

Public Comment Analysis

Date: April 19, 2016

Topic: The Proposed Opening and Co-Location of the Middle School Grades of Success Academy Charter School - Bed-Stuy 1 (84K367) and Success Academy Charter School - Bed-Stuy 2 (84K125), Collectively Known As Success Academy - Bed-Stuy Middle School, with the Elementary Grades of Success Academy Charter School Bed-Stuy 1 and District 75 Program (75K368) in Building K033 Beginning in the 2016-2017 School Year

Date of Panel Vote: April 20, 2016

Summary of Proposal

On March 4, 2016, the New York City Department of Education (“DOE”) issued a proposal to open and co-locate the middle school grades of Success Academy Charter School - Bed-Stuy 1 (84K367, “SA - Bed-Stuy 1”) and Success Academy Charter School - Bed-Stuy 2 (84K125, “SA - Bed-Stuy 2”), collectively known as Success Academy Bed-Stuy Middle School (“SA - Bed-Stuy MS”), in building K033 (“K033”) with the elementary grades of SA - Bed-Stuy 1 and P.S. K368 (75K368, “P368K@I033K”), one site of an existing multi-sited District 75 program serving students in sixth through twelfth grade, beginning in the 2016-2017 school year. K033 is located at 70 Tompkins Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11206, in Community School District 14 (“District 14”). A “co-location” means that two or more school organizations are located in the same building and may share common spaces such as the auditorium, library, gymnasium and cafeteria.

SA - Bed-Stuy 1 currently serves students in kindergarten through fifth grade in K033, and SA - Bed-Stuy 2 currently serves students in kindergarten through fourth grade in building K059 (“K059”), located at 211 Throop Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11206, also in District 14. If this proposal is approved, SA - Bed-Stuy 1 will expand to serve students in sixth through eighth grade and SA - Bed-Stuy 2 will expand to serve students in fifth through eighth grade, together functioning as one middle school, to be called SA - Bed-Stuy MS, serving students in fifth through eighth grade in K033. The fifth grade currently organized as part of SA - Bed-Stuy 1 will be re-aligned to be included as part of SA - Bed-Stuy MS beginning in the 2016-2017 school year. If this proposal is approved, SA - Bed-Stuy MS will serve approximately 185-205 students in fifth and sixth grade in K033 in the 2016-2017 school year, and will add one grade level each year until it fully phases in in 2018-2019 and reaches full-scale in enrollment in the 2019-2020 school year, at which point it will serve approximately 615-655 students in fifth through eighth grade.

SA - Bed-Stuy 1 and SA - Bed-Stuy 2 have been authorized by The State University of New York Board of Trustees (“SUNY”) to serve students in kindergarten through fifth grade. SUNY authorized SA - Bed-Stuy 1’s charter in the 2010-2011 school year and SA - Bed-Stuy 2’s charter in the 2011-2012 school year. SA – Bed-Stuy 1’s charter expires at the end of the 2015-16 school year. Success Academy Charter Schools (“SACS”) has submitted an application to renew SA – Bed-Stuy 1’s charter for another five year period, which would allow the school to serve students through tenth grade. SA – Bed-Stuy 2’s charter expires at the end of the 2016-17 school year. Prior to the expiration of the current charter term, SACS intends to submit an application to renew SA – Bed-Stuy 2’s charter for another five year period, which would allow the school to serve students through tenth grade. For the purposes of this proposal, it is assumed that SUNY will approve SA – Bed-Stuy 1 and SA – Bed-Stuy 2’s charter renewals.

On January 8, 2016, the DOE issued two separate Educational Impact Statements (“EISs”) and one Building Utilization Plan (“BUP”) regarding schools in K033. In one EIS, the DOE proposed the closure of The School for the Urban Environment (14K330, “Urban Environment”), an existing district middle school serving students in sixth through eighth grade in K033, at the end of the current school year. In another EIS, the DOE proposed the closure

of Foundations Academy (14K322), an existing district high school serving students in ninth through twelfth grade also in K033, at the end of the current school year. In conjunction with these two proposals, the DOE also issued a BUP to demonstrate space allocations among remaining organizations in K033 if both proposals were approved. At the February 24, 2016 meeting of the Panel for Educational Policy (“PEP”), both proposals were voted on and approved by the PEP. As set forth in each individual EIS, Urban Environment and Foundations Academy will both close at the end of the 2015-2016 school year and no longer exist as school options beginning in the 2016-2017 school year.

