



Notice
December 16, 2010

Joel I. Klein
Chancellor

The Proposed Grade Truncation of Frederick Douglass Academy III's Middle School Grades (09X517)

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

Frederick Douglass Academy III (09X517, "FDA III") is an existing school located at 3630 Third Avenue, Bronx, NY, 10456, in Community School District 9, in Building X148 ("X148"). FDA III currently serves students in sixth through twelfth grade. FDA III is co-located with two other schools in X148: KAPPA (09X215, "KAPPA"), a school serving students in grades five through eight, and I.S. 219 New Venture School (09X219, "I.S. 219"), which serves grades six, seven and eight. The New York City Department of Education ("DOE") is proposing to truncate FDA III's middle school grades based on its poor performance and the DOE's assessment that the school lacks capacity to turn around quickly to better support student needs. This would mean that FDA III's middle school grades would be truncated over time and FDA III would eventually only serve students in the high school grades (9-12).

If this proposal is approved, FDA III would no longer admit sixth grade students after the conclusion of the 2010-2011 school year. Current students in grades seven and eight will continue to be served by FDA III and be supported as they progress toward completion of FDA III middle school grades and transition to high school. The school will serve one grade less each subsequent year until the middle school grades complete phasing out in June 2013. In 2013-2014, and from that time forward, FDA III would only serve grades 9-12.

The DOE does not plan to replace FDA III's middle school grades because there are enough existing middle school seats in District 9 to accommodate middle school students.

In 2009-2010, X148 had a target capacity of 1459, and the building enrolled a total of 1485 students, yielding a building target utilization of 102%. This means that the building was slightly over-enrolled. The DOE may reallocate space in the X148 building based on the decline in enrollment due to the middle school grade truncation. In discussions with FDA III, the DOE may consider expanding FDA III's high school by one section per grade in grades 9-12 once the truncation of the middle school grades begins in the 2011-2012 school year. Final space allocations in X148 would be based on the projected enrollment for each school and would be made by the Building Council.

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/2010-2011/Feb32011Proposals>

Copies of the EIS are also available in the main offices of FDA III, KAPPA, and I.S. 219 New Venture School.

III. Submission of public comment.

Written comments can be sent to D09Proposals@schools.nyc.gov.

Oral comments can be left at 212-374-5159.

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: Gentian Falstrom
Office: Division of Portfolio Planning
Address: 52 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007
Email: D09Proposals@schools.nyc.gov
Phone: 212-374-5159

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

January 26, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.
FDA III / KAPPA / I.S. 219 New Venture School
3630 Third Avenue
Bronx, NY 10456

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. Interpretation services will be provided in Spanish. To request interpretation services in another language, please contact Ms. Falstrom at the e-mail address or telephone number above.

VI. Date, time and place of the Panel for Educational Policy meeting at which the Panel will vote on the proposed item.

February 3, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.
Brooklyn Technical High School
29 Fort Greene Place
Brooklyn, NY 11217