



Amended Notice
March 1, 2013

Dennis M. Walcott
Chancellor

Amended: The Proposed Phase-out of J.H.S. 13 Jackie Robinson (04M013) Beginning in the 2013-2014 School Year

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

One January 22, the New York City Department of Education (“DOE”) posted a proposal to phase out J.H.S. 13 Jackie Robinson (04M013, “J.H.S. 13”), an existing choice middle school in building M013 (“M013”) located at 1573 Madison Avenue, Manhattan, NY 10029, in Community School District 4 (“District 4”). J.H.S. 13 currently serves students in grades six through eight. The DOE is proposing to phase out J.H.S. 13 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 two separate Educational Impact Statements (“EIS”) also posted on January 22, 2013, the DOE is proposing to, in one EIS, extend the co-location of East Harlem Scholars Academy Charter School (84M518, “EHS I”) in building M013 through the conclusion of the 2015-2016 school year, when it will move to a private facility, and in the other EIS, site a new K-8 charter school, East Harlem Scholars Academy Charter School II (84MTBD, “EHS II”), in the space to be vacated by J.H.S. 13’s phase-out and EHS I’s move to private space. Those proposals can be found at <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2012-2013/Mar112013Proposals.htm>

The EIS has now been amended to update the programs and partnerships of CPE I to include Weekly Storyteller, Per Dev, and El Taller Latino Arts After School. These changes do not substantially revise the proposal.

If this proposal is approved, J.H.S. 13 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 at the end of the 2014-15 school year. Current students will be served and supported as they progress toward the completion of middle school while remaining enrolled at J.H.S. 13. Current and future J.H.S. 13 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 the end of the 2014-2015 school year, the DOE will help students and families identify alternative programs or schools that meet students’ needs so that they may continue their education after J.H.S. 13 completes phasing out.

J.H.S. 13 is co-located with Central Park East I (04M497, “CPE I”), an existing district elementary school serving students in kindergarten through fifth grade and students in one section of full-day pre-kindergarten; Central Park East High School (04M555, “CPE HS”), an existing district high school serving students in grades nine through twelve; and East Harlem Scholars Academy Charter School I (84M518, “EHS I”), an existing charter elementary school that is phasing in and currently serves students in kindergarten through second grade. As stated above, EHS I will move to a private facility following the conclusion of the 2015-2016 school year.

In addition, two community based organizations (“CBOs”) are located in building M013, Harlem Family Institute and Girls Inc. This proposal is not expect to impact the siting of either CBO. However, as enrollment changes in the M013 building, student interest in the services provided by the CBOs is also subject to change, which could impact siting in the future.

J.H.S. 13 admits students through the District 4 Middle School Choice Process and has a screened program with a humanities focus, offering priority to students and residents of District 4. In screened programs, students are ranked by the school based on a range of factors which may include final report card grades from the prior school year, reading and math standardized test scores, and attendance and punctuality. There may also be other requirements that schools use to screen applicants, such as an interview, essay, teacher recommendation, or additional diagnostic test.

CPE I is a choice elementary school that gives preference to students and residents in Districts 4 and 5.

CPE HS admits students through the Citywide High School Admissions Process and has a screened program with a humanities and interdisciplinary focus.

EHS I admits students via charter lottery and gives preference to students who reside in District 4.

As noted above, in two separate proposals described in other EISs, the DOE is proposing to extend the co-location of EHS I in building M013 through the conclusion of the 2015-2016 school year and to site a new charter K-8 school, EHS II in the space to be vacated by J.H.S. 13's phase-out and EHS I's move to private space. Those proposals can be found at <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2012-2013/Mar112013Proposals.htm>

If this proposal and both of the proposals for EHS I and EHS II are approved by the PEP, EHS I will continue to phase into M013 and EHS II will begin to phase in to the building as J.H.S. 13 phases out.

While EHS I and EHS II are currently authorized to serve students in grades kindergarten through five, both EHS I and EHS II have informed the DOE that they intend to apply to their charter authorizer, State University of New York Charter Schools Institute ("SUNY CSI") to expand their respective grade spans to serve students in kindergarten through eighth grade, with EHS I intending to reach full scale in 2018-2019 and EHS II intending to reach full scale in 2020-2021. Only SUNY CSI has the authority to approve or deny those requests. Should SUNY CSI deny EHS I and/or EHS II's requests to expand, or if EHS I or EHS II fail to make these requests, EHS I and/or EHS II will only serve their currently approved grade spans of kindergarten through fifth grade.

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 in 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, as well as 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).

J.H.S. 13 received an overall D grade on its Progress Report in 2011-2012 and received overall C grades for the previous two years. The school received a "Developing" on its most recent Quality Review in 2010-2011. The school was also designated a Priority school by SED.

As a result, the DOE initiated a comprehensive review of J.H.S. 13, with the goal of determining what intensive supports and interventions would best benefit its students and the J.H.S. 13 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 J.H.S. 13—will address the school’s performance struggles and allow for a new school option to develop in building M013. The DOE believes that this new school option will better serve future elementary and middle school students and the broader community. J.H.S. 13’s phase-out would allow for the siting of a new elementary and middle school option for both existing and future District 4 students. Although the new school would serve fewer middle school students than J.H.S. 13, District 4 has a number of excess seats at the middle school level.

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

The amended 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 amended EIS are also available in J.H.S. 13 Jackie Robinson, Central Park East I, Central Park East, and East Harlem Scholars Academy Charter School main office.

III. Submission of public comment.

Written comments can be sent to D04Proposals@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: D04Proposals@schools.nyc.gov
Phone: 212-374-3466

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

The joint public hearing for the proposed phase-out of J.H.S. 13 Jackie Robinson was on February 25, 2013.

The joint public hearing for the proposed extension of co-location of EHS I in M013 and the proposed co-location of EHS II in M013 was on February 27, 2013.

Questions and comments about the proposal are accepted via email and phone as indicated in section IV above.

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

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29 Fort Greene Pl
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