March 6, 2026

Dear P.S. 009 Sarah Anderson Community,

As you likely know, P.S. 009 Sarah Anderson (P.S. 9) is located in the same building as M.S. 243 Center School (Center School), building M009.

I am writing to share that New York City Public Schools (NYCPS) is proposing to re-site Center School from building M009 to building M342 and to co-locate it with The Riverside School for Makers and Artists (RSMA) in building M342 beginning in the 2026-2027 school year. This means that, if the re-siting proposal is approved by the Panel for Educational Policy (PEP), Center School will operate in a new location beginning next school year. This re-siting will address space challenges experienced by both schools in building M009 and will bring Center School to a part of the district that could benefit from additional high-quality middle school options. In building M342, Center School will be co-located with RSMA, meaning they will share common spaces with RSMA such as the cafeteria, library, gymnasium, and multi-purpose space.

In a separate proposal impacting building M342, NYCPS is proposing to change the grades served by RSMA from K-8 to K-5 in the 2026-2027 school year. If that proposal is approved by the PEP, it will create the necessary space for the re-siting of Center School. In order for Center School to be re-sited to building M342 next year, the PEP must approve both the re-siting proposal and the grade truncation proposal.

As