



Notice
February 14, 2013

Dennis M. Walcott
Chancellor

Amended: The Proposed Co-location of the Middle School Grades of Success Academy Charter School – Manhattan 1 (84MTBD), Success Academy Charter School – Manhattan 2 (84MTBD) and Success Academy Charter School – Upper West (84M523), Collectively Known as Success Academy Charter School – Manhattan Middle School (84MTBD), with Existing Schools High School of Graphic Communication Arts (02M625), Business of Sports School (02M393), Urban Assembly Gateway School for Technology (02M507), the Elementary Grades of SA – Manhattan 2, and a New District High School, 02M135, in School Building M625, Beginning in the 2015-2016 School Year

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

On January 18, 2013, the New York City Department of Education (“DOE”) issued an Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”) proposing to open and co-locate the middle school grades of Success Academy Charter School – Manhattan 1 (84MTBD, “SA – Manhattan 1”), Success Academy Charter School – Manhattan 2 (84MTBD, “SA – Manhattan 2”) and Success Academy Charter School – Upper West (84M523, “SA – Upper West”), collectively known as Success Academy Charter School – Manhattan Middle School (84MTBD, “SA – Manhattan MS”), in school building M625 (“M625”) beginning in the 2015-2016 school year. M625 is located at 439 West 49th Street, New York, NY 10019 within the geographical confines of Community School District 2 (“District 2”). If this proposal is approved, SA – Manhattan MS will be co-located with the following schools: High School of Graphic Communication Arts (02M625, “Graphics”), an existing school that currently serves students in grades nine through twelve; Business of Sports School (02M393, “BOSS”), an existing high school that serves students in grades nine through twelve; Urban Assembly Gateway School for Technology (02M507, “Gateway”), an existing high school serving students in grades nine through ten which is in the process of phasing in to serve grades nine through twelve and will reach full scale in 2014-2015; and the elementary grades of SA – Manhattan 2, which will open in September 2013 with kindergarten and first grade.

The DOE is now amending the Building Utilization Plan to correct the capacity of the auditorium listed in the Shared Space Plan. This amendment does not substantially revise the proposal.

Additionally, M625 currently houses an Alternative Learning Center (88M992, “ALC”), which provides an educational setting for students in grades nine through twelve who are on a Superintendent’s suspension for up to 90 days. In the 2013-2014 school year, the ALC will re-locate to building M859 (“M859”), located at 512 W 182nd St, New York, NY 10033 within the geographical confines of Community School District 6. This proposal is not anticipated to impact the ALC in any way, as the ALC will have moved out prior to the start of the proposed co-locations.

On December 20, 2012, the Panel for Education Policy (“PEP”) approved a proposal to co-locate SA – Manhattan 2 in M625 with Graphics, BOSS, and Gateway beginning in the 2013-2014 school year.

M625 also houses two community-based organizations (“CBOs”), SPARK Drug Prevention and the Association of Progressive Dominicans. This proposal is not expected to impact the continued siting of the CBOs.

In a separate Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”) posted on January 18, 2013, the DOE is proposing to phase out and eventually close Graphics after an extensive review of data and community feedback indicating that the school is unable to turn around despite numerous efforts to improve instruction and school organization. This EIS can be accessed on the DOE’s web site at <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2012-2013/Mar112013Proposals.htm>

In a separate Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”) also posted on January 18, 2013, the DOE is proposing to co-locate a new district high school, 02M135, in M625 beginning in the 2013-2014 school year. This EIS can be accessed on the DOE’s web site at <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2012-2013/Mar112013Proposals.htm>.

If the PEP approves the proposal to phase out Graphics, the school will no longer admit new ninth-grade students after the end of this school year. However, Graphics will continue to serve students currently enrolled in the school. During the 2013-2014 school year, Graphics will serve students in tenth through twelfth grades and will reduce enrollment by one grade level per year until it completes its phase-out and closes at the completion of the 2015-2016 school year.

