



Date: January 26, 2010

Topic: Proposed Grade Expansion of P.S. 195 (12X195) and P.S. 196 (12X196) and Phase-Out of P.S. 197 (12X197)

Date of Panel Vote: January 26, 2010

Summary of Proposal

This is a proposal to expand the grades served by P.S. 195 and P.S. 196 and to phase-out P.S. 197. P.S. 195, P.S. 196, and P.S. 197 are housed in school building X077, located at 1250 Ward Avenue, the Bronx in Community School District 12 (“District 12”). P.S. 195 is an existing school serving grades 2-5; P.S. 196 is also an existing school serving grades 2-5. P.S. 197 currently serves grades Pre-K-1. In 2010-2011, P.S. 195 and P.S. 196 will each add grades PreK-1 to their grade configurations and will both serve grades PreK-5. P.S. 197 will close in September 2010. Grades PreK-1 at P.S. 197 will be consolidated with P.S. 195 and P.S. 196 beginning in the 2010-2011 school year.

An Educational Impact Statement on this proposal was published on the Department of Education’s website on December 11, 2009.

Summary of Comments Received at the Joint Public Hearing

A joint public hearing was held at X077 on January 19, 2010, and all interested parties had an opportunity to provide input on the proposal. One hundred and twenty-six members of the public attended the hearing, but there was only one speaker who asked a clarifying question. There were no comments made in opposition to or in favor of the proposal.

Summary of Issues Raised in Written and Oral Comments and Significant Alternatives Suggested

One comment was received by a teacher currently on a leave of absence from P.S. 197. She asked for a clarification about what will happen to teachers once the school closes down.

**Analysis of Issues Raised, Significant Alternatives Proposed
and Changes Made to the Proposal**

All teaching positions assigned to P.S. 197 will be eliminated as a result of the school's 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 the expanded grades at P.S. 195 and P.S. 196.

P.S. 195 and P.S. 196 are expected to hire additional teachers as they add the new grades. Generally, all schools redesigning grades 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 or redesigned 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.

The DOE will present the proposal to the Panel for Educational Policy as currently posted.

A copy of the educational impact statement for this proposal can be obtained at http://schools.nyc.gov/NR/ronlyres/F0043783-8608-433C-855E-99228622A268/73832/12X195_12X196_12X197_Combined_121109.pdf.