

Educational Impact Statement

Proposal for a Significant Change in the Utilization of School Building Q490: The Phase-Out of Business, Computer Applications, and Entrepreneurship High School (29Q496) and Co-Location of a New School, 29Q326, with Existing Schools in Q490

I. Summary of Proposal

Beginning in the 2010-2011 school year, Business, Computer Applications, and Entrepreneurship High School (29Q496, “BCAE”), an existing school serving grades 9-12, will be phased-out of operation. BCAE is housed in school building Q490 (hereinafter referred to as “Q490”), located at 207-01 116th Avenue, Queens in Community School District 29 (“District 29”). BCAE is currently co-located with three other schools in Q490: (1) Humanites & Arts Magnet High School (29Q498, “Humanities & Arts”); (2) Law, Government, and Community Service High School (29Q494, “Law, Government, and Community Service”); and (3) Mathematics, Science Research and Technology Magnet High School (29Q492, “Mathematics, Science Research and Technology”). The 2008-2009 target utilization rate of Q490 was 96% and its target capacity was 2,095.

In the 2010-2011 school year, BCAE will begin phasing out one grade 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. BCAE will close in June 2013.

The proposal to phase out and eventually close BCAE is based on the Department of Education’s (“DOE”) determination that the school lacks the capacity to significantly improve student performance. Under the DOE’s accountability framework, schools that receive an overall grade of D or F on the Progress Report 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 closure or phase-out include 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.

BCAE received a C on its 2007-2008 Progress Report and a D on its 2008-2009 Progress Report, and it was designated as “Underdeveloped with proficient features” on its most recent Quality Review. In 2009, the DOE conducted an assessment of BCAE capacity to improve student performance and, after consultation with internal stakeholders, determined that BCAE had not made significant progress for its students.

Due to the school's failure to make significant progress, the DOE now proposes this phase-out.

The phase-out and eventual closure of BCAE will create available space in Q490 to house a new high school, 29Q326. The DOE proposes to phase in 29Q326 as BCAE phases-out. 29Q326 will open in 2010-2011 with grade 9 and will eventually serve grades 9-12 at scale. The phase-out and eventual closure of BCAE and the phase-in of 29Q326 address the need to provide higher quality high school options throughout the City.

II. Enrollment, Admissions, and School Performance for Existing Schools in Q490

A. BCAE

1. Enrollment

Current Grades Served:	9-12
Current Enrollment (As of 10/31/2009 ATS Unaudited Register):	488
Grades Served 2010-2011:	10-12
Projected 2010-2011 Enrollment:	350-425

2. Admissions

Students had applied to BCAE through the citywide high school admissions process. BCAE will no longer be a choice for the citywide high school admissions process.

3. School Performance

Progress Report Grades	
2007-2008:	C
2008-2009:	D
Graduation Rate (2008-2009):	Four year: 57.4%
Quality Review Scores	
2007-2008:	Proficient
2008-2009:	Underdeveloped with proficient features
Accountability Status	
Overall Federal	

Status (2008-2009): Has No Status - No Title I Funding

Overall State Status
(2008-2009): Requiring Academic Progress - Year
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Status with
Differentiated
Accountability
(2009-2010): In Good Standing

To access school performance and accountability information for BCAE, please visit
<http://schools.nyc.gov/SchoolPortals/29/Q496/AboutUs/Statistics>.

Average Attendance
(2008-2009): 85.6%

To access copies of the Attendance Report for BCAE, please visit
<http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/data/stats/attendance>.

B. Humanities & Arts

1. Enrollment

Current Grades Served: 9-12

Current Enrollment (As of
10/31/2009 ATS Unaudited
Register): 477

Grades Served 2010-2011: 9-12

Projected 2010-2011
Enrollment: 450-525

2. Admissions

Students apply to Humanities & Arts through the citywide high school admissions process.

3. School Performance

Progress Report Grades

2007-2008: B
2008-2009: B

Quality Review Scores

2007-2008: Proficient

2008-2009: n/a

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

To access school performance and accountability information for Humanites & Arts, please visit <http://schools.nyc.gov/SchoolPortals/29/Q498/AboutUs/Statistics>.

Average Attendance
(2008-2009): 86.7%

To access copies of the Attendance Report for Humanites & Arts, please visit <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/data/stats/attendance>.

C. Law, Government, and Community Service

1. Enrollment

Current Grades Served: 9-12

Current Enrollment (As of
10/31/2009 ATS Unaudited
Register): 507

Grades Served 2010-2011: 9-12

Projected 2010-2011
Enrollment: 475-525

2. Admissions

Students apply to Law, Government, and Community Service through the citywide high school admissions process.

3. School Performance

Progress Report Scores

2007-2008: C
2008-2009: B

Quality Review Scores

2007-2008:	Proficient
2008-2009:	Proficient

Accountability Status

Overall Federal Status (2008-2009):	Has No Status - No Title I Funding
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Overall State Status (2008-2009):	In Good Standing
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Status with Differentiated Accountability (2009-2010):	In Good Standing
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To access school performance and accountability information for Law, Government, and Community Service, please visit <http://schools.nyc.gov/SchoolPortals/29/Q494/AboutUs/Statistics>.

Average Attendance (2008-2009):	87.2%
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To access copies of the Attendance Report for Law, Government, and Community Service, please visit <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/data/stats/attendance>.

D. Mathematics, Science Research, and Technology

1. Enrollment

Current Grades Served:	9-12
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Current Enrollment (As of 10/31/2009 ATS Unaudited Register):	485
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Grades Served 2010-2011:	9-12
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Projected 2010-2011 Enrollment:	475-525
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2. Admissions

Students apply to Mathematics, Science Research, and Technology through the citywide high school admissions process.

