



**Notice**  
September 20, 2012

**Dennis M. Walcott**  
*Chancellor*

## **The Proposed Grade Truncation of I.S. 392 (23K392) to a 6-8 school in 2013-2014**

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

I.S. 392 (23K392, “I.S. 392”) is an existing district middle school located in building K356 (“K356”), at 104 Sutter Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11212, in Community School District 23. It currently serves students in fifth through eighth grades. I.S. 392 is currently co-located with P.S. 156 Waverly (23K156, “P.S. 156”), an existing zoned elementary school that currently serves students in kindergarten through fifth grades and offers a full-day pre-kindergarten program. 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.

The New York City Department of Education (“DOE”) is proposing to implement a “grade truncation” at I.S. 392, meaning that the school would no longer offer the option to enroll fifth-grade students after the current 2012-2013 school year. Beginning in September 2013, I.S. 392 would only serve sixth- through eighth-grade students. Although I.S. 392 was budgeted to serve 21 fifth graders during the 2012-2013 school year, no fifth graders actually chose to enroll at the school for the 2012-2013 school year.

Middle schools typically enroll students beginning in sixth grade, but I.S. 392 may enroll students starting in fifth grade. Currently, I.S. 392 is the only DOE-managed school in District 23 that serves an irregular grade span in the kindergarten through eighth grade span. Historically, the majority of I.S. 392’s fifth-grade students articulated from P.S. 007 Abraham Lincoln (19K007, “P.S. 7”) in District 19, where they were enrolled for fourth grade. At its meeting on February 9, 2012, the Panel for Educational Policy (“PEP”) approved a proposal to expand P.S. 7 from a school that serves students in kindergarten through fourth grades to a school that serves students in kindergarten through fifth grades. P.S. 7 began enrolling fifth-grade students in the 2012-2013 school year. If I.S. 392’s fifth grade is not truncated and historical enrollment patterns continue, the enrollment in any future I.S. 392 fifth grade class would be adversely affected by P.S. 7’s expansion because P.S. 7’s students will likely continue at P.S. 7 for fifth grade rather than enroll in I.S. 392 for fifth grade. Furthermore, because I.S. 392 is the only district school in District 23 that serves an irregular grade span in the kindergarten through eighth grade span, the enrollment in any future I.S. 392 fifth grade class would not likely be composed of District 23 students.

This proposed grade truncation will help standardize middle school entry grades in District 23. Additionally, having students start I.S. 392 through multiple entry grades (at both fifth and sixth

grades) creates challenges for students and the school as a whole. Having students enter in multiple years is also challenging for teachers and leadership from an instructional perspective.

Changing I.S. 392's grade span from fifth through eighth grade to sixth through eighth grade will free up additional space that I.S. 392 could use to accommodate existing sixth-through eighth-grade students or to meet other needs (e.g., art room, resource center, etc.).

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

The Educational Impact Statement ("EIS") can be found on the Department of Education's Web site: <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2012-2013/Nov2012Proposals>

Copies of the EIS are also available in I.S. 392 and P.S. 156's main offices.

## **III. Submission of public comment.**

Written comments can be sent to [D23Proposals@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:D23Proposals@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: Stephen Demers  
Office: Division of Portfolio Planning  
Address: 52 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007  
Email: [D23Proposals@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:D23Proposals@schools.nyc.gov)  
Phone: 212-374-0208

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

October, 29, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.  
I.S. 392/P.S. 156  
104 Sutter Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 11212

Questions about the proposal should 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.

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

November 8, 2012 at 6:00 PM

Frank Sinatra School of the Arts  
35-12 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Astoria, NY 11106