



**Department of
Education**

Carmen Fariña, Chancellor

Notice

December 15, 2014

The Proposed Grade Expansion of Central Park East II (04M964) from K-5 to K-8 and the Proposed Co-location of Central Park East II's Middle School Grades with P.S. 108 Assemblyman Angelo Del Toro (04M108) in Building M108 Beginning in the 2015-2016 School Year

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 Central Park East II (04M964, “CPE II”) and co-locate the school’s additional grades with another school. CPE II is an existing non-zoned district elementary school that serves students in kindergarten through fifth grade and offers a pre-kindergarten program. CPE II is co-located with P.S. 171 Patrick Henry (04M171, “P.S. 171”) in building M171 (“M171”), located at 19 East 103rd Street, New York, NY 10029, in Community School District 4 (“District 4”). P.S. 171 serves zoned elementary students and middle school students in a screened program. P.S. 171 also serves students in two sections of a full-day pre-kindergarten program. This proposal will not impact P.S. 171.

Under this proposal, CPE II will expand to serve students in kindergarten through eighth grade, while retaining its pre-kindergarten program. Due to insufficient space to house CPE II’s middle school grades in M171, the DOE proposes to co-locate CPE II’s new middle school grades with P.S. 108 Assemblyman Angelo Del Toro (“P.S. 108”) in building M108 (“M108”). M108 is also located in District 4, at 1615 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10029, approximately 0.3 miles north of M171. P.S. 108 serves students in kindergarten through eighth grade, with one section of a full-day pre-kindergarten program. P.S. 108 is a zoned elementary school and has screened admissions for its middle school program.

The proposed siting plan will result in a “split-siting,” whereby CPE II’s elementary grades will remain in M171 while the school’s middle school grades will phase into a different building, M108. This school-initiated proposal will enable CPE II elementary students to continue their education in the school through eighth grade. In addition, the co-location of CPE II with P.S. 108 will provide opportunities for the two schools to share resources and collaborate on how best to serve their respective middle school populations in building M108.

CPE II currently enrolls approximately 266 students in kindergarten through fifth grade as well as 18 students in one section of a full-day pre-kindergarten program.

In March 2013, a grade expansion team composed of teachers, parents, staff, and administrators from CPE II as well as Central Park East I (04M497, “CPE I”) submitted a formal application to expand the grades served by CPE II. CPE I, the sister school of CPE II, is a non-zoned elementary school serving students in kindergarten through fifth grades. CPE I is currently co-located in building M013 (1573 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10029), also in District 4. As part of the approval process for a grade expansion request, the DOE evaluates a school’s instructional capacity to serve the expanded school level by working in close collaboration with the superintendent to develop clear benchmarks focused in multiple areas, including curriculum, instructional leadership, and staff and family engagement, to demonstrate the school’s capacity to expand. Based on the broader CPE community’s support for this application, as well as CPE II’s demonstrated track record of academic achievement, the DOE approved the proposed expansion of CPE II and expects it to provide a strong new middle school option.

If this proposal is approved, pursuant to Chancellor’s Regulation A-101, students enrolled in CPE II will have the option to remain at the school through eighth grade. Beginning in the 2015-2016 school year, CPE II will add one grade each year until 2017-2018, when it will reach full scale serving students in kindergarten through eighth grade, while continuing to serve students in its pre-kindergarten program. Students enrolled in CPE I will have first priority for admission to remaining sixth grade seats available at CPE II. Should additional seats be available, other fifth grade students in District 4 will be able to apply to attend middle school at CPE II through the District 4 Middle School Application Process beginning in the 2015-2016 school year.

During the current 2014-2015 school year, the M108 building serves 626 students, yielding a building utilization rate of 80%. If this proposal is approved, when CPE II completes its expansion and reaches full scale in 2017-2018 in M108, the school will serve approximately 150-180 students in sixth through eighth grades. At that time, the building will serve approximately 683-803 students from both CPE II and P.S. 108, resulting in a projected utilization rate of 88%-103%. Although the projected utilization rate may exceed 100%, CPE II and P.S. 108 will receive at least their baseline allocations of space pursuant to the Citywide Instructional Footprint. Moreover, 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. Thus, the DOE believes that there is sufficient space to accommodate CPE II’s middle school grades and P.S. 108 in building M108, if this proposal is approved.

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

The Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”) can be found on the DOE’s Web site: <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2014-2015/January2015SchoolProposals>.

Copies of the EIS are also available in the main offices of CPE II and P.S. 108.

III. Submission of public comment.

Written comments can be sent to D04Proposals@schools.nyc.gov.

Oral comments can be left at 212-374-3466.

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: Kia Higgins
Office: Office of District Planning
Address: 52 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007
Email: D04Proposals@schools.nyc.gov
Phone: 212-374-3466

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

January 23, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.
Building M108
P.S. 108 Assemblyman Angelo Del Toro
1615 Madison Avenue
New York, NY 10029

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.

January 29, 2015 at 6:00 p.m.
Taft Educational Campus
240 East 172 Street
Bronx, NY 10457