

Notice of Joint Public Hearing

The Proposed Merger of School for Excellence (09X404) with Morris Academy for Collaborative Studies (09X297) in Building X400 in the 2024-2025 School Year

A Joint Public Hearing will be held to provide the public with an opportunity to learn more about the above-referenced proposal and to present comments or concerns on the proposal. The date, time, and location of the hearing are as follows:

Date: Thursday, February 15, 2024

Time: 6 p.m.

Where: Teleconference, <https://learndoe.org/districtplanning/>.

This Joint Public Hearing will be an opportunity to learn more about potential changes to building X400 and share feedback.

The New York City Department of Education (NYCDOE) is proposing to merge School for Excellence (09X404), referred to as SFE, with Morris Academy for Collaborative Studies (09X297), referred to as MACS, in building X400 (X400) in the 2024-2025 school year.

A merger means that two or more existing school organizations are combined into one school to operate and serve students more effectively. Proposals for mergers seek to improve learning environments by combining the strengths and best practices of both schools and distributing resources to reinforce academic enrichment opportunities, interventions, and other supports.

MACS and SFE are both existing district high schools serving students in grades 9-12 in X400, located at 1110 Boston Road, Bronx, NY 10456 in Community School District 9, referred to as District 9. MACS and SFE are co-located in X400 along with Bronx International High School (09X403), referred to as Bronx International, and High School for Violin and Dance (09X543), referred to as HSVD, which are both also district high schools serving students in grades 9-12. X400 also houses the community-based organizations Center for Supportive Schools, College Confidential, PowerPlay, The Urban Assembly, and Westhab.

If this proposal is approved, SFE will be combined with MACS, such that the students, staff, and resources of SFE will become a part of the merged school, MACS, as of the 2024-2025 school year. If this proposal is approved, SFE will no longer exist as a distinct school option after the 2023-2024 school year.

For further information about this proposal, please see the Educational Impact Statement, which is available in the main offices of MACS, SFE, Bronx International, and HSVD, as well as on the Panel for Education Policy (PEP) website at: <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/about-us/leadership/panel-for-education-policy/2023-2024-pages/march-27-2024-school-utilization-proposals>.

You can sign up to speak at the Joint Public Hearing starting at 5:30 p.m. Speaker sign-up will close 15 minutes after the hearing begins.

Access the teleconference Joint Public Hearing online here: <https://learndoe.org/districtplanning/>.

Before the hearing, you may visit the following website to confirm you are able to join the teleconference on your equipment: <https://learndoe.org/districtplanning/tech-check/>.

If you are unable to attend the Joint Public Hearing through the above link, you may call in directly:

- To participate in English, dial 646-828-7666 (Toll Free) and enter meeting ID: 160-081-6540#.

This Joint Public Hearing will also offer live interpretation in Spanish and French:

- To participate in Spanish, dial 646-964-1167 (Toll Free) and enter meeting ID: 160-976-6510#.
- To participate in French, dial 646-828-7666 (Toll Free) and enter meeting ID: 161-564-8166#.

This proposal must be voted on and approved by the PEP prior to implementation. In addition to the Joint Public Hearing, you may also share comments about the proposal by leaving a voicemail at 212-374-5159 or emailing D09Proposals@schools.nyc.gov.

All comments received at least 24 hours in advance of the PEP meeting at which this proposal is subject to a vote will be included in the Public Comment Analysis, which will be made available on the NYCDOE website after 6 p.m. the day before the PEP vote. The PEP is expected to vote on this proposal on Wednesday, March 27, 2024, at 6 p.m. at Bronx Career and College Preparatory High School, located at 800 Home Street, Bronx, NY 10456. For further information about how to access this meeting, visit the PEP website at <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/about-us/leadership/panel-for-education-policy>.

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