



52 Chambers Street
New York, NY 10007

February 3, 2023

Dear New Visions AIM Charter High School I Families:

I am writing to share that the New York City Department of Education (NYCDOE) is proposing to re-site and merge Aspirations Diploma Plus High School (17K646), referred to as Aspirations Diploma Plus, with Brownsville Academy High School (17K568), referred to as Brownsville Academy, in building K907 beginning in the 2023-2024 school year. NYCDOE is also proposing to re-site one site of ReStart Academy (79M973), referred to as ReStart, to K907 beginning in the 2023-2024 school year.

As you know, New Visions AIM Charter High School I (84K395) is an existing charter transfer high school serving students in grades 9-12 in K907, located at 1150 East New York Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11212 in Community School District 17. K907 also houses Brownsville Academy, an existing transfer high school serving students in grades 9-12, and the Community Based Organization, CAMBA.

Aspirations Diploma Plus is an existing transfer high school serving students in grades 9-12 in building K824, located at 402 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn, NY 11225, also in District 17, approximately 1.8 miles from building K907. K824 also houses ReStart, which provides educational services for 13–21-year-old students in temporary settings, and to overaged eighth graders in small, personalized settings in collaboration with high schools to support students' ability to accelerate learning and successfully transition to high school.

What is the NYCDOE proposing?

NYCDOE is proposing to merge Aspirations Diploma Plus with Brownsville Academy beginning in the 2023-2024 school year and to re-site ReStart to K907 beginning in the 2023-2024 school year. A re-siting means that part or all of a school will be located in a different building than the building in which it is currently located. A co-location means that two or more school organizations are located in the same building and may share common spaces, such as auditoriums, gymnasiums, libraries, and cafeterias. 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.

The lease for K824, where Aspirations Diploma Plus and ReStart are currently located, is expiring at the conclusion of the 2022-2023 school year. In exploring options for a new site for Aspirations Diploma Plus and ReStart, the NYCDOE identified the unique opportunity to merge Aspirations Diploma Plus with Brownsville Academy to create a strong, well-enrolled school. A merger will help address the challenges of low and declining enrollment at both schools, which have limited opportunities to offer robust programming.

If this proposal is approved, Brownsville Academy will be combined with Aspirations Diploma Plus such that the students, staff, and resources of Brownsville Academy will become a part of the merged Aspirations Diploma Plus in K907 as of the 2023-2024 school year. If this proposal is approved, beginning in the 2023-2024 school year, ReStart will also serve all of its students in K907 and will no longer serve students in K824. Therefore, if this proposal is approved, beginning in the 2023-2024 school year, the merged Aspirations Diploma Plus, ReStart, and New Visions AIM I will all be co-located in K907.

If this proposal is approved by the Panel for Educational Policy (PEP), what does this mean for my child(ren)?

- Aspirations Diploma Plus will be re-sited and merged with Brownsville Academy in K907 beginning in the 2022-2023 school year. Beginning in the 2023-2024 school year, the merged Aspirations Diploma Plus and ReStart will serve students in K907, alongside New Visions AIM I.
- New Visions AIM I will be co-located with the merged Aspirations Diploma Plus and ReStart in K907. Aspirations Diploma Plus, ReStart, and New Visions AIM I will share common spaces, such as auditoriums, gymnasiums, libraries, and cafeterias.
- New Visions AIM I will continue to serve students in grades 9-12 in K907. The NYCDOE does not anticipate that this re-siting and merger will impact current student admissions, enrollment, or instructional programming at New Visions AIM I.

Where can I learn more about this proposal?

This letter serves as notice that the Educational Impact Statement (EIS) and Building Utilization Plan (BUP) for this proposal has been posted on the NYCDOE's website at: <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/about-us/leadership/panel-for-education-policy/2022-2023-pages/march-22-2023-school-utilization-proposals>.

We encourage you to visit that website as we will update it with important dates and new information as it becomes available. Copies of the EIS and BUP for this proposal are also available in the main offices of Aspirations Diploma Plus, Brownsville Academy, ReStart, and New Visions AIM I.


How can I provide feedback?

This proposal must be voted on and approved by the PEP prior to implementation. We anticipate that the PEP will vote on this proposal on Wednesday, March 22, 2023, at 6 p.m. at Prospect Heights Educational Campus, located at 883 Classon Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11225.

In advance of the PEP vote, a Joint Public Hearing for this proposal will be held via teleconference on Tuesday, March 7th, 2023 at 6 p.m. All community members will have the opportunity to share feedback about this proposal at the Joint Public Hearing.

Feedback about this proposal may also be shared at any time by e-mailing D17proposals@schools.nyc.gov or by calling 212-374-0208. Feedback about this proposal may also be shared at the March 22, 2023, PEP meeting.

The official Notice of Proposal and Joint Public Hearing are attached.

Sincerely,

John Sullivan
Transfer Schools Superintendent