More information about the Joint Public Hearing and PEP meeting can be found on the DOE website at: <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/2015-2016/April202016SchoolProposals>.

Building K033 has the target capacity to serve a total of 1,001 students. If this proposal is approved, in the 2016-2017 school year, SA - Bed-Stuy MS will serve a projected 185-205 students in fifth and sixth grade, SA - Bed-Stuy 1 will serve a projected 405-455 students in kindergarten through fourth grade, and P368K@I033K will serve a projected 65-90 students in sixth through twelfth grade in K033. K033 will have a total projected building enrollment of 655-750 students, yielding a projected building utilization rate of 65%-75% in 2016-2017. If this proposal is approved, in 2019-2020, when SA - Bed-Stuy MS’s enrollment reaches full-scale serving students in fifth through eighth grade, there will be approximately 1,065-1,180 total students served in the building. The projected building utilization rate as of 2019-2020 will be 106%-118%. Although a utilization rate in excess of 100% may suggest that a building will be over-utilized or over-crowded in a given year, this rate does not account for the fact that rooms may be programmed for more efficient or different uses than the standard assumptions in the utilization calculation. In addition, charter school enrollment plans are frequently based on larger class sizes than target capacity, contributing to building utilizations above 100% while not impacting the utilization of the space allocated to the co-located traditional district schools. As referenced above, while the anticipated utilization rate of K033 could potentially be above 100%, SA - Bed-Stuy 1, SA - Bed-Stuy MS and P368K@I033K will each receive space that meets all of their instructional and administrative needs pursuant to the Citywide Instructional Footprint (“Footprint”).

More details about space are available in the EIS as well as the Building Utilization Plan BUP that accompany this proposal. The Footprint, which guides space allocation and use in city schools, can be found on the DOE website at: http://schools.nyc.gov/Offices/OSP/KeyDocuments/Instructional_Footprint.

Summary of Comments Received at the Joint Public Hearing

The DOE held a Joint Public Hearing regarding this proposal at the K033 building on April 4, 2016. At that meeting, interested parties had an opportunity to provide input on this proposal.

Approximately 3 members of the public attended the hearing. There were 2 speakers. Individuals present at the meeting included: District 75 Superintendent Ketler Louissaint; Representative Maribel Hulla on behalf of District 14 Superintendent Alicja Winnicki; Community Education Council 75 (“CEC 75”) Vice President Celia Green; Community Education Council 14 (“CEC 14”) Vice President Mirian Lopez; P368K@I033K Principal Joycelyn Nedd; SUNY Charter Schools Institute Representatives Maureen Murphy, and Jamie Dollinger, Drew Patterson, and Jyoti Folch from the DOE. Representatives from SA - Bed-Stuy 1 and SA - Bed-Stuy 2 confirmed their availability but did not attend the hearing.

1. Celia Green, Vice President of CEC 75, expressed the following comments:
 - a. She approves of this proposal moving forward because it will keep Success Academy elementary and middle school students together
 - b. She asks that in the future, the DOE considers space within District 14 for new district middle school and high school options.
2. Mirian Lopez, Vice President of CEC 14, expressed the following comments:
 - a. The CEC wants to be sure that this proposal can eliminate further co-locations that negatively impact District 14 students by taking away space from students in schools and if so, the CEC does not oppose this proposal.

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

No comments were submitted through the dedicated phone line.

No comments were submitted through the dedicated email address.

Analysis of Issues Raised, Significant Alternatives, Significant Alternatives Proposed

Comment 1(b) is not directly related to the proposal and thus does not require a response.

Comments 1(a) and 2(a) are in favor of the proposal and do not require a response.

Changes Made to the Proposal.

No changes have been made to this proposal.