



Notice  
December 18, 2012

Dennis M. Walcott  
Chancellor

## **The Proposed Opening and Co-location of a New Public Charter School Math, Engineering, and Science Academy (84KTBD) with Existing Schools J.H.S. 291 Roland Hayes (32K291) and Bushwick Community High School (32K564) in Building K291 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 open and co-locate Math, Engineering, and Science Academy (84KTBD, “MESA”), a new public charter school that will serve students in ninth through twelfth grade in building K291 (“K291”), located at 231 Palmetto Street Brooklyn, NY 11221, in Community School District 32 beginning in 2013-2014. MESA will be co-located in K291 with J.H.S. 291 Roland Hayes (“J.H.S. 291”), an existing zoned and academic screened middle school that serves students in sixth through eighth grades, and Bushwick Community High School (32K564, “Bushwick Community HS”), an existing transfer school serving students in grades nine through twelve. In addition, K291 houses a United Federation of Teachers (“UFT”) Training Center, a school safety office, and the District 32 Office of School and Food Nutrition. Three community based organizations (“CBOs”) are also located in building K291: a Beacon program operated by the YMCA (“Beacon”), Brooklyn College Community Partnership (“Brooklyn College”), and the St. Nick’s Alliance (“St. Nick’s Alliance”).

In November 2012, MESA’s charter was authorized by the State University of New York Charter Schools Institute (“SUNY CSI”) to serve students in ninth through twelfth grade. MESA will be independently managed. MESA will open with ninth grade in 2013-2014, and will add one grade each year until it serves students in ninth through twelfth grade in 2016-2017 in K291. The school will admit students via the charter lottery application process, with preference given to returning students, the siblings of enrolled students, English Language Learners (“ELLs”) residing in District 32, ELLs outside of District 32, students and residents of District 32, and then residents living outside of District 32.

The DOE has identified building K291 as an under-utilized building. Building K291 has the capacity to serve 1,892 students, but in 2012-2013, J.H.S. 291 is currently enrolling 591 students in sixth through eighth grade and Bushwick Community HS is enrolling 346 students in ninth through twelfth grade. This yields a building utilization rate of approximately 50%, which demonstrates that the building is “under-utilized” and has space to accommodate additional students. If this proposal is approved, in 2016-2017, building K291 would serve 1,295-1,440 students from MESA, J.H.S. 291, and Bushwick Community HS collectively, which yields a projected utilization rate of 68%-76%. Thus, building K291 has sufficient space to accommodate the proposed co-location.

## **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 Web site:

<http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2012-2013/Mar112013Proposals.htm>

Copies of the EIS are also available in J.H.S. 291 and Bushwick Community High School’s main offices.

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

Written comments can be sent to [D32Proposals@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:D32Proposals@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: Lauren Lefty  
Office: Division of Portfolio Planning  
Address: 52 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007  
Email: [D32Proposals@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:D32Proposals@schools.nyc.gov)  
Phone: 212-374-0208

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

January 23, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.  
J.H.S. 291/Bushwick Community High School  
231 Palmetto Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11221

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. Should inclement weather or other unforeseen event or emergency prevent the January 23<sup>rd</sup> hearing from taking place, the joint public hearing would take place (as feasible) on the alternate schedule noted directly below.**

**Alternate Date:** January 31, 2013  
**Alternate Time:** 6:00 PM  
**Alternate Where:** J.H.S. 291/Bushwick Community High School  
231 Palmetto Street

Brooklyn, NY 11221

Please reserve both the original scheduled and alternate dates, times, and locations in your calendars. Should the hearing scheduled for January 23<sup>rd</sup> or the alternate date of January 31<sup>st</sup> require rescheduling to accommodate the needs of the impacted School Leadership Teams and Community and/or Citywide Education Councils, the DOE will post notice here:

<http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2012-2013/Mar112013Proposals.htm>

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

March 11, 2013 at 6:00pm

Brooklyn Technical High School  
29 Fort Greene Pl  
Brooklyn, NY 11217