



Notice
December 20, 2010

Joel I. Klein
Chancellor

The Proposed Phase-out of Christopher Columbus High School (11X415) and a District 75 School High School Inclusion Program (P010X@Columbus)

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

Christopher Columbus High School (11X415, “Columbus”) is an existing zoned high school located at 925 Astor Avenue, Bronx, NY 10469, within the geographical confines of Community School District 11 (“District 11”). It currently serves students in grades nine through twelve. Columbus is currently co-located with Global Enterprise High School (11X541, “Global Enterprise”), Collegiate Institute for Math and Science (11X288, “Collegiate Institute”), Astor Collegiate Academy, (11X299, “Astor Collegiate”), and Pelham Preparatory Academy (11X542, “Pelham Prep”). All five schools currently enroll students in grades 9-12. There is also a District 75 school that has an Inclusion Program in building X415 (“P010X@Columbus”), which serves students with a range of disabilities in grades 9-12. P010X students are enrolled in Columbus’ general education classes, and, depending on their individual needs, receive Special Education Teacher Support Services (“SETSS”). X415 also houses a Young Adult Borough Center (“YABC”) at Columbus. A “co-location” means that two or more school organizations are located in the same building and may share common spaces like auditoriums, libraries, gymnasiums, and cafeterias.

The New York City Department of Education (“DOE”) is proposing to phase out and eventually close Columbus based on its longstanding poor performance and the DOE’s assessment that the school lacks the ability to turn around quickly to better support student needs. Because the P010X students attend class with Columbus students, the P010X program will be phased out concurrently with Columbus.

If approved, Columbus and P010X@Columbus would be phased out gradually over the next several years while the existing schools in X415 continue to serve their current students. Columbus and P010X@Columbus would no longer admit new ninth-grade students after the conclusion of the 2010-2011 school year. Current students would be supported as they progress towards graduation while remaining enrolled in Columbus and P010X@Columbus. The YABC program in X415 will not be impacted by the phase-out.

In a separate Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”), posted on December 20, 2010, the DOE is also proposing to co-locate 11X508, a new high school with a “Limited Unscreened” admissions policy, in building X415. If approved, 11X508 would begin phasing into the building with a ninth-grade class during the 2011-2012 school year. The new school would grow to full-scale as Columbus and P010X@Columbus phase out, and would complete its expansion during the 2014-2015 school year, at which point it would serve students in grades 9-12.

In the event that the phase-out of Columbus and P010X@Columbus is not approved, the DOE would re-examine the availability of space in the building, and may, as appropriate, revise its proposal to co-locate 11X508 in X415. Such a proposal would be described in a revised EIS.

In a separate EIS, the DOE has proposed to phase out Global Enterprise due to its longstanding poor performance. The DOE has also proposed to replace Global Enterprise by co-locating another new school in X415, 11X509, designed to serve English Language Learners. This school would not have an academic screen, but would serve students who are learning English and have been in the country for fewer than four years. If Global Enterprise is phased out, 11X509 would begin phasing into the building with a ninth-grade class during the 2011-2012 school year. 11X509 would continue to grow to full-scale as Global Enterprise phases out and completes its expansion during the 2014-2015 school year, at which point it would serve students in grades nine through twelve. In the event that the phase-out of Global Enterprise is not approved, the DOE would re-examine the availability of space in the building, and may, as appropriate, revise its proposal to co-locate 11X509 in X415. Such a proposal would be described in a revised EIS.

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

The Educational Impact Statement can be found on the Department of Education's Web site: <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2010-2011/Feb32011Proposals>

Copies of each EIS are also available in the main offices of Collegiate Institute, Astor Collegiate, Global Enterprise, Pelham Prep, P010X@Columbus, and Columbus.

III. Submission of public comment.

Written comments can be sent to HS.Proposals@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 St
Email: HS.Proposals@schools.nyc.gov
Phone: 212-374-5159

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

January 20, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.
Christopher Columbus High School – Christopher Columbus Educational Campus
925 Astor Avenue
Bronx, NY 10469

Questions about the proposal can 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