



Notice  
January 18, 2013

Dennis M. Walcott  
Chancellor

## **The Proposed Opening and Co-location of Achievement First Charter High School 2 with Existing Schools J.H.S. 166 George Gershwin (16K166), The UFT Charter School (84K359), and a New Middle School (19K654) in Building K166 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 a charter school, Achievement First Charter High School 2 (“AF High School 2”) in building K166 (“K166”), located at 800 Van Sicken Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11207, in Community School District 19 (“District 19”) beginning in 2013-2014. When fully at scale, AF High School 2 will serve students in ninth through twelfth grades. If this proposal is approved, AF High School 2 will be co-located in K166 with J.H.S. 166 George Gershwin (“J.H.S. 166”), an existing district middle school that serves students in sixth through eighth grade, the UFT Charter School (84K359, “UFT Charter”), an existing public charter school that serves students in kindergarten through twelfth grade across two separate sites, and a proposed new district middle school (19K654, “19K654”) that when fully at scale will serve students in sixth through eighth grade, if that proposal is approved.

UFT Charter’s kindergarten through fifth grades are located in building K292 (“K292”), which has entrances at both 300 Wyona Street and 301 Vermont Street, Brooklyn, NY, 11207 in District 19, while UFT Charter’s sixth through twelfth grades are located in building K166. In a separate Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”) posted on January 17, 2013, the DOE has proposed to resite UFT Charter’s sixth through eighth grades from K166 to K292. UFT Charter is in the process of applying for renewal of its charter from its charter authorizer, the State University of New York’s Charter School Institute (“SUNY CSI”). For the purposes of this EIS describing the co-location of AF High School 2 in K166, it is assumed that SUNY CSI will approve UFT Charter’s charter renewal. However, if SUNY CSI denies UFT Charter’s application for renewal, the Building Utilization Plan (“BUP”) associated with this proposal will be revised as necessary to accurately reflect the proposed allocation of space in K166. For the purposes of this EIS, describing the co-location of AF High School 2 in K166, it is assumed that the proposal to resite UFT Charter’s middle school grades to K292 will be approved by the Panel for Educational Policy (“PEP”). However, if the proposal to resite is not approved, this EIS and the accompanying BUP will be revised as necessary.

In a separate EIS posted on January 17, 2013, the DOE is proposing to phase-out J.H.S. 166 due to its low performance and inability to improve quickly to better support student needs. If that proposal is approved, J.H.S. 166 will no longer admit sixth grade students after the conclusion of the 2012-2013 school year. One grade will then be phased-out each subsequent year. During the 2013-2014 school year, J.H.S. 166 will serve students in seventh and eighth grade and, in 2014-2015, it will serve students in eighth grade. J.H.S. 166 will close after June 2015. For the purposes of this EIS, describing the co-location of AF High School 2 in K166, it is assumed that the proposal to phase out J.H.S. 166 will be approved by the PEP. However, if the proposal to phase-out is not approved, this EIS and the accompanying BUP will be revised as necessary.

In a separate EIS posted on January 17, 2013, the DOE is proposing to co-locate and phase in 19K654 in K166, which will serve students in sixth through eighth grade and will admit students through the District 19 Middle School Choice Process, offering priority to students residing in the K166 residential zone and then using a limited unscreened admissions method. If that proposal is approved, 19K654 will begin enrolling sixth grade students in 2013-2014 and will add one grade per year until it is at full scale and serves students in sixth through eighth grade in 2015-2016. For the purposes of this EIS, describing the co-location of AF High School 2 in K166, it is assumed that the proposal to co-locate 19K654 in K166 will be approved by the PEP. However, if the proposal to co-locate 19K654 is not approved, this EIS and the accompanying BUP will be revised as necessary.

AF High School 2 will open with ninth grade classes in 2013-2014, and will add one grade each year until it serves students in ninth through twelfth grades in 2016-2017. AF High School 2 will only enroll students who have been promoted from one of two charter middle schools currently operated by Achievement First Schools (“Achievement First”), a Charter Management Organization (“CMO”). The charter middle schools that will feed into AF High School 2 beginning in the 2013-2014 school year are Achievement First Bushwick (84K538, “AF Bushwick”), located in Community School District 32 (“District 32”), and Achievement First East New York (84K358, “AF East NY”), located in District 19. AF Bushwick was authorized by the State University of New York’s Charter School Institute (“SUNY CSI”) and opened in the 2006-2007 school year. AF East NY was authorized by the DOE and opened in the 2005-2006 school year. AF Bushwick is currently authorized to serve grades K-11 and AF East NY is currently authorized to serve K-10; both schools have informed the DOE that they intend to apply to their authorizers to expand to serve K-12. Should SUNY CSI or the DOE deny AF Bushwick or AF East NY’s requests to expand, or if AF Bushwick or AF East NY fails to make these requests, the respective school will only serve its presently approved grade span.

According to the 2011-2012 Enrollment Capacity Utilization Report (the “Blue Book”), K166 has the capacity to serve a total of 1,320 students. In 2012-2013, J.H.S. 166 is serving 400 students and UFT Charter is serving 586 sixth through twelfth grade students. This yields a building utilization rate of approximately 75%. This means that the building is “underutilized” and has space to accommodate additional students. If this proposal is approved, in 2016-2017, once AF High School 2’s ninth through twelfth grades have fully phased in and the school has reached full scale, AF High School 2 is projected to serve 325-410 ninth through twelfth grade students, UFT Charter is projected to serve 225-285 ninth through twelfth grade students, 19K654 is projected to serve 345- 375 sixth through eighth grade students, and J.H.S. 166’s

phase-out will be fully implemented, for a total of 895- 1,070 students, yielding a projected building utilization rate of approximately 68%- 81%.

K166 houses two community-based organizations (“CBOs”), CAMBA and the East New York Campus Satellite of Medgar Evers College (“ENY”). ENY hosts a GED Plus program in K166. GED Plus programs help students earn their GED and prepare them for college and career options. GED programs are offered to students who are 18-21 years old and are available as full-time or part-time programs. More information about GED Programs is available: <http://schools.nyc.gov/Offices/District79/SchoolsProgramsServices/default.htm>.

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

The EIS and 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 and BUP are also available in the main offices of J.H.S. 166 and UFT Charter in K166.

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

Written comments can be sent to [D17Proposals@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:D17Proposals@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 Spillane  
Office: Division of Portfolio Planning  
Address: 52 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007  
Email: [D19Proposals@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:D19Proposals@schools.nyc.gov)  
Phone: 212-374-0208.

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

A hearing for all four proposals described above will be held at building K166.

This hearing is scheduled for:  
February 21, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.  
800 Van Siclen  
Brooklyn, NY 11027

Resiting proposals require two Joint Public hearings, one at each impacted site. As a result, a second hearing regarding the proposal to resite UFT Charter's sixth through eighth grades will be held at building K292.

This hearing is scheduled for:  
February 27, 2013 at 6:00pm  
300 Wyona Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11207

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 6:00pm

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