Notice
February 6, 2013

Dennis M. Walcott
Chancellor

Amended: The Proposed Phase-Out of P.S. 167 The Parkway (17K167) Beginning in 2013-2014

I. Description of the subject and purpose of the proposed item under consideration.

On January 11, 2013, the New York City Department of Education ("DOE") proposed to phase out P.S. 167 The Parkway (17K167, "P.S. 167"), an existing zoned district elementary school in building K167 ("K167") located at 1025 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn, NY, 11213, in Community School District 17 ("District 17"). P.S. 167 currently serves students in kindergarten through fifth grade and offers two sections of full day pre-kindergarten. K167 also houses a community-based organization ("CBO"), Brooklyn Psychotherapy, a school-based mental health clinic, and a United Federation of Teachers ("UFT") office. The DOE is proposing to phase out P.S. 167 based on its poor performance and the DOE's assessment that the school lacks the capacity to improve quickly to better support student needs.

This notice has been amended to reflect a change in the date of the joint public hearing on this proposal. No changes have been made to the Educational Impact Statement. Details on the new joint public hearing date are included below in section V.

If this proposal is approved, P.S. 167 will no longer admit new kindergarten students and will no longer offer grades one and two or its pre-kindergarten program after the 2012-2013 school year. Beginning in the 2013-2014 school year, after P.S. 167 no longer serves kindergarten, first grade, and second grade, P.S. 167 will serve one less grade in each subsequent year until it completes its phase-out and closes in June 2016.
If this proposal is approved, current students in kindergarten and first grade, whether or not they meet promotional standards, will be served by a new zoned elementary school, District 17K532 ("17K532"), to be opened in K167. This new school option was also proposed by the DOE in a separate EIS posted on January 11, 2013, which can be found at: http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2012-2013/Mar112013Proposals.htm.

Current students in second grade who meet promotional standards will continue to progress at P.S. 167. However, any current second grade students who do not meet promotional standards will complete second grade at 17K532.

Current students in third and fourth grades will continue their education at P.S. 167, regardless of whether they meet promotional standards. Current fifth-graders will proceed to apply to middle school via the District 17 Middle School Choice process, unless they do not meet promotional

standards, in which case they will continue fifth grade at P.S. 167. In cases where students do not meet promotional requirements by June 2016, they will be served in 17K532.

For the purposes of this EIS describing the proposal to phase out P.S. 167, it is assumed that the proposal to open and co-locate 17K532 will be approved by the Panel for Educational Policy ("PEP"). If it is not approved, this EIS will be revised as necessary.

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. In August 2012, SED identified Priority schools across the State, including 122 in New York City. Elementary schools are identified as Priority based on the school's state test performance. 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" or "U" (the lowest possible rating), "Developing" or "D," "Proficient" or "P," and "Well Developed" or "WD" (the highest possible rating).

P.S. 167 received an overall D grade on its Progress Report in 2011-2012, after having received an overall C grade in both 2010-2011 and 2009-2010. The school received a "Developing" on its most recent Quality Review in 2010-2011, indicating deficiencies in the way that the school is organized to support student learning. The school was also identified as a Focus School.

As a result, the DOE initiated a comprehensive review of P.S. 167, with the goal of determining what intensive supports and interventions would best benefit its students and the P.S. 167 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. 167—will address the school's performance struggles and allow for a new school option to develop in K167 that the DOE believes 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. 167's main office.

III. Submission of public comment.

Written comments can be sent to 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: Savita Iyengar
Office: Division of Portfolio Planning
Address: 52 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007
Email: D17Proposals@schools.nyc.gov
Phone: 212-374-0208.

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

Thursday, February 14, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.
P.S. 167
1025 Eastern Parkway
Brooklyn, NY 11213

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