



Notice
December 17, 2010

Joel I. Klein
Chancellor

The Proposed Phase-out of Paul Robeson High School (17K625)

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

Paul Robeson High School (17K625, “Robeson”) is an existing high school located at 150 Albany Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11213, within the geographical confines of Community School District 17. It currently serves students in grades nine through twelve. The New York City Department of Education (DOE) is proposing to phase out Robeson 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 this proposal is approved, Robeson would no longer admit new ninth-grade students after the conclusion of the 2010-2011 school year. Current students would be supported as they progress towards graduation while remaining enrolled in Robeson. In cases where students do not complete graduation requirements by June 2014, the DOE will help students and families identify alternative programs or schools that meet students’ needs so that they may continue their high school education after Robeson completes phasing out.

Robeson is located in Building K625, which also houses the Living for the Young Family through Education program (“LYFE”). In 2009-2010, Building K625 had a target capacity of 1,112 students, and the building enrolled 868 students, yielding a target utilization rate for 2009-2010 of 91% of total capacity. The school currently serves 651 students. In 2010-2011, the estimated target utilization rate for the building was 58%. This means that the building is “underutilized” and has extra space to accommodate additional students. The DOE anticipates proposing the co-location of two high schools in the building beginning in 2011-2012. These proposals will be described in Educational Impact Statements that the DOE will be releasing in the coming weeks. The DOE anticipates that a proposed new high school, 17K122, would begin phasing into the K625 campus with a ninth-grade class entering in September 2011. This new school would continue to expand as Robeson phases out and would reach full scale during the 2014-2015 school year, at which point it would serve students in grades 9-12. Additionally, the DOE will propose to re-site an existing school, Academy for Health Careers (13K751), to the K625 building in 2011-2012. The details of this proposal will be addressed in an Educational Impact Statement to be released within the next six weeks. During Robeson’s phase-out and the new school’s gradual phase-in, the three schools would be co-located in K625. A “co-location” means that two or more school organizations are located in the same building and may share common spaces like auditoriums, gymnasiums, and cafeterias.

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>

A copy of the EIS is also available in Robeson's main office.

III. Submission of public comment.

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

Oral comments can be left at 212-374-0208.

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: 212-374-0208

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

January 21, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.
Paul Robeson High School
150 Albany Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11213

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. To request interpretation services, 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