3. School Performance

Progress Report Grades

2007-2008:	B
2008-2009:	C

Quality Review Scores

2007-2008:	Well developed
2008-2009:	n/a

Accountability Status

Overall Federal Status (2008-2009):	Has No Status - No Title I Funding
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Overall State Status (2008-2009):	In Good Standing
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Status with Differentiated Accountability (2009-2010):	In Good Standing
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To access school performance and accountability information for Mathematics, Science Research and Technology, please visit <http://schools.nyc.gov/SchoolPortals/29/Q492/AboutUs/Statistics>.

Average Attendance (2008-2009):	88%
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To access copies of the Attendance Report for Mathematics, Science Research and Technology, please visit <http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/data/stats/attendance>.

III. Proposed or Potential Use of Q490

Space made available by the phase-out of BCAE will be used to house a new high school, 29Q326. 29Q326 will open 2010-2011 in Q490 and will gradually phase in one grade per year until it reaches its full grade scale of 9-12. In 2010-2011, 29Q326 will serve grade 9 students with an enrollment of approximately 100-120 students. At scale, the projected enrollment of 29Q326 will be 400-500 students. Students will apply to 29Q326 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 488 high school seats will be eliminated by the phase-out of BCAE. However, these seats will be recovered through the phase-in of 29Q326 and other new high schools throughout the City.

B. Existing Schools

During the course of BCAE's phase-out and 29Q326's phase-in, all schools located in Q490 will have sufficient instructional space to serve students per the citywide instructional footprint. After implementation of the proposal, Humanities & Arts; Law, Government, and Community Service; Mathematics, Science Research and Technology; and 29Q326 will have sufficient space to operate at full organization capacity. A space plan for all schools in the building will be developed based on the standard instructional footprint. Decisions regarding the programming of shared spaces in Q490 will be made by school leaders.

To access the citywide instructional footprint, please visit the DOE's Web site at http://schools.nyc.gov/NR/ronlyres/8CF30F41-DE25-4C30-92DE-731949919FC3/65901/NYCDOE_Instructional_Footprint_revisedMay2009_noco.pdf.

C. Students

All current BCAE students will have the opportunity to graduate from BCAE, assuming they continue to earn credits on schedule. Current BCAE 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 BCAE 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. Throughout the course of the phase-out of BCAE and after its closure there will continue to be a sufficient number of high school seats in Queens and throughout the city to serve students who would have attended BCAE.

V. Initial Costs and Savings

Once the phase-out is fully implemented, the annual fixed funding currently allocated to BCAE 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, 29Q326 will receive approximately \$80,000 in fixed funding to cover new school start-up costs and approximately \$51,300 based on variable per pupil allocations in 2010-2011. In addition, 20Q326 will receive approximately \$32,400 based on variable per pupil allocations during the course of its phase-in.

Beginning in 2010-2011, 20Q326 will receive approximately \$225,000 annually in fixed Fair Student Funding foundation allocations to fund administrative costs and an additional annual allocation of \$85,000 in Children First supplemental funding.

All dollar amounts are based on FY10 allocations and are subject to change based on adjustments to the DOE's overall operating budget.

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

A. Personnel

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

All teaching positions assigned to BCAE 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/replacement schools.

29Q326 is expected to hire additional teachers as each new grade is added. All new schools opening in phase-out campuses must adhere to Article 18-D of the United Federation of Teachers (UFT) contract. Article 18-D requires that if a sufficient number of displaced staff from the closing or phasing-out school applies, at least 50% of the new school's pedagogical positions shall be selected from among the appropriately licensed most senior applicants from the closing/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 of BCAE is fully implemented, the DOE will cease to allocate or repurpose all funds currently allocated to the school. 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.

Once fully phased-in, 29Q326 is expected to receive approximately \$1,781,166 annually in per capita funding as a result of the increased enrollment. 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. These additional funds may, at the school's discretion, be used for additional teaching positions, curriculum materials, general instructional supplies, administration, or other support services. Please note that additional per capita funds allocated to the school as a result of this proposal do not represent additional 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 assigned to BCAE will be eliminated as a result of the phase-out.

29Q326 is expected to hire school supervisors and/or administrator personnel as needed.

D. Transportation

Throughout the phase-out of BCAE, transportation will continue to be provided pursuant to Chancellor's Regulation A-801. To access the Chancellor's Regulation A-801, please visit the DOE's Web site at

<http://schools.nyc.gov/RulesPolicies/ChancellorsRegulations>.

E. Other Support Services

Other support services will continue to be provided consistent with citywide policy.

VII. Building Information

A. Building Type, Age and Physical Condition

Q490 is a high school building that was built in 1937. The building received an overall rating of 2.58 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 Q490, please visit

<http://schools.nyc.gov/SchoolPortals/29/Q496/AboutUs/Statistics>.

2008-2009 Target capacity:	2,095
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2008-2009 Target utilization rate:	96%
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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>.

B. Fiscal Year 2009 Maintenance Costs

Labor:	\$24,398.37
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Materials:	\$19,864.96
Maintenance and Repair Contracts:	\$72,005.19
Service Contracts:	\$4,830.00
Custodial Operations	
Materials:	\$21,624.20
Custodial Allocation:	\$654,080.8

C. Fiscal Year 2009 Energy Costs

Electric:	\$173,254.00
Gas:	\$203,540.00
Oil:	\$11,441.00

D. Recent and Planned Improvements

Recent improvements include an auditorium upgrade and a technology upgrade.

Planned improvements include system replacements in the auditorium.

E. Special Features

The building has an auditorium, a cafeteria, a gymnasium, a library, computer rooms, and science labs.