

EDUCATIONAL IMPACT STATEMENT: The Proposed Re-siting of P.S. 51 Bronx New School (10X051) in Building X781

I. Summary of Proposal

The New York City Department of Education (“DOE”) is proposing to permanently re-site P.S. 51 Bronx New School (10X051, “P.S. 51”), an existing choice elementary school that served 270 students in kindergarten through fifth grade in 2010-2011,¹ when it was housed in building X825, located at 3200 Jerome Avenue, Bronx, NY 10468 in Community School District 10 (“District 10”). If this proposal is approved, P.S. 51 would be permanently re-sited to building X781 (“X781”), located at 695 East 182nd Street, with gymnasium space located nearby at 2239 Crotona Avenue, Bronx, NY 10457, in Community School District 10.

P.S. 51 had been located in building X825 since the school opened in 1992 through the 2010-2011 school year. Last summer, the DOE discovered that building X825 contained levels of trichloroethylene (“TCE”)—a chemical compound regulated by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation—that exceeded State guidelines. Because these levels could not be effectively remediated prior to the opening of school in September 2011, the DOE determined it necessary to find a new location for P.S. 51—the only school located in building X825—for the start of the 2011-2012 academic year. In September 2011, the entire student population of P.S. 51 moved from X825 to X781, a re-siting effectuated by an emergency declaration, signed by the Chancellor on August 31, 2011. If this proposal is approved, it would provide for the permanent siting of the P.S. 51 at building X781.

P.S. 51 is an existing choice elementary school serving students in kindergarten through fifth grade. The school enrolls students through a ranked, choice process and gives preference to students residing in District 10. At its new location, X781, P.S. 51 is projected to serve 260 students for 2011-2012,² approximately the same number of students it did in the X825 building. P.S. 51 has access to the entire lower level of the building, a portion of the first floor, and the entire second, third, and fourth floors. This space totals 27,063 square feet. Further, P.S. 51 will have access to X781’s gymnasium/assembly area, which provides an additional 8,045 square feet. The combined total lease space for X781 is 35,108 square feet.

II. Proposed or Potential Use of Building

P.S. 51 is the only DOE school located in building X781. There is a non-DOE pre-kindergarten Head Start program that occupies part of the first floor. P.S. 51 will use its own space on the first floor for administrative purposes, so no interaction between the two groups is expected. P.S. 51 students will only receive instruction on those floors of which P.S. 51 has sole use.

DBN	School Name	2010-11	2011-12
10X051	P.S. 051 Bronx New School	K-05	K-05

¹ Based on the 2010-2011 Audited Register.

² Based on the 2011-2012 Budget Register Projections.

Capacity and Utilization				
2010-2011			2011-2012	
	Building Code	Capacity	Building Code	Capacity
Total Capacity³		156	Total Capacity	268
Main Building	X825	156	Main Building	X781
School Enrollment		270⁴		260⁵
Utilization %⁶		173%	Utilization %	97%

In 2010-2011, P.S. 51 was located in X825, a building that was functioning at a utilization rate of 173%. As described in more detail in the Enrollment, Capacity, Utilization Report, which is available at <http://www.nycsca.org/Community/CapitalPlanManagementReportsData/Enrollment/2010-2011-BlueBook.pdf>, a building’s target utilization rate is calculated by dividing the aggregated enrollment of all the school organizations in the building by the aggregated “target capacities” of those organizations. Each school organization’s “target capacity” is calculated based upon the scheduled use of individual rooms as reported by principals during an annual facilities survey, the DOE’s standards for maximum classroom capacities (which are lower than the UFT contractual class sizes and differ depending on grade level), and the efficiency with which classrooms are programmed (i.e., the frequency with which classes are scheduled in a given classroom).

The most recent year for which target capacity has been calculated for buildings is 2010-2011. As described earlier in this EIS, the DOE’s projected utilization rates for the 2011-2012 school year and beyond are based on the 2010-2011 target capacity, which assumes that the components underlying that target capacity (scheduled use of classrooms, maximum classroom capacity, etc.) remain constant. Thus, projected utilization rates for 2011-2012 and beyond provide only an approximation of a building’s usage because each of the factors underlying target capacity may be adjusted by principals from year to year to better accommodate students’ needs. For example, changing the use of a room from an administrative room to a homeroom at the high school level will increase a building’s overall target capacity because for high schools administrative rooms are not assigned a capacity. Holding enrollment constant, this change would result in a lower utilization rate. Similarly, if a room previously used as a kindergarten classroom is subsequently used as fifth grade classroom, the building’s target capacity would increase because we expect that a fifth grade class will have more students than a kindergarten class. This is reflected in the fact that the DOE’s standard for maximum classroom capacity is higher for fifth grade classrooms than for kindergarten classrooms. In this example as well, assuming enrollment is constant, the utilization rate

³The capacity is based on the 2010-11 Blue Book.

