

Educational Impact Statement

The Phase-out and Eventual Closure of The School for Community Research and Learning (08X540) and Co-location of a New School [08X432] with Existing Schools in X450

I. Summary of Proposal

In the 2010-2011 school year, the School for Community Research and Learning (08X540, "SCRL"), an existing school serving grades 9-12, will be phased-out of operation. SCRL is housed in school building X450 (hereinafter referred to as "X450"), located at 1980 Lafayette Avenue, Bronx in Community School District 8 ("District 8"). SCRL is currently co-located at X450 with six other schools: (1) the Gateway School for Environmental Research and Technology (08X295, "Gateway School"); (2) the Antonia Pantoja Preparatory Academy: A College Board School (08X376, "Pantoja Preparatory Academy"); (3) Bronx Community High School (08X377, "Bronx Community"); (4) Pablo Neruda Academy for Architecture and World Studies, (08X305, "Pablo Neruda"); (5) Millennium Art Academy, (08X312, "Millennium"); and (6) Bronx Guild (08X452, "Bronx Guild"). There is also an Alternate Learning Center located in the building, Alternate Learning Center – Stevenson Campus (88X996, "ALC – Stevenson Campus"). X450's 2008-2009 utilization rate was 79%.

Beginning with the 2010-2011 school year, SCRL will begin phasing out one grade level per year. Grade 9 will be eliminated in 2010-2011, grade 10 will be eliminated in 2011-2012, and grade 11 will be eliminated in 2012-2013. SCRL will close in June 2013.

The proposal to phase-out and eventually close SCRL is based on the Department of Education's ("DOE") assessment of the school's capacity to improve student performance. Under the DOE's accountability framework, schools that receive an overall grade of D or F on the Progress Report and a score below Proficient on the Quality Review are subject to school improvement measures. If no significant progress is made over time, a leadership change (subject to contractual obligations), restructuring, or closure is possible. The same is true for schools receiving a C for three years in a row and for schools that the Chancellor has determined lack the necessary capacity to improve student performance. Decisions about the consequences a school will face are based on the school's Progress Report grades, Quality Review scores, and a variety of other factors. Additional factors contributing to decisions regarding school restructuring, closure, or phase-out include the demand for the school's services, structural factors such as principal tenure and special population concentration, comparative quality of existing options, and potential replacement options.

SCRL received a B on its 2007-2008 Progress Report, and a C on its 2008-2009 Progress Report, was designated as "Proficient" on its most recent Quality Review. While the overall scores on the DOE's accountability tools do not meet standard criteria for closure, SCRL has shown a lack of capacity to improve student performance in significant and consistent ways. SCRL scored a D on both the Student Progress and Student Performance subsections of the 2008-2009 Progress Report, and graduated only 43.9% of students in 2009. In 2009, the DOE conducted an assessment of the school's capacity to

improve student performance, and after consultation with internal stakeholders, determined that SCRL had not made sufficient progress for its students. Due to the school's failure to make sufficient progress, the DOE now proposes the phase-out of the school.

The phase-out and eventual closure of SCRL will create available space in X450 to house a new school. The DOE proposes to phase in a new high school to replace SCRL as it phases-out. The new high school, 08X432, will open in 2010 with grade 9. One new grade will be added each year until it reaches its full 9-12 grade scale in 2013-2014. The phase-out of SCRL and replacement with 08X432 addresses the need to provide higher quality high school options throughout the City.

II. Enrollment, Admissions, and School Performance for Existing Schools in X450

A. SCRL

1. Enrollment

Current Grades Served:	9-12
Current Enrollment (As of 10/31/2009 ATS Unaudited Register):	385
Grades Served 2010-2011:	10-12
Projected 2010-2011 Enrollment:	225-315

2. Admissions

Students had applied to SCRL through the citywide high school admissions process. SCRL will not be a choice for this year's citywide high school admissions process.

3. School Performance

Progress Report Grades

2007-2008:	B
2008-2009:	C

Graduation Rate (2008-2009):	43.9%
------------------------------	-------

Quality Review Scores

2007-2008:	Proficient
2008-2009:	No Quality Review conducted as per

To access copies of the Progress Reports and Quality Review Reports for SCRL, please visit <http://schools.nyc.gov/SchoolPortals/08/X540/AboutUs/Statistics/default.htm>.

Accountability Status

Overall Federal Status (2008-2009):	In Good Standing
Overall State Status (2008-2009):	In Good Standing
Status with Differentiated Accountability (2009-2010):	Improvement (year 1) - Comprehensive
Average Attendance (2008-2009):	77.7%

To access copies of the Attendance Reports for SCRL, please visit <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/data/stats/attendance/default.htm>.