In the event that the phase-out of Graphics is not approved, the DOE will re-examine the availability of space in the building and may, as appropriate, revise its proposal to co-locate SA – Manhattan MS in M625. Such a revised proposal would be described in a revised EIS.

If this proposal is approved, beginning in the 2015-2016 school year, SA-Manhattan MS will enroll, subject to availability of seats, fifth grade students continuing from SA – Upper West, located at 145 West 84th Street, New York, NY 10024 in District 3. Beginning in 2017-2018, SA – Manhattan MS will enroll, subject to availability of seats, fifth grade students continuing from SA-Manhattan 2. Additionally, SA – Manhattan MS may enroll fifth through eighth grade students from SA - Manhattan 1, which will open in September 2013 with kindergarten and first grade.

SA – Manhattan MS would serve 75-90 students in fifth grade in 2015-16, 175-210 students in fifth through sixth grades in 2016-2017, 275-330 students in fifth through seventh grades in 2017-2018, and 400-480 students in fifth through eighth grades in 2018-2019.

SA – Manhattan 1, SA – Manhattan 2, and SA – Upper West have all been authorized by The State University of New York Charter Schools Institute (“SUNY CSI”), their charter authorizer, to serve students in grades kindergarten through five. Prior to the expiration of SA – Manhattan 1’s, SA – Manhattan – 2’s and SA – Upper West’s charters, SACS intends to apply to SUNY for a revision to their charters to expand to serve kindergarten through eighth grades. SUNY CSI has the authority to approve or deny these requests. Should SUNY CSI deny these requests to expand SA – Manhattan 1, SA – Manhattan 2 and SA – Upper West to serve kindergarten through eighth grades, the DOE would consider alternate options for the space in M625 and, if necessary, propose an alternative option in a new or revised EIS and Building Utilization Plan (“BUP”).

SA – Manhattan 1 and SA – Manhattan 2 will admit students in kindergarten through third grade via their charter lottery application process. SA – Upper West admits students in kindergarten through third grade via its charter lottery application process.

According to the 2011-2012 Enrollment, Capacity, Utilization Report (“Blue Book”), M625 has a target capacity of 2,247 students. During the current 2012-2013 school year the building serves only 1,963 students, yielding a building utilization rate of 87%.

If this proposal is approved, SA – Manhattan MS will open during the 2015-2016 school year, when it will serve approximately 75-90 students in the fifth grade. SA – Manhattan MS will gradually phase in by adding one grade per year. The school is expected to serve its full grade span beginning in 2018-2019, though its enrollment is not projected to stabilize until 2021-2022, when all grades will serve the same number of sections. In 2021-2022, SA – Manhattan MS will serve approximately 500-600 students in grades five through eight.

In 2020-2021, once Graphics has completed its phase-out, the ALC has moved out of the building and all schools in M625 have reached full scale and stable enrollment, it is projected that there will be approximately 2,108 – 2,426 students served in M625, thereby yielding an estimated utilization rate of 94%-108%.

SACS currently operates 12 public elementary charter schools in New York City. The four SACS elementary schools that received a Progress Report for the 2010-2011 school year each received an overall grade of A.

The DOE supports the co-location of SA – Manhattan MS in M625. This proposal is intended to increase the number of high-quality middle school seats and options in District 2 and could allow SACS to continue providing high-quality educational opportunities for students and families through multiple stages of their children’s education.

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

The Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”) and amended 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 and amended BUP are also available in High School of Graphic Communication Arts, Business of Sports School, and Urban Assembly Gateway School For Technology’s main offices.

III. Submission of public comment.

Written comments can be sent to D02Proposals@schools.nyc.gov

Oral comments can be left at 212-374-3466.

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: Jennifer Peng
Office: Division of Portfolio Planning
Address: 52 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007
Email: D02Proposals@schools.nyc.gov
Phone: 212-374-3466

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

February 26, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.
439 West 49th Street
Manhattan, NY 10019

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