⁴ Based on the 2010-2011 Audited Register.

⁵ Based on the 2011-2012 Budget Register Projections.

⁶ The utilization rate reported here may differ from that published in the 2010-2011 Enrollment Capacity Utilization Report (the “Blue Book”) because the Blue Book enrollment includes Long Term Absences (“LTAs”), students who have been absent continuously for 30 days or more as of October 31, 2010. The building capacity figures quoted here are consistent with the Blue Book. However, the building enrollment figures referenced throughout this EIS and used in the calculation of utilization rates only include the projected number of students who are actually projected to attend the school and do not include LTAs. This methodology is consistent with the manner in which the DOE conducts planning and calculates space allocations and funding for all schools. In determining the space allocation for co-located schools, the Office of Space Planning will conduct a detailed site survey and space analysis of the building to assess the amount of space available in the building.

would decrease.

Because target capacity and, thus, utilization rate, is calculated based upon the scheduled use of individual rooms as reported annually by principals, audited data will not be available for P.S. 51's use of building X781 until after the 2011-2012 school year. However, an estimate of X781's capacity, based on P.S. 51's footprint as applied to the space in the building, is for a building capacity of 268.⁷ Based on the projected enrollment for 2011-12 and this capacity estimate, the projected utilization rate for X781 for the 2011-12 school year is 97%.

There are no proposed additional uses for the X781 building. Any future plans for the use of the space in X781 would be proposed in a separate Educational Impact Statement ("EIS") that would be subject to a vote by the Panel for Educational Policy ("PEP").

The lease for X825, which expired in April 2011 and had been maintained on a month-to-month basis by the DOE, has not been renewed and, thus, the DOE has no plans to use that space for any other purpose.

III. Impact of the Proposal on Affected Students, Schools, and Community

A. Students

P.S. 51 is an existing choice elementary school that opened in May 1992 in building X825, but has, since the start of the 2011-2012 school year, been occupying building X781, also in District 10. P.S. 51 currently serves kindergarten through fifth grade students. If this proposal is approved, P.S. 51 and its projected 260 students would be permanently re-sited to X781. P.S. 51 would continue to be an unscreened choice school with a preference for District 10 residents; thus the proposed re-siting would not impact admissions. A "choice school" has open enrollment for all students throughout its district—and prioritizes students within the district—but, unlike zoned schools, does not offer preferred enrollment to students from any particular geographic zone. "Unscreened" means that there is no selection criteria applied to the admissions process, and acceptance into the school is based on a random selection process.

Most of P.S. 51's students have been accommodated in building X781. A very small number of students with disabilities required placement at other facilities due to accessibility issues at the X781 building. The DOE accommodated those students and made the necessary arrangements with their families on an individual basis. Another small group of students chose to transfer to their zoned school, though they could have been accommodated at P.S. 51 in its new building.

P.S. 51 currently offers Integrated Co-Teaching ("ICT") classes, Self-Contained classes ("SC"), and Special Education Teacher Support Services ("SETSS"). The existing ICT, SC, and SETSS classes would continue to be provided, and students with disabilities would continue to receive mandated services in accordance with their Individualized Education Plans ("IEPs"). Similarly, current and future students with IEPs would continue to receive appropriate services at P.S. 51.

In accordance with DOE policy, English Language Learners ("ELL") students are admitted to elementary schools in the same manner as their peers who are not ELLs. Current and future ELL students at P.S. 51 would continue to receive their mandated services.

Academic and extracurricular programs would benefit from the new location, as X781 offers additional

⁷ Based on site X781's Reprogramming Analysis Document for the 2011-2012 school year.

full-size classrooms, as well as gymnasium/public assembly space, amenities not available in building X825. The proposed re-siting would not lead P.S. 51 to reduce any of its extracurricular or academic offerings, though as for any City school, P.S. 51's programs may be subject to annual change based on student demand and available resources.

The school partners with Mosholu Montefiore Community Center. Mosholu Montefiore runs an afterschool program at its center, each weekday, for P.S. 51's kindergarten through fifth grades. In the school's previous site, Mosholu Montefiore also ran this program at P.S. 51. However, due to the resiting, P.S. 51 students are now bused to the center. All other aspects of this program will continue as originally planned for the 2011-2012 school year.

The school will also continue its partnership with DreamYard Project, an arts education provider. DreamYard provides P.S. 51's kindergarten through fifth grade students with art instruction during the school day, at the X781 building, three times per week.

