

### Public Comment Analysis

Date: November 24, 2014

Topic: The Proposed Re-siting and Co-Location of P.S. 110 (24Q110) with a New Site of an Existing District 75 School P.S. Q277 (75Q277) in New Building Q315 Beginning in the 2015-2016 School Year

Date of Panel Vote: November 25, 2014

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### Summary of Proposal

On October 8, 2014, the New York City Department of Education (“DOE”) issued an Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”) describing a proposal to re-site and co-locate one site of an existing District 75 school (75Q277, “P277Q@Q315”) in new building Q315 (“Q315”) beginning in the 2015-2016 school year. P.S.110 opened in the 2012-2013 school year in its current location, building Q841, with the intention of moving to new building Q315 once construction is complete. The Q315 building will be ready in fall of 2015, at which point P.S. 110 will begin serving students there. Currently, 95% of students attending P.S. 110 reside in neighborhoods close to Q315. Moving P.S. 110 to Q315 will offer students an opportunity to attend an elementary school within their community.

Building Q315 is located at 96-18 43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Queens, NY 11368, in Community School District 24 (“District 24”). P.S. 110 is an existing un-zoned elementary school that currently serves students in kindergarten through second grade in building Q841 (“Q841”), located at 48-25 37<sup>th</sup> Street, Queens, NY 11101, in District 24. P.S. 110 is phasing in to serve students in kindergarten through fifth grade at scale and is currently co-located in building Q841 with a portion of P.S. 199 Maurice A. Fitzgerald (24Q199, “P.S. 199”), an existing elementary school serving students in kindergarten through fifth grade. P277Q@Q315 is a new site of an existing multi-site District 75 school. A “re-siting” means that a school will be located in a building different from the building in which the school currently serves its students. A “co-location” means that two or more school organizations are located in the same building, often sharing large common spaces like the auditorium, gymnasium and cafeteria.

If this proposal is approved, P.S. 110 will be re-sited to Q315 and P277Q@Q315 will open in Q315 beginning in the 2015-2016 school year. Q315 will serve as the long term site for both organizations. P.S. 110 will no longer serve any students in Q841 following the conclusion of the 2014-2015 school year and will serve all its students in Q315 beginning in the 2015-2016 school year. When it moves to Q315 in the 2015-2016 school year, P.S. 110 will serve students in kindergarten through third grade. P.S. 110 will reach full scale in the 2017-2018 school year when it will serve students in kindergarten through fifth grade in Q315. P277Q@Q315 will serve students in kindergarten through fifth grade who have been classified as autistic or intellectually disabled on their Individualized Education Program (“IEP”).

P.S. 110 is an existing un-zoned elementary school that serves students who are overflowed from their zoned schools in the Corona and Elmhurst neighborhoods of District 24. On May 27, 2014, the District 24 Community Education Council (“CEC”) approved a plan to create an elementary school zone for building Q315. If this proposal is approved and P.S. 110 is re-sited to the Q315 building, the school will begin to operate as a zoned elementary school in September 2015, serving students residing in the zone approved by the CEC. The change in P.S. 110’s admissions process will alleviate overcrowding at schools surrounding Q315.

According to the School Construction Authority (“SCA”), Q315 will have the capacity to serve a total of 1,110 students and includes designed space for a District 75 school. If this proposal is approved, Q315 is projected to serve approximately 360 – 400 kindergarten through third grade students at P.S. 110 and 36 – 72 kindergarten through

fifth grade students at P277Q@Q315 in the 2015-2016 school year. This will result in a total projected building enrollment of 396 – 472 students, yielding a building utilization rate of 36% – 43%. In the 2017-2018 school year, when P.S. 110 has reached full scale serving students in kindergarten through fifth grade, there will be a total of approximately 756 – 852 students in building Q315, yielding a projected building utilization rate of 68% – 77%. While P.S. 110 will serve its full complement of grades in 2017-2018, the re-zoning plan approved for this building will increase the size of the school’s entering kindergarten cohorts to align with the increased capacity of building Q315. Once P.S. 110’s enrollment stabilizes in the 2020-2021 school year, the school will serve 1,080– 1,140 students in kindergarten through fifth grade. Between P.S. 110 and P277Q@Q315, Q315 is projected to serve a total of 1,116 – 1,212 students in building Q315 in the 2020-2021 school year, yielding an estimated building utilization rate of 101% – 109%.

The details of this proposal have been released in an EIS which can be accessed here:

<http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2014-2015/November2014SchoolProposals>.

Copies of the EIS are also available in the main offices of P.S. 110 and P.S. Q277.

### **Summary of Comments Received at the Joint Public Hearing**

Deputy Chancellor Corinne Rello-Anselmi led a School Leadership Team (“SLT”) meeting on September 24, 2014 with P.S. 110 Principal Karyna Tejada and P.S. Q277 Principal Susan McNulty. Also in attendance at that meeting were District 24 Community Superintendent Madelene Chan, District 75 Superintendent Gary Hecht, representatives from P.S. 110’s SLT, and representatives from the Office of District Planning. A walkthrough of the Q841 building was conducted by Deputy Chancellor Corinne Rello-Anselmi immediately following the meeting

A joint public hearing regarding this proposal was held at the Q841 building on November 19, 2014. At that hearing, interested parties had another opportunity to provide input on the proposal. Approximately 22 members of the public attended the hearing and 2 people spoke. Present at the meeting were District 24 Community Superintendent Madelene Chan; Community Education Council 24 (“CEC 24”) member Carl Chiaramonte; Citywide District 75 Council member Audrey Dunlop; Principal of P.S. 110 Karyna Tejada; Principal of P.S. Q277 Susan McNulty; P.S. 110 SLT representatives Brandi Passantino and Dionicia Romero; District 24 Family Advocate Eleanor McNamee; and Kia Higgins and Annabelle Eliashiv from the DOE.

Additionally, District Family Advocate Eleanor McNamee attended P.S. 110’s Parent Teacher Association (“PTA”) Meeting on October 24, 2014 where community members were able to provide input and ask questions about the proposal.

The following comments and remarks were made at the joint public hearing and PTA meeting on the proposal:

1. Multiple commenters asked the following questions:
  - a. When will building Q315 be ready for occupancy?
  - b. How many students will be enrolled in P.S. Q277, the District 75 school?
  - c. Will P.S. Q277’s enrollment increase over time?
2. Multiple commenters asked what the capacity for District 75 students will be in building Q315 in 2020-2021, when all schools have reached full-scale and stable enrollment.

### **Summary of Issues Raised in Written and/or Oral Comments Submitted to the DOE**

One written comment was received via email:

3. A commenter supported the re-siting of P.S. 110 because new building Q315 is in Corona, where a lot of P.S. 110’s students currently reside.

### **Analysis of Issues Raised and Significant Alternatives Proposed**

Comment 1(a) pertains to the date of occupancy for new building Q315.

Building Q315, which is currently under construction by the School Construction Authority, will be ready for occupancy by September 2015.

Comments 1(b, c) and 2 pertain to enrollment at P.S. Q277, the District 75 school in building Q315.

If this proposal is approved, P.S. Q277 will admit students through the District 75 referral process and will open at full-scale with six 6:1:1, 8:1:1, or 12:1:1 sections of students. Based on the Individualized Education Programs (“IEPs”) of the students admitted, P.S. Q277 will serve between 36-72 students in new building Q315. This District 75 program is not anticipated to grow beyond six sections of students.

Comment 3 is in support of the proposal and thus does not require a response.

### **Changes Made to the Proposal**

No changes were made to the proposal.