



Notice
September 20, 2012

Dennis M. Walcott
Chancellor

The Proposed Expansion of the Co-Location of Girls Preparatory Charter School of the Bronx (84X487) with M.S. 302 Luisa Dessus Cruz (08X302) in Building X052, Beginning in 2013-2014

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

The New York City Department of Education (“DOE”) is proposing to expand the grades served in building X052 (“X052”) by Girls Preparatory Charter School of the Bronx (84X487, “Girls Prep Bronx”), from kindergarten through fourth grades to kindergarten through fifth grades. Girls Prep Bronx is an existing charter elementary school serving kindergarten through fourth grades in the X052 building, located at 681 Kelly Street, Bronx, NY 10455 in Community School District 8. Girls Prep Bronx is co-located with M.S. 302 Luisa Dessus Cruz (08X302, “M.S. 302”), a zoned school serving students in sixth through eighth grades. 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.

Girls Prep Bronx currently admits students through a charter lottery application. M.S. 302 is zoned. (Admissions procedures are discussed in more detail in Section III of the Educational Impact Statement.)

Girls Prep Bronx has been co-located with M.S. 302 since September 2009 when Girls Prep Bronx opened with kindergarten and first grade. Girls Prep Bronx has expanded one grade per year since then, and as of the 2012-2013 school year, serves students in kindergarten through fourth grades. If this proposal is approved, Girls Prep Bronx would begin serving fifth grade in X052 in 2013-2014.

According to the 2010-2011 Enrollment, Capacity, Utilization Report (the “Blue Book”), X052 has the capacity to serve 1,137 students. Currently, the building serves 944 students, yielding a building utilization rate of 83%, meaning the building is not being used as efficiently as it might be. If this proposal is approved, Girls Prep Bronx will add a fifth grade in 2013-2014 and will enroll approximately 68-86 additional students. Including those additional Girls Prep Bronx students, in 2013-2014, X052 is projected to serve approximately 1,002-1,144 students in total from Girls Prep Bronx and M.S. 302, yielding an estimated building utilization rate of 88-101%. The building has sufficient space to provide both schools with at least their baseline room allocations, despite the possibility of a utilization rate slightly over 100%. Although a utilization

rate in excess of 100% may suggest that a building will be over-utilized or over-crowded in a given year, this rate does not account for the fact that rooms may be programmed for more efficient or different uses than the standard assumptions in the utilization calculation. In addition, charter school enrollment plans are frequently based on larger class sizes than target capacity, contributing to building utilizations above 100% while not impacting the utilization of the space allocated to the traditional public school. Therefore, the X052 building has the capacity to accommodate all the existing schools at full scale.

Public Prep is a charter management organization (“CMO”) that operates two public charter schools in New York City, including Girls Prep Bronx. The State University of New York (“SUNY”) Charter Schools Institute has authorized Girls Prep Bronx to serve kindergarten through fifth grades. Given the available space in Girls Prep Bronx’s current location, building X052, the DOE is proposing to expand the co-location of Girls Prep Bronx in X052 to include fifth grade and to continue at that grade span in X052 thereafter.

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

The Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”) and Building Utilization Plan (“BUP”) can be found on the Department of Education’s website:

<http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2012-2013/Nov2012Proposals>

Copies of the EIS and BUP are also available in the main offices of M.S. 302 (08X302) and Girls Prep Bronx (84X487).

III. Submission of public comment.

Written comments can be sent to D08Proposals@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: Ashley Davies
Office: Division of Portfolio Planning
Address: 52 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007
Email: D08Proposals@schools.nyc.gov
Phone: (212) 374-5159

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

Date: Tuesday, October 30th
Time: 6:00 PM
Location: 681 Kelly Street, Bronx, NY 10455

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 35th Avenue
Astoria, NY 11106