B. Gateway School

1. Enrollment

Current Grades Served:	9-12
Current Enrollment (As of 10/31/2009 ATS Unaudited Register):	513
Grades Served 2010-2011:	9-12
Projected 2010-2011 Enrollment:	475-550

2. Admissions

Students apply to the Gateway School through the citywide high school admissions process.

3. School Performance

Progress Report Grades

NYC DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

2007-2008:	B
2008-2009:	C

Quality Review Scores

2007-2008:	Proficient
2008-2009:	No Quality Review conducted as per Division of Accountability and Achievement Resources review cycle criteria

To access copies of the Progress Reports and Quality Review Reports for Gateway School, please visit

<http://schools.nyc.gov/SchoolPortals/08/X295/AboutUs/Statistics/default.htm>.

Accountability Status

Overall Federal Status (2008-2009):	In Good Standing
-------------------------------------	------------------

Overall State Status (2008-2009):	In Good Standing
-----------------------------------	------------------

Status with Differentiated Accountability (2009-2010):	Improvement (Year 1) - Comprehensive
--------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------

Average Attendance (2008-2009):	80.2%
---------------------------------	-------

To access copies of the Attendance Reports for Gateway School, please visit

<http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/data/stats/attendance/default.htm>.

C. Pantoja Preparatory Academy

Pantoja Preparatory Academy is a 6-12 school that opened in X450 in 2007-2008. It currently serves grades 6-8 and is gradually phasing in one grade level per year until it reaches its full 6-12 grade scale in 2013-2014.

1. Enrollment

Current Grades Served:	6-8
------------------------	-----

Current Enrollment (As of 10/31/2009 ATS Unaudited Register):	287
---------------------------------------------------------------	-----

Grades Served 2010-2011:	6-9
--------------------------	-----

Projected 2010-2011
Enrollment: 350-400

Grades Served At Scale: 6-12

Projected Enrollment
at Scale: 525-575

2. Admissions

Grades 6-8: Middle school choice
Grades 9-12: Citywide high school admissions process

3. School Performance

Progress Report Grade

Middle School
2008-2009: A

Quality Review Scores

2007-2008: Quality Reviews are not available for
first year schools.
2008-2009: Proficient

To access copies of the Progress Reports and Quality Review Reports for Pantoja Preparatory Academy, please visit
<http://schools.nyc.gov/SchoolPortals/08/X376/AboutUs/Statistics/default.htm>.

Accountability Status

Overall Federal
Status (2008-2009): In Good Standing

Overall State Status
(2008-2009): In Good Standing

Status with
Differentiated
Accountability
(2009-2010): In Good Standing

Average Attendance
(2008-2009): 91.1%

To access copies of the Attendance Reports for Pantoja Preparatory Academy, please visit
<http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/data/stats/attendance/default.htm>.

D. Bronx Community

Bronx Community is a transfer school that opened in 2009-2010. Transfer schools are small, academically rigorous, full-time high schools designed to re-engage students who are behind in high school or have dropped out.

1. Enrollment

Current Grades Served:	9-12
Current Enrollment (As of 10/31/2009 ATS Unaudited Register):	196
Grades Served 2010-2011:	9-12
Projected 2010-2011 Enrollment:	175-225

2. Admissions

Students must apply to Bronx Community through its school-based process.

3. School Performance

Progress Report Grades

Progress Report grades are not available for Bronx Community because transfer schools do not receive Progress Reports until they have a six-year graduation rate.

Quality Review Scores

2008-2009:	Underdeveloped with proficient features
------------	-----------------------------------------

To access copies of the Quality Review Report for Bronx Community, please visit <http://schools.nyc.gov/SchoolPortals/08/X377/AboutUs/Statistics/default.htm>.

Accountability Status

Overall Federal Status (2008-2009):	In Good Standing
-------------------------------------	------------------

Overall State Status (2008-2009):	In Good Standing
-----------------------------------	------------------

Status with Differentiated Accountability (2009-2010):	In Good Standing
--------------------------------------------------------	------------------

Average Attendance
(2008-2009): 71.8%

To access copies of the Attendance Reports for Bronx Community, please visit
<http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/data/stats/attendance/default.htm>.

E. Pablo Neruda Academy

1. Enrollment

Current Grades Served: 9-12

Current Enrollment (As of
10/31/2009 ATS
Unaudited Register): 397

Grades Served 2010-2011: 9-12

Projected 2010-2011
Enrollment: 390-450

2. Admissions

Students apply to Pablo Neruda Academy through the citywide high school admissions process.

3. School Performance

Progress Report Grades

2007-2008: B
2008-2009: C

To access copies of the Progress Reports for Pablo Neruda Academy, please visit
<http://schools.nyc.gov/SchoolPortals/08/X305/AboutUs/Statistics/default.htm>.

