Amended Notice
January 21, 2011

Cathleen P. Black
Chancellor

The Proposed Phase-out of M.S. 571 The Bergen Upper School

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

M.S. 571 The Bergen Upper School (13K571, "M.S. 571") is an existing middle school located at 80 Underhill Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11238, in Community School District 13, in Building K009 ("K009"). It currently serves students in sixth through eighth grade. M.S. 571 is co-located with P.S. 9 Teunis G. Bergen (13K009, "P.S. 9"), an existing zoned elementary school that serves students in Kindergarten through fifth grade and also offers 3 sections of a Pre-Kindergarten program for a total of 54 seats. Co-location refers to situations where more than one school is located within a single school facility, often sharing certain common rooms such as cafeterias, auditoriums, gymnasiums, libraries, or outdoor recreation areas. The New York City Department of Education ("DOE") is proposing to phase out and eventually close M.S. 571 based on its poor performance and the DOE's assessment that the school lacks capacity to turn around quickly to better support student needs. The EIS has been amended to correct typographical errors and formatting, delete redundant language, clarify the nature of certain of the past supports provided to M.S. 571and reformat projected enrollment ranges to better reflect the DOE's enrollment projections for the schools that would be served in K009.

If this proposal is approved, M.S. 571 would no longer admit sixth-grade students after the conclusion of the 2010-2011 school year. One grade would then be phased out per year. During the 2011-2012 school year, M.S. 571 would serve students in grades seven and eight. In 2012-2013, M.S. 571 would serve students in eighth grade. The school would close after June 2013.

In 2009-2010, K009 had a target capacity to serve 1,192 students, and the building enrolled 751 students, yielding a target building utilization rate of 63%. In a separate Educational Impact Statement ("EIS"), published on December 20, 2010, the DOE proposed a re-siting of an existing public charter middle school, Brooklyn East Collegiate Charter School (84K780, "Brooklyn East Collegiate"), which would serve grades 5-8 when fully phased-in, from its current temporary location in a private facility located in District 17 to K009. Brooklyn East Collegiate currently serves approximately 80 students in fifth grade and will gradually grow to serve grades 5-8. If the proposal to re-site and co-locate Brooklyn East Collegiate is approved, Brooklyn East Collegiate would continue phasing in at K009 and admit fifth grade students through the charter lottery application process with a preference for District 13 students. Beginning in the 2011-2012 school year, Brooklyn East Collegiate will expand to serve approximately 80 additional students in sixth grade. When Brooklyn East Collegiate completes its expansion in 2013-2014 and achieves full scale, it will serve approximately 300-350 fifth- through eighth- grade students.

P.S. 9, M.S. 571, and Brooklyn East Collegiate would be "co-located" as M.S. 571 phases out.

More detailed specifics about the use of the K009 building are described in the Brooklyn East Collegiate EIS. P.S. 9 currently enrolls 544 students in Kindergarten through fifth grade, and the enrollment is not expected to be impacted by the proposed phase-out or re-siting of Brooklyn East Collegiate. Once Brooklyn East Collegiate has completed its expansion and M.S. 571 has completed its phase-out, there will be approximately 950-1,000 students served in the building, which is below K009's target capacity. Also, there will be sufficient space to accommodate an increase in student enrollment resulting from demand for the new school or increases in the number of families residing in District 13.

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

The amended 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 the amended EIS are also available in the main offices of M.S. 571 and P.S. 9.

III. Submission of public comment.

Written comments can be sent to D13Proposals@schools.nyc.gov.

Oral comments can be left at 212-374-0208.

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: D13Proposals@schools.nyc.gov
Phone: 212-374-0208

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

January 24, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.
M.S. 571
80 Underhill Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11238

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. To request interpretation services, 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