



Notice
February 23, 2011

Cathleen P. Black
Chancellor

The Proposed Expansion of the Co-location of Girls Preparatory Charter School (84M330) with Existing School P.S. 188 The Island School (01M188) in Building M188¹

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

Girls Preparatory Charter School (84M330, “Girls Prep”) is an existing public charter school that is currently split-sited between Building M188, located at 442 East Houston Street, New York, NY, 10002, in Community School District 1 (“M188”), and private space. Girls Prep currently serves students in Kindergarten through fourth grade in M188, and students in grades five and six in private space. Girls Prep is co-located in M188 with P.S. 188 The Island School (01M188, “P.S. 188”), a District 1 choice school which serves students in Kindergarten through eighth grade and offers a Pre-Kindergarten program, and with P.S. 94, a District 75 school with multiple locations (75M094, “P94M”). 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.

Girls Prep is authorized by SUNY Charter Schools Institute and was originally approved to enroll three class sections per grade. Due to space constraints at its initial location, Girls Prep has been limiting its enrollment to two sections per grade. As a background to this proposal, on February 24, 2010, the Panel for Educational Policy approved a proposal for Girls Prep to expand the grades served to include middle school grades 6-8, and to expand enrollment to three sections per grade in grades five through eight in M188. At full scale, this proposed expansion would have increased enrollment in M188 to 790-950 students and 82-98% building utilization. It would also have required P94M to reduce the number of class sections offered in this location. A lawsuit prevented the implementation of this proposal, and Girls Prep middle school grades five and six were instead relocated to private space for 2010-2011. In a separate EIS the DOE is proposing to co-locate Girls Prep middle school grades five through eight in building M060, where it would co-locate with Eastside Community High School (01M450).

This is a proposal to allow Girls Prep to expand enrollment in M188 to three sections per grade in grades Kindergarten through four. The additional enrollment would be within the range allowed by its current charter, and would not require a charter revision.

If this proposal were approved, in 2011-2012, Girls Prep would admit three sections of

¹ Because this proposal does not involve a significant change in school utilization, as that term is used in the New York State Education Law, the DOE is not required to issue an Educational Impact Statement (“EIS”) in order to proceed with this proposal. However, the Department of Education (“DOE”) is voluntarily issuing this EIS in an effort to more fully inform and engage with the M188 community regarding the proposal. By doing so, the DOE is not establishing a policy or practice of issuing EIS’s in situations where they are not required to do so by law.

Kindergarten and one additional section of first grade students; these students would then continue to the next grade each year, until there were three sections in all grades in 2014-2015. In future years, Girls Prep would admit three sections of Kindergarten, and would fill in any available seats in other grades due to attrition. Allowing it to expand by one section per grade in Kindergarten through fourth grades would increase access for girls residing in District 1 to a high quality elementary school option. P94M and P.S. 188 would not be required to reduce class sections or change its programs in the M188 building as a result of this proposal.

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/Apr282011Proposals>

Copies of the EIS are also available in the main offices of Girls Prep Charter School, P.S. 188 The Island School and P094M.

III. Submission of public comment.

Written comments can be sent to D01Proposals@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: Yoo Jin Cheong
Office: Division of Portfolio Planning
Address: 52 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007
Email: D01Proposals@schools.nyc.gov
Phone: 212-374-3466

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

To Be Determined
P.S. 188 The Island School / P094M
442 East Houston Street,
New York, NY 10002

Notice will be provided once a hearing date has been determined. 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. Cheong 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.

April 28, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.
P.S. 128 Juniper Valley
69-10 65th Drive
Middle Village, NY 11379