Quality Review Scores

2007-2008: Proficient
2008-2009: No Quality Review conducted as per
Division of Accountability and
Achievement Resources review cycle
criteria

To access copies of the Quality Review Report for Pablo Neruda Academy, please visit
<http://schools.nyc.gov/SchoolPortals/08/X305/AboutUs/Statistics/default.htm>.

Accountability Status

Overall Federal

NYC DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Status (2008-2009):	In Good Standing
Overall State Status (2008-2009):	In Good Standing
Status with Differentiated Accountability (2009-2010):	In Good Standing
Average Attendance (2008-2009):	82.0%

To access copies of the Attendance Reports for Pablo Neruda Academy, please visit <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/data/stats/attendance/default.htm>.

F. Millennium

1. Enrollment

Current Grades Served:	9-12
Current Enrollment (As of 10/31/2009 ATS Unaudited Register):	516
Grades Served 2010-2011:	9-12
Projected 2010-2011 Enrollment:	500-550

2. Admissions

Students apply to Millennium through the citywide high school admission process.

3. School Performance

Progress Report Grades	
2007-2008:	A
2008-2009:	A

To access copies of the Progress Reports for Millennium, please visit <http://schools.nyc.gov/SchoolPortals/08/X312/AboutUs/Statistics/default.htm>.

Quality Review Scores	
2007-2008:	Well developed
2008-2009:	No Quality Review conducted as per

Division of Accountability and
Achievement Resources review cycle
criteria

To access copies of the Quality Review Report for Millennium, please visit
<http://schools.nyc.gov/SchoolPortals/08/X312/AboutUs/Statistics/default.htm>.

Accountability Status

Overall Federal Status (2008-2009):	In Good Standing
Overall State Status (2008-2009):	In Good Standing
Status with Differentiated Accountability (2009-2010):	Improvement (Year 1) – Basic
Average Attendance (2008-2009):	91.9%

To access copies of the Attendance Reports for Millennium, please visit
<http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/data/stats/attendance/default.htm>.

G. Bronx Guild

1. Enrollment

Current Grades Served:	9-12
Current Enrollment (As of 10/31/2009 ATS Unaudited Register):	324
Grades Served 2010-2011:	9-12
Projected 2010-2011 Enrollment:	300-375

2. Admissions

Students apply to Bronx Guild through the citywide high school admissions process.

3. School Performance

Progress Report Grades

NYC DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

2007-2008: B
2008-2009: C

To access copies of the Progress Reports for Bronx Guild, please visit <http://schools.nyc.gov/SchoolPortals/08/X452/AboutUs/Statistics/default.htm>.

Quality Review Scores

2007-2008: Underdeveloped with proficient features
2008-2009: Proficient

To access copies of the Quality Review Reports for Bronx Guild, please visit <http://schools.nyc.gov/SchoolPortals/08/X452/AboutUs/Statistics/default.htm>.

Accountability Status

Overall Federal Status (2008-2009): In Good Standing

Overall State Status (2008-2009): In Good Standing

Status with Differentiated Accountability (2009-2010): Improvement (Year 1) – Comprehensive

Average Attendance (2008-2009): 79.3%

To access copies of the Attendance Reports for Bronx Guild, please visit <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/data/stats/attendance/default.htm>.

III. Proposed or Potential Use of X450

Space made available by the phase-out of SCRL will be used to house a new school, 08X43, that will open in X450 and gradually phase-in one grade per year until it reaches its full grade scale of 9-12. In 2010-2011, 08X432 will serve grade 9 with an enrollment of approximately 80-95 students. At scale, the projected enrollment of 08X432 will be 325-475 students. Students will apply to 08X432 through the citywide high school admissions process.

IV. Impact of the Proposed Phase-Out on the Community, Existing Schools and Students

A. Community Ramifications

Approximately 385 high school seats will be eliminated by the phase-out of SCRL. However, these seats will be recovered through the phase-in of 08X432 in X450 and other new high schools throughout the city.

B. Existing Schools

During the course of SCRL's phase-out and 08X432's phase-in, all schools will have sufficient instructional space to serve students in X450 as per the citywide instructional footprint. After implementation of the proposal, SCRL, Gateway School, Pantoja Preparatory Academy, Bronx Community, Pablo Neruda, Millennium, Bronx Guild, and 08X432 will have sufficient space to operate at full organization capacity. A space for all schools in the building will be developed based on the standard instructional footprint. Decisions regarding the programming of shared spaces in X450 will be made by school leaders.

To access the citywide instructional footprint, please visit the New York City Department of Education website at http://schools.nyc.gov/NR/ronlyres/8CF30F41-DE25-4C30-92DE-731949919FC3/65901/NYCDOE_Instructional_Footprint_revisedMay2009_noco.pdf.

