



Notice
May 2, 2013

Dennis M. Walcott
Chancellor

The Proposed Expansion and Permanent Extension of the Co-location of Castle Bridge School (06M513) with Existing School P.S. 128 Audubon (06M128) in Building M128 Beginning in 2014-105

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

The New York City Department of Education (“DOE”) is proposing to expand the grades served by Castle Bridge School (06M513, “Castle Bridge”) in building M128 (“M128”), located at 560 West 169th Street, New York, NY 10032 in Community School District 6 (“District 6”), from kindergarten through two to kindergarten through five, beginning in the 2014-2015 school year, and to permanently co-locate Castle Bridge in M128. Castle Bridge is an existing choice elementary school and is co-located with P.S. 128 Audubon (06M128, “P.S. 128”), an existing zoned elementary school that currently serves students in grades kindergarten through five and maintains a pre-kindergarten program in M128. Castle Bridge is currently phasing into building M128 and currently serves students in kindergarten and first grade. Beginning in 2013-2014, Castle Bridge will serve grades kindergarten through two, as well as a pre-kindergarten program, in M128. If this proposal is approved, Castle Bridge will be permanently co-located with P.S. 128 in M128, and will add one grade each year until 2016-2017, when it will serve students in kindergarten through fifth grades, along with a pre-kindergarten program. P.S. 128 will continue to serve students in grades kindergarten through five and will continue to maintain a pre-kindergarten, subject to continued funding and demand. A “co-location” means that two or more school organizations are located in the same building and may share common spaces like auditoriums, gymnasiums, and cafeterias.

On November 17, 2011, the Panel for Educational Policy (“PEP”) approved a proposal, published on October 3, 2011, to temporarily co-locate Castle Bridge with P.S. 128 in M128 for the 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 school years. The approved proposal stated that the DOE would evaluate the available space in M128 and other buildings in District 6 to identify a permanent location for Castle Bridge and would issue a new Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”) to propose the permanent location for Castle Bridge. After completing the evaluation, the DOE has determined that building M128 has sufficient space to accommodate the permanent co-location of Castle Bridge.

Castle Bridge’s mission is to provide each student with a high-quality, arts-infused, project-based elementary school experience that will develop the skills and passions for inquiry and

engagement in support of the students' growth as scholars, workers, and citizens. In addition, Castle Bridge offers a Spanish dual-language program.

If this proposal is approved, Castle Bridge will continue to add one grade each year until 2016-2017, when Castle Bridge will serve a total of 183-243 students in the pre-kindergarten program and grades kindergarten through five in M128. Castle Bridge is a choice elementary school, which means that it is open for admissions to all students in District 6, without giving priority to students who live in any particular zone. Castle Bridge admits students in kindergarten and first grade through a school-based application process consistent with Chancellor's Regulation A-101. Castle Bridge will have a pre-kindergarten program beginning in the 2013-2014 school year, serving one full-day class, and will admit students through the standard universal pre-kindergarten admissions process.

P.S. 128 currently serves a combined total of 595 students in pre-kindergarten and grades kindergarten through five. P.S. 128 is a zoned elementary school that admits students in kindergarten through fifth grades in accordance with Chancellor's Regulation A-101. P.S. 128 also has a pre-kindergarten program, which admits students through the standard universal pre-kindergarten admissions process. P.S. 128 currently offers two full-day pre-kindergarten classes. In addition, P.S. 128 offers a transitional bilingual program. Beginning in 2013-2014, P.S. 128 will add an additional class for a total of three full-day pre-kindergarten classes. Admissions procedures for P.S. 128 and Castle Bridge are discussed in more detail in Section III.A of the EIS.

According to the 2011-2012 Enrollment Capacity Utilization Report (the "Blue Book"), M128 has a target capacity to serve 920 students. Currently, the building serves 654 students, yielding a building utilization rate of 71%. According to the Under-utilized Space Memorandum, building M128 is "under-utilized" and has extra space to accommodate additional students.

If this proposal is approved, in 2014-2015, Castle Bridge will serve a combined total of approximately 123-163 students in grades kindergarten through three and the pre-kindergarten program, and P.S. 128 will serve a combined total of approximately 549-609 students in grades kindergarten through five and the pre-kindergarten program. In 2014-2015, the M128 building is projected to serve approximately 672-772 students in total, yielding an estimated building utilization rate of 73%-84%. In 2016-2017, the final year of expansion, the M128 building is projected to serve 737-857 students in total, yielding an estimated building utilization rate of 80%-93%.

In addition, there are currently three Community Based Organizations ("CBOs") occupying space in the M128 building: Turn 2 Us, which offers extra-curricular activities with a focus on social, emotional, and psychological well-being; a school-based health clinic run by Columbia Presbyterian Hospital; and SAPIS – Project Soar, a drug prevention program. This proposal is not anticipated to impact these organizations.

The DOE strives to ensure that all students in New York City have access to a high-quality school at every stage of their education. In determining the optimal way to distribute space to schools and to maintain quality educational options, the DOE is proposing to expand and

permanently extend the co-location of Castle Bridge in M128. This will allow Castle Bridge to continue to exist as a high-quality, progressive, Spanish dual-language school option for students and families in District 6, and will allow students currently enrolled at the school to continue their elementary education in the M128 building.

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

An Educational Impact Statement describing the proposal is available at:

<http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2012-2013/June2013Proposals.htm>

Copies of the EIS are also available in the main offices of the schools in M128.

III. Submission of public comment.

Written comments can be sent to D06Proposals@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: Meera Jain
Office: Division of Portfolio Planning
Address: 52 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007
Email: D06Proposals@schools.nyc.gov
Phone: 212-374-3466

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

June 12, 2013
6:00 p.m.
Building M128
560 West 169th Street
New York, NY 10032

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.

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

June 19, 2013
6:00 p.m.

The Michael J. Petrides School
715 Ocean Terrace
Staten Island, NY 10301