, the six schools within the Taft building (X410) enroll a total of 2,334 students, of whom 2,172 are in grades nine through twelve. In 2010-2011, the projected utilization of X410 is 81%. If this proposal is approved, the five other schools located at the Taft campus would continue serving students at their current enrollment levels. The DOE does not anticipate incorporating any other new schools on the Taft campus at this time.

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

The Educational Impact Statement can be found on the Department of Education's Web site: <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2010-2011/Feb12011Proposals>

Copies of the EIS are also available in the main offices of UA History and Citizenship, Bronx Expeditionary, Dreamyard, Bronx HS for Business, Jonathan Levin, and BHSMS.

III. Submission of public comment.

Written comments can be sent to HS.Proposals@schools.nyc.gov.

Oral comments can be left at 212-374-5159.

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: Gentian Falstrom
Office: Division of Portfolio Planning
Address: 52 Chambers St
Email: HS.Proposals@schools.nyc.gov
Phone: 212-374-5159

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

January 20, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.
Urban Assembly Academy for History and Citizenship
240 East 172nd Street
Bronx, NY 10457

Questions about the proposal can 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. Interpretation services will be provided in Spanish. To request interpretation services in another language, please contact Ms. Falstrom at the e-mail address or telephone number above.

VI. Date, time and place of the Panel for Educational Policy meeting at which the Panel will vote on the proposed item.

February 1, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.
Brooklyn Technical High School
29 Fort Greene Place
Brooklyn, NY 11217