Additionally, P.S. 51 will continue its partnership with American Ballroom Dancing, a dancing studio that provides P.S. 51's fifth graders with dance instruction, at the X781 building, once per week.

P.S. 51 also developed a safety and security plan prior to the first day of school in September 2011

B. Schools

The proposed re-siting would provide P.S. 51 with a long-term location in District 10.

In building X781, P.S. 51 has use of 19 full-size rooms and three quarter-size rooms, located on four floors. Two of the 19 full-size rooms will be used for administrative purposes. X781 also contains a cafeteria in the lower level of the building. P.S. 51 will also have the use of gymnasium space at the 2239 Crotona Avenue address. Previously, in building X825, P.S. 51 occupied 10 full-size rooms, 6 half-size rooms, and 3.75 rooms for administrative purposes—meaning the school has approximately three more full-size classrooms in building X781 than it did in building X825.

The proposed re-siting of P.S. 51 is not expected to impact current or future student enrollment or instructional programming. In 2010-2011, approximately 93% of P.S. 51's students were District 10 students. This figure is not expected to have changed substantially for 2011-2012. For the upcoming 2011-2012 school year, P.S. 51 will continue to provide enrollment preference for District 10 students.

C. Community

The DOE supports parent choice and strives to ensure that all families have access to high-quality schools that meet their children's needs. The proposed re-siting of P.S. 51 is intended to meet those goals by continuing to provide this high-quality elementary school choice option for students in District 10. Moreover, P.S. 51 has consistently performed well and was designated a school "In Good Standing" according to the State Accountability Status for the 2009-2010 school year.

As described above, District 10 residents may enroll in a District 10 choice elementary school through a random selection process conducted by the school. P.S. 51 is an available option for all District 10 students and does not screen students who apply. As a result of the re-siting, it is possible that enrollment at schools near the X825 building may see a slight increase in enrollment while schools near the new X781 location might see a slight decrease in enrollment. The overall number of elementary seats in District 10 will, however, remain constant. P.S. 51 will continue to admit students in accordance with Chancellor's

Regulation A-101 regarding elementary school admissions. The full details of A-101 can be found at <http://schools.nyc.gov/RulesPolicies/ChancellorsRegulations/default.htm>.

This proposal is not expected to impact the ability of community members and organizations to obtain school building use permits at X781.

IV. Enrollment, Admissions and School Performance Information

P.S. 51 Admissions Data

Current Admissions	Grades K-5: District 10 Elementary School Choice
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Enrollment Data

	Grade KG	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5	Total
2010-11 (audited)	42	49	50	47	29	53	270
2011-12 (proj.)	48	46	48	46	43	29	260

Demographic Data

Percentage of Students with Disabilities Receiving ICT or SC Services⁸	10%
Percentage of Students with an Individual Education Plan⁹	19%
Percentage of English Language Learner Students¹⁰	4%
Percentage of Students Eligible for Free or Reduced Lunch¹¹	80%

⁸ Students Receiving Integrated Co-Teaching and Self-Contained services as percentage of total students from the 2010-2011 Audited Register.

⁹ Students with Individual Education Plan as percentage of total students from the 2010-2011 Audited Register.

¹⁰ English Language Learner students as percentage of total students from the 2010-2011 Audited Register.

¹¹ Percentage of Students Eligible for Free or Reduced Lunch from School Allocation Memorandum No. 8, FY12, July 5, 2011.

School Performance Data

P.S. 51	2007-2008	2008-2009	2009-2010 ¹²
School Performance and Progress¹³			
Overall Progress Report Grade	B	A	B
Quality Review Score	P	P	P
Performance Data			
English Language Arts % Proficient (Levels 3 and 4)	70%	75%	51%
Math % Proficient (Levels 3 and 4)	86%	46%	54%
Other Key Performance Indicators			
Attendance Rate	94%	94%	95%
2009-2010 State Accountability Status	In Good Standing		

V. Initial Costs and Savings

The lease for X825, which expired in April 2011 and had been maintained on a month-to-month basis by the DOE, has not been renewed after the 2010-2011 school year. The final annual rent under the expired lease for X825 was \$506,250.00.

The DOE has entered into a new lease for X781, at 695 E. 182nd Street, with gymnasium space at 2239 Crotona Avenue, Bronx NY, 10457. The lease is for ten years from the date of initial occupancy, at a total rental cost of \$772,376.00 per year for the first three years, \$830,304.20 per year for the fourth through sixth years, \$892,445.36 per year for the seventh through ninth years, and \$914,914.48 for year ten, payable in equal monthly installments at the end of each month. The disparity in rent between X825 and X781 reflects the fact that X781 is a larger building and market conditions have changed since the X825 lease was signed.

The cost to re-locate P.S. 51 is estimated to be \$50,788.00.

