



Date: January 25, 2010

Topic: Proposed Co-Location of a New School (23K671) with Existing Schools in School Building K263

Date of Panel Vote: January 26, 2010

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### **Summary of Proposal**

This is a proposal to site a new school, 23K671, in school building K263, located at 210 Chester Street, Brooklyn in Community School District 23 (“District 23”). K263 currently houses two schools and a District 75 program: (1) P.S./I.S. 323; (2) East New York Prep Charter School and (3) 75K140. Prior to the start of the 2010-2011 school year, East New York Prep will move out of the K263 building. 23K671 will be co-located with P.S./I.S. 323 and 75K140 in K263.

In 2010-2011, 23K671 will serve grade 6 with an enrollment of 75-100 students. Grade 7 will be added in 2011-2012, and grade 8 will be added in 2012-2013. At scale, 23K671 will have an enrollment of 200-250 students in grades 6-8. Students entering grade 6 from the 23K332 and 23K150 zones will have preference in the admissions process at 23K671. Approximately 200-250 District 23 Middle School seats will be created by the opening and eventual full phase-in of 23K671 in K263.

An Educational Impact Statement on this proposal was posted 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 K263 on January 20, 2010, and all interested parties had an opportunity to provide input on the proposal. Five members of the public spoke in opposition to the proposal, citing concerns about the addition of new middle school students to the K263 building and whether the District 75 Program located in the building would lose space to the new school. One commenter asked questions regarding the qualifications of the proposed new school leader and programs that will be offered at the school. The only significant alternative to the proposal was to move the District 75 program located in school building K275 to the K263 building instead of opening the new middle school.

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

No written or oral comments regarding this proposal have been received.

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

The only significant alternative to the proposal was to move the District 75 program from the K275 building to the K263 building instead of opening the new middle school. The District 75 program at 23K275 is an extension of 75K140 and is co-located with two middle schools and two high school transfer schools. The PTA at 75K140 believes the 23K275 building is not appropriate for younger children. The PTA stated that elementary school age children in the building need to be with children their age where they can socialize and interact.

The DOE chose not to accept the alternative proposed by the opposition because it does not address the need to create middle school seats in District 23 in a building accessible to the 23K332 and 23K150 zones. The DOE understands the concerns about housing part of 75K140 in K275 with schools that serve older students and is working to identify available space in a District 23 elementary or K-8 building that can accommodate these District 75 students.

With respect to the comments expressing concern about whether there is adequate space in K263 to house another school, P.S./I.S. 323 and 75K140 will continue to have sufficient instructional space to serve their students per the citywide instructional footprint. With the move of East New York Prep Charter School out of the building in June 2010, there will be adequate space for the new middle school, 23K671. The District 75 program located in the building will not lose any space as a result of the siting of 23K671. A space plan for all schools will be developed based on the standard instructional footprint, and decisions regarding the programming of shared spaces in K263 will be made by school leaders.

The DOE has made no changes to the proposal and will present it 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/rdonlyres/F0043783-8608-433C-855E-99228622A268/73837/BuildingK263\\_NewSchool\\_Final.pdf](http://schools.nyc.gov/NR/rdonlyres/F0043783-8608-433C-855E-99228622A268/73837/BuildingK263_NewSchool_Final.pdf).