

## **Amended Educational Impact Statement**

### **Proposal for a Significant Change in the Utilization of School Building Q470: The Phase-out and Eventual Closure of Jamaica High School (28Q470) and Co- location of New School, 28Q325, and New School, 28Q328, with Existing Schools in Q470**

#### **I. Summary of Proposal**

Beginning in the 2010-2011 school year, Jamaica High School (28Q470, “Jamaica High School”), an existing school serving grades 9-12, will be phased out of operation. Jamaica High School is housed in school building Q470 (hereinafter referred to as “Q470”), located at 167-01 Gothic Drive, Queens in Community School District 28 (“District 28”). Queens Collegiate (28Q310, “Queens Collegiate”) is currently co-located with Jamaica High School at Q470. Q470’s 2008-2009 target utilization rate was 75%. It has a target capacity of 2,134.

In 2010-2011 school year, Jamaica High School 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. Jamaica High School will close in June 2013.

The proposal to phase-out and eventually close Jamaica High School is based on the Department of Education’s (“DOE”) determination that the school lacks the 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.

Jamaica High School received a C on its 2007-2008 Progress Report, a D on its 2008-2009 Progress Report, and was designated as “Proficient” on its most recent Quality Review. In 2009, the DOE conducted an assessment of the school’s capacity to improve student performance. After consultation with internal stakeholders, the DOE determined that Jamaica High School had not made significant progress for its students. Due to the school’s failure to make significant progress, the DOE now proposes the phase-out and eventual closure of the school.

The phase-out and eventual closure of Jamaica High School will create available space in Q470 to house new schools, 28Q325 and 28Q328. 28Q325 will open in 2010 with grade 9 and will add a grade each year until it reaches its full 9-12 grade scale in 2013-2014. 28Q328 will open in 2010 with grade 9 and will add a grade each year until it reaches its full 9-12 grade scale in 2013-2014. The original proposal posted on December 11, 2009 indicated that 28Q325 would serve an all male student population. The DOE, however, has amended this aspect of the proposal. Instead of serving only male students, 28Q325 will be a coeducational school. The phase-out and eventual closure of Jamaica High School and the opening of two new schools in Q470 addresses the need to provide higher quality high school options throughout the City.

## **II. Enrollment, Admissions, and School Performance for Existing Schools in Q470**

### **A. Jamaica High School**

#### **1. Enrollment**

Current Grades Served:	9-12
Current Enrollment (As of 10/31/2009 ATS Unaudited Register):	1,527
Grades Served 2010-2011:	10-12
Projected 2010-2011 Enrollment:	850-950

#### **2. Admissions**

Students had applied to Jamaica High School through the citywide high school admissions process. Jamaica High School will no longer be a choice in the citywide high school admissions process.

#### **3. School Performance**

Progress Report Grades	
2007-2008:	C
2008-2009:	D
Graduation Rate (2008-2009):	46.2%
Quality Review Scores	
2007-2008:	Proficient
2008-2009:	Proficient

Accountability Status

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

Overall State Status  
(2008-2009): Requiring Academic Progress –  
Year 6

Status with  
Differentiated  
Accountability  
(2009-2010): Restructuring (Advanced) -  
Comprehensive

To access school performance and accountability information for Jamaica High School, please visit <http://schools.nyc.gov/SchoolPortals/28/Q470/AboutUs/Statistics>.

Average Attendance  
(2008-2009): 80.4%

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

**B. Queens Collegiate**

Queens Collegiate is a 6-12 school that opened in Q470 in 2008. It currently serves grades 9-10 and is gradually phasing in one grade level per year until it reaches its full 6-12 grade scale in 2012-2013.

**1. Enrollment**

Current Grades Served:	9-10
Current Enrollment (As of 10/31/2009 ATS Unaudited Register):	161
Grades Served 2010-2011:	6, 9-11
Projected 2010-2011 Enrollment:	300-400
Grades Served At Scale:	6-12
Projected Enrollment at Scale:	550-600

**2. Admissions**

Students currently apply for high school seats at Queens Collegiate through the citywide high school admissions process. Beginning in 2010-2011, when the sixth grade is phased in, students will also be able to apply to Queens Collegiate through the middle school choice process.

**3. School Performance**

School performance information is not available for Queens Collegiate because the school opened in 2008.