C. Students

All current SCRL grades 9-12 students will have the opportunity to graduate from SCLR, assuming they continue to earn credits on schedule. Current SCRL students enrolled in grade 9 for the first time will have the opportunity to participate in the high schools admissions process so that they can begin in a different school as a grade 10 student in September 2010 (pending satisfactory completion of promotion criteria and grade 10 seat availability). Current SCRL grade 10 students or students who are repeating grade 9 are encouraged to meet with their guidance counselors to explore their options for the 2010-2011 school year.

V. Initial Costs and Savings

Once the phase-out is fully implemented, approximately \$310,000 in annual fixed funding currently allocated to SCRL will be repurposed by the DOE.

New district schools are provided with a fixed per school allocation and a variable per pupil allocation of funds to cover start-up costs. Based on current one-time allocations for new schools, 08X432 will receive a fixed allocation of \$80,000 in 2010–2011. In addition, the school will receive approximately \$27,000 in per pupil allocations.

Beginning in 2010-2011, 08X432 will receive approximately \$225,000 in fixed Fair Student Funding foundation allocations and an additional \$85,000 in Children First supplemental funding.

VI. Effect on Personnel Needs, Costs of Instruction, Administration, Transportation and Other Support Services

A. Personnel

All administrative staff and non-pedagogical positions at SCRL will be eliminated over the course of the phase-out.

All teaching positions at SCRL will be eliminated over the course of the phase-out. However, the elimination of these assignments will not necessarily result in an overall loss of teaching positions within the citywide system due to transfers to other existing assignments and the creation of additional pedagogical positions with the phase-in of new schools.

08X432 is expected to hire additional teachers as each new grade is added. All new district schools opening in campuses where an existing school is phasing-out must adhere to Article 18-D of the United Federation of Teachers contract. Article 18-D requires that if a sufficient number of displaced staff from the closing or phasing-out school apply, at least 50% of the new schools' pedagogical positions shall be selected from among the appropriately licensed most senior applicants from the closing or phasing-out school who meet the new school's qualifications. Guidance counselor, lab specialist, school secretary and paraprofessional positions are also subject to Article 18-D.

B. Costs of Instruction

Once the phase-out is fully implemented, to the DOE will repurpose all funds currently allocated to SCRL.

Once the phase-in is fully implemented, 08X432 is expected to receive approximately \$1,800,000 in annual per capita funding. This estimate is based on current Fair Student Funding (FSF) per capita allocations of grade level weights. Student achievement and need-based allocations were not taken into account in this estimate because incoming students' achievement levels and needs cannot be predicted. Please note that per capita funds no longer allocated to the school as a result of this proposal do not represent a reduction in total system costs. FSF covers basic instructional needs and is allocated to each school based on the number and need-level of students at the school. All money allocated through FSF can be used at the principal's discretion. All dollar amounts are based on FY10 allocations and are subject to change based on adjustments to the DOE's overall operating budget.

C. Administration

All school supervisor and/or administrator positions at SCRL will be eliminated as a result of the phase-out.

08X432 is expected to hire school supervisors and/or administrator personnel as needed.

D. Transportation

Throughout the course of proposal implementation, transportation will continue to be provided pursuant to Chancellor's Regulation A-801. To access Chancellor's Regulation A-801, please visit the New York City Department of Education Web site at <http://schools.nyc.gov/NR/rdonlyres/21A1B11A-886B-4F74-9546-E875EE82A14C/40303/A801.pdf>.

VII. Building Information

A. Building Type, Age and Physical Condition

X450 is a high school building that was built in 1970. The building received an overall rating of 2.75 out of 5 on the 2008-2009 Building Condition Assessment Survey (“BCAS”). To view the key for BCAS ratings, please visit <http://schools.nyc.gov/Documents/BCAS/BCAS%20Key.pdf>.

To view the 2008-2009 BCAS Report for X450, please visit <http://schools.nyc.gov/SchoolPortals/8/08X540/AboutUs/Statistics/default.htm>.

Target capacity: 3,286

Target utilization rate: 82%

The utilization and capacity information is from the Enrollment, Capacity and Utilization Report which is the standard by which the Department of Education measures the maximum capacity of the building compared to the enrollment. To access the Enrollment, Capacity and Utilization Report, please visit <http://schools.nyc.gov/Offices/SCA/Reports/CapPlan/default.htm>

B. Fiscal Year 2009 Maintenance Costs

Labor: \$6,197.64

Materials: \$0

Maintenance and Repair Contracts: \$60,393.07

Service Contracts: \$0

Custodial Operations

Materials: \$0

Custodial Allocation: \$1,580,410.00

C. Fiscal Year 2009 Energy Costs

Electric: \$341,070.00

Gas: \$10,795.00

Oil: \$236,912.00

D. Recent and Planned Improvements

Recent improvements to X450 include a library technology upgrade.

E. Special Features

The building has an art room, an auditorium, a cafeteria, two gymnasiums, a library, computer rooms, and science labs.

Building X450 is functionally partially programmatic accessible.