



Notice
January 11, 2013

Dennis M. Walcott
Chancellor

The Proposed Phase-Out of P.S. 140 Edward K. Ellington (28Q140) 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 phase out P.S. 140 Edward K. Ellington (28Q140, “P.S. 140”), an existing zoned elementary school in building Q140 (“Q140”) and temporary classroom unit (“TCU”) Q954 located at 166-01 116th Avenue, Queens, NY 11434, in Community School District 28 (“District 28”). It currently serves students in grades kindergarten through five and offers a pre-kindergarten program. The DOE is proposing to phase out P.S. 140 based on its poor performance and the DOE’s assessment that the school lacks the capacity to improve quickly to better support student needs. In a separate Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”) also posted on January 11, 2013, the DOE is proposing to co-locate a new zoned elementary school 28Q218 (“28Q218”) in building Q140. That proposal can be found here: <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2012-2013/Mar112013Proposals.htm>.

If this proposal is approved, P.S. 140 will no longer admit new kindergarten students and will no longer offer kindergarten, first grade, and second grade after the conclusion of the 2012-2013 school year. Additionally, at the end of this year, P.S. 140 will not offer its pre-kindergarten program. Beginning in the 2013-2014 school year, after P.S. 140’s kindergarten, first grade, and second grade are phased out, P.S. 140 will serve one less grade in each subsequent year until it completes its phase-out and closes at the completion of the 2015-2016 school year. Current students in grades two, three, and four who meet promotional standards at the end of this year will continue to be served by P.S. 140 and be supported as they progress toward completion of elementary school at P.S. 140. Current students in kindergarten and first grade who meet promotional standards at the end of this year will be served by 28Q218, to be opened in Q140 and proposed in a separate EIS which can be found here: <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2012-2013/Mar112013Proposals.htm>.

Current fifth grade students who meet promotional standards at the end of this year will apply to middle school via the District 28 Middle School Choice process. Students currently in kindergarten, first grade, and second grade who do not meet promotional standards at the end of this year will be served at 28Q218. Students currently in third, fourth, and fifth grades who do not meet promotional standards at the end of this year will continue to be served at P.S. 140 as it phases out and will be supported as they progress toward completion of elementary school. In cases where fifth grade students do not meet promotional requirements by June 2016, those

students will be served by 28Q218.

In a separate proposal described in another EIS, also posted on January 11, 2013, the DOE has proposed to co-locate a new zoned district elementary school, 28Q218, which will serve students in kindergarten through fifth grade when it reaches full scale in Q140 in 2016-2017. A pre-kindergarten program will also be offered by 28Q218 in Q140 (pending availability of funding). The proposal can be found at:

[http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2012-](http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2012-2013/Mar112013Proposals.htm)

[2013/Mar112013Proposals.htm](http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2012-2013/Mar112013Proposals.htm). If the proposal to co-locate 28Q218 in Q140 is approved, it will provide a new zoned elementary school option for District 28 families and replace the seats lost by the proposed phase-out of P.S. 140. 28Q218 will be co-located in Q140 with P.S. 140 as it phases out.

P.S. 140 is currently the only school located in Q140.

Background on the DOE Decision-Making Process

Schools are identified for possible phase-out for any of the following three reasons: (1) they received poor grades on their annual Progress Report; (2) they received a poor score on their most recent Quality Review; or (3) they have been identified by the New York State Education Department (“SED”) as a Priority School, defined by SED as one of the bottom 5% of schools in the state. Specifically, under the DOE’s accountability framework, all schools that receive a grade of D, F, or a third consecutive C grade or lower on their annual Progress Report and all schools that receive a rating of Underdeveloped on the Quality Review are evaluated for intensive support or intervention, including the possibility of phase-out. Progress Reports are released by the DOE each fall and evaluate schools on a scale of A through F based on Student Progress, Student Performance, School Environment, and new to the Progress Report in 2011-2012, College and Career Readiness. During Quality Reviews, experienced educators visit a school over several days, observing classrooms and talking with students, staff, and families. Schools are rated on the following four-point scale: “Underdeveloped” (the lowest possible rating), “Developing,” “Proficient,” and “Well Developed” (the highest possible rating).

P.S. 140 received an overall F grade on its Progress Report in 2011-2012. The school received overall C grades for the 2010-2011 and 2009-2010 school years.

As a result, the DOE initiated a comprehensive review of P.S. 140, with the goal of determining what intensive supports and interventions would best benefit its students and the P.S. 140 community. During that review, the DOE looked at recent historical performance and demand data from the school, consulted with superintendents and other experienced educators who have worked closely with the school, and gathered community feedback.

After completing that review, the DOE believes that only the most serious intervention— the gradual phase-out and eventual closure of P.S. 140 — will address the school’s performance struggles and allow for new school options to develop in building Q140. The DOE believes that this will better serve future students and the broader community.

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/Mar112013Proposals.htm>

Copies of the EIS are also available in P.S. 140’s main office.

III. Submission of public comment.

Written comments can be sent to D28proposals@schools.nyc.gov

Oral comments can be left at 212-374-7621.

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: Emily Ades
Office: Division of Portfolio Planning
Address: 52 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007
Email: D28Proposals@schools.nyc.gov
Phone: 212-374-7621

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

Friday , Feb 22, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.
P.S. 140 Edward K Ellington
166-01 116 Avenue
Queens, NY 11434

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.

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 6:00 pm

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