Accountability Status

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

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

Status with Differentiated Accountability (2009-2010):	Pending
--	---------

Average Attendance (2008-2009):	91.3%
---------------------------------	-------

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

**III. Proposed or Potential Use of Q470**

Space made available by the phase-out of Jamaica High School will be used to house two new schools in Q470, 28Q325 and 28Q328. 28Q325 will open serving grade 9 in 2010 with an enrollment of 90-125 students. At scale, 28Q325 will serve grades 9-12 with an enrollment of 400-500 students. 28Q328 will open serving grade 9 in 2010 with an enrollment of 90-125 students. At scale, 28Q328 will serve grades 9-12 with an enrollment of 400-500 students.

Any future proposal to site an additional school in Q470 will be addressed in a separate educational impact statement.

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

##### **A. Community Ramifications**

Approximately 1,500 high school seats will be eliminated by the phase-out of Jamaica High School. However, these seats will be recovered through the phase-in of 28Q325 and 28Q328, in Q470 and other new and existing high schools throughout the city.

##### **B. Existing Schools**

During the course of Jamaica High School's phase-out and the phase-in of 28Q325 and 28Q328, all schools will have sufficient instructional space to serve students in Q470 as per the citywide instructional footprint. After implementation of this proposal, Queens Collegiate, 28Q325, and 28Q328 will have sufficient space to operate at full organizational 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 Q470 will be made by school leaders.

To access the citywide instructional footprint, please visit the New York City Department of Education's (DOE) Web site at [http://schools.nyc.gov/NR/ronlyres/8CF30F41-DE25-4C30-92DE-731949919FC3/65901/NYCDOE\\_Instructional\\_Footprint\\_revisedMay2009\\_noco.pdf](http://schools.nyc.gov/NR/ronlyres/8CF30F41-DE25-4C30-92DE-731949919FC3/65901/NYCDOE_Instructional_Footprint_revisedMay2009_noco.pdf).

##### **C. Students**

All current Jamaica High School students will have the opportunity to graduate from Jamaica High School, assuming they continue to earn credits on schedule. Current Jamaica High School 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 Jamaica High School 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 Jamaica High School 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 Jamaica High School.

#### **V. Initial Costs and Savings**

Once the phase-out is fully implemented, the DOE will cease to allocate or repurpose all funds currently allocated to Jamaica High School.

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, 28Q325 and 28Q328 each will receive a fixed allocation of \$80,000.

In 2010-2011, 28Q325 and 28Q328 will each receive approximately \$51,300 in per pupil allocations. In addition, 28Q325 and 28Q328 will each receive approximately \$32,400 based on variable per pupil allocations during the course of its phase-in.

Beginning in 2010-2011, 28Q325 and 28Q328 will each receive approximately \$225,000 in annual fixed Fair Student Funding foundation allocations to fund administrative costs and an additional \$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 Jamaica High School will be eliminated over the course of the phase-out.

All teaching positions assigned to Jamaica High School 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 or replacement schools.

28Q325 and 28Q328 are expected to hire additional teachers as each new grade is added. All new schools opening in campuses where an existing school is phasing out 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 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, the DOE will cease to allocate or repurpose all funds currently allocated to Jamaica High School.

Once each phase-in is fully complete, 28Q325 and 28Q328 are both expected to receive approximately \$1,781,166 in annual per capita funding.

The above estimates are 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 these estimates because 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 per capita funds allocated to the schools 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 Department of Education's overall operating budget.

**C. Administration**

All school supervisor and/or administrator positions assigned to Jamaica High School will be eliminated as a result of the phase-out.

The new schools are expected to hire school supervisors and/or administrator personnel as needed.

**D. Transportation**

Throughout the course of the phase-out of Jamaica High School and the phase-in of 28Q325 and 28Q328, transportation will continue to be provided pursuant to Chancellor's Regulation A-801. To access 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**

Q470 is a high school building that was built in 1927. The building received an overall rating of 2.66 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 Q470, please visit <http://schools.nyc.gov/community/facilities/BFIS>.

Target capacity: 2,134

Target utilization rate: 75%

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:	\$66,151.63
Materials:	\$56,259.22
Maintenance and Repair Contracts:	\$118,562.76
Service Contracts:	\$4,110.00
Custodial Operations	
Materials:	\$20,210.31
Custodial Allocation:	\$674,623.47

**C. Fiscal Year 2009 Energy Costs**

Electric:	\$193,711.00
Gas:	\$11,769.00
Oil:	\$161,700.00

**D. Recent and Planned Improvements**

Recent improvements include low voltage wiring installation, surveillance equipment installation, and an upgrade to the electrical systems in the auditorium.

**E. Special Features**

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