



Notice
February 6, 2013

Dennis M. Walcott
Chancellor

Amended: The Proposed Phase-Out of J.H.S. 302 Rafael Cordero School (19K302) 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 J.H.S. 302 Rafael Cordero School (19K302, “J.H.S. 302”), an existing district middle school in buildings K302 (“K302”) and Transportable Classroom Unit K974 (“K974”) located at 350 Linwood Street, Brooklyn, NY 11208, in Community School District 19 (“District 19”). The school currently serves students in grades six through eight. The DOE is proposing to phase out J.H.S. 302 based on its poor performance and the DOE’s assessment that the school lacks the capacity to improve quickly to better support student needs. J.H.S. 302 is co-located with Achievement First Apollo Charter School (84K774, “AF Apollo”), an existing charter school serving kindergarten through third grade. In separate Educational Impact Statements (“EIS”) also posted on January 22, 2013, the DOE is proposing to open and co-locate two new district middle schools, 19K661 and 19K662 in building K302, as well as expand AF Apollo to serve fifth through eighth grade students in building K302. These proposals can be found here: <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2012-2013/Mar112013Proposals.htm>.

K302 also houses a Community Based Organization, Beacon, which provides after-school programming, and a School-Based Health Center (“SBHC”). The DOE does not expect the proposed phase-out of J.H.S. 302 to impact the space allocations for the SBHC or Beacon or their ability to provide services to students in the K302 building.

On February 6, 2013, all three Educational Impact Statements were amended to include information about the Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation’s receipt of a one-year Promise Neighborhoods Program planning grant from the United States Department of Education and J.H.S. 302’s partnership with the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

J.H.S. 302 admits students through the District 19 Middle School Choice Process. J.H.S. 302 first admits students who reside in the K302 zone. If any space remains, J.H.S. 302 admits students using an unscreened selection method. Unscreened schools randomly select students who apply.

If this proposal is approved, J.H.S. 302 will no longer admit new sixth-grade students after the conclusion of the 2012-2013 school year. The school will continue to phase out one grade level

at a time, until it closes following the 2014-2015 school year. Current students will be served and supported as they progress towards the completion of middle school while remaining enrolled at J.H.S. 302. Current and future J.H.S. 302 eighth-grade students will be supported through the Citywide High School Admissions Process as they apply to high school. In cases where students do not meet promotional requirements by June 2015, they will be served in 19K661 or 19K662.

As stated previously, J.H.S. 302 is co-located with AF Apollo, an existing charter elementary school that currently serves students in kindergarten through third grade, and will serve students in kindergarten through fourth grade in the 2013-2014 school year. AF Apollo admits kindergarten students through the charter lottery application process, with preference given to District 19 residents. In a separate proposal described in another amended EIS, the DOE is proposing to expand AF Apollo beginning in 2014-2015 to serve fifth through eighth grade students. If this proposal is approved, AF Apollo would serve kindergarten through fifth grade students beginning in the 2014-2015 school year and would add one grade per year until it reaches full scale in 2017-2018. For the purposes of this amended EIS describing the proposal to phase out J.H.S. 302, it is assumed that the proposal to expand AF Apollo will be approved by the PEP. If the proposal to expand AF Apollo is not approved, this amended EIS will be revised as necessary.

In a separate proposal described in another amended EIS, the DOE is proposing to open and co-locate two new district middle schools, 19K661 and 19K662. If this proposal to phase out J.H.S. 302, as well as the proposal to expand AF Apollo and the proposal to open and co-locate 19K661 and 19K662 are approved, 19K661, 19K662, and AF Apollo will grow to full scale as J.H.S. 302 phases out. 19K661 and 19K662 would each open with sixth grade, adding one grade annually until they reach full scale in the 2015-2016 school year, with a grade span of six through eight. 19K661 and 19K662 will admit students through the District 19 Middle School Choice Process using a limited unscreened admissions method, offering priority to students residing in the K302 residential zone. For the purposes of this amended EIS describing the proposal to phase out J.H.S. 302, it is assumed that the proposal to open and co-locate 19K661 and 19K662 will be approved by the PEP. If it is not approved, this amended EIS will be revised as necessary.

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

The amended 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 amended EIS are also available in the main offices of J.H.S. 302 and AF Apollo.

III. Submission of public comment.

Written comments can be sent to D19Proposals@schools.nyc.gov.

Oral comments can be left at 212-374-2464

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: Gabrielle Wyatt
Office: Division of Portfolio Planning
Address: 52 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007
Email: D19Proposals@schools.nyc.gov
Phone: 212-374-0208

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

A hearing for this proposal to phase out J.H.S. 302 and for the proposal to open and co-locate 19K661 and 19K622 is scheduled for:

February 26, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.
J.H.S. 302
350 Linwood Street
Brooklyn, NY 11208

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