¹² In 2010, the New York State Education Department adjusted the “cut scores” on annual mathematics and English Language Arts exams, raising the score required for students to achieve Level 3 (grade-level proficiency) or higher on the exam. As a result, the percent of students performing at grade level fell significantly at schools statewide, including most New York City schools. While the percent of students achieving proficiency declined, on average, New York City's students' raw scores on the tests remained largely unchanged relative to the prior year.

¹³ Source: Progress Report (<http://schools.nyc.gov/SchoolPortals/10/X051/AboutUs/Statistics/default.htm>)

VI. Effect on Personnel Needs, Costs of Instruction, Administration, Transportation and Other Support Services

A. Personnel Needs

The proposed re-siting is not expected to change the number of personnel positions assigned to P.S. 51, nor is it expected to significantly alter the duties of current staff at P.S. 51.

B. Cost of Instruction

This proposal should not impact the operating budget or costs of instruction at P.S. 51. The basic operating budget for those schools is determined by the same Fair Student Funding (“FSF”) formula used at all other New York City district public schools. Under FSF, schools receive City tax levy funding on a per pupil basis. Each student receives a per-pupil allocation based on the grade level of the student. FSF allocations are subject to annual variation, but for 2010-2011, the base per-pupil allocation for elementary schools was \$4,085.30. In addition, FSF awards supplemental allocations on a per-pupil basis for students who have additional needs and therefore cost more to educate. For example, during the 2010-2011 school year, elementary schools received an additional \$1,633.71 per pupil for each English Language Learner they enrolled.

At the elementary level, supplemental funds are awarded for each student who is an English Language Learner, who requires special education services, or who is eligible for free or reduced-price lunch. For middle and high schools, supplemental funds are awarded to each student who is an English Language Learner, who requires special education services, or who is performing below grade level upon enrollment. In the case of students who fall into more than one of these categories, schools are awarded supplemental funding to meet all of those needs.

FSF covers basic instructional expenses and FSF funds may, at the school’s discretion, be used to hire staff, purchase supplies and materials, or implement instructional programs. As the total number of students enrolled grows, the overall budget will increase accordingly, allowing the school to meet the instructional needs of its larger student population. Similarly, if the total number of students enrolled falls, the budget shrinks accordingly, as the school will need fewer supplies and potentially a smaller staff.

As with all other schools citywide, P.S. 51 may receive additional “categorical” funding based on student characteristics and needs. For example, federal Title I funding is awarded to schools based on the proportion of low-income students they enroll. P.S. 51 is currently eligible for Title I funding. Assuming that the school continues to meet Title I criteria, the size of its Title I funding award would grow or shrink as the school population grows or shrinks.

While schools do receive supplemental support for special education students through Fair Student Funding, that only represents part of the funding provided to support those students. Schools are budgeted to meet the needs of their special education students as defined by their Individualized Education Plans. P.S. 51 will continue to receive funds to meet the needs of all special education students in accordance with their IEPs.

Please note that increased or reduced per capita funds allocated to the school as a result of changes in enrollment that may occur do not represent net/incremental system costs. All dollar amounts are based on

FY10 allocations and are subject to annual variation based on adjustments to the DOE's overall operating budget.

C. Administration

No change in school supervisory or administrator positions at P.S. 51 is expected as a result of this proposal.

D. Transportation

Building X781 is located approximately 2.2 miles from the X825 Building. General education students in kindergarten through second grade will continue to receive busing if they live more than one half mile from X781. General education students in third through fifth grades will continue to receive busing if they live more than one mile from X781. Special Education students will continue to receive busing services in accordance with their Individualized Education Plans.

Transportation will be provided according to Chancellor's Regulation A-801:
<http://schools.nyc.gov/NR/rdonlyres/21A1B11A-886B-4F74-9546-E875EE82A14C/40303/A801.pdf> .
There will be no change to existing transportation practices at P.S 51.

E. Other Support Services

The provision of certain support services is described above. Other support services would be provided consistent with Citywide policy.

VII. Building Information

Building		X781
Type of Building		2010-2011 Building data is not available at this time as site X781 is a new leased facility and will be available for the first time in the 2011-12 school year.
Year Built		
Overall BCAS rating		
2010-2011 Target Building Utilization		
2010-2011 Target Building Capacity		
FY 2011 Maintenance Costs	Labor	
	Materials	
	Maintenance and repair contracts	
	Service contracts	
	Custodial operations costs—Materials	
	Custodial operations costs—Custodial Allocation	
Energy Costs	FY2011 Electric	
	FY2011 Gas	
	FY2010 Oil	
Projects completed during the current or prior school year		
Projects proposed in the capital plan		
Accessibility of the building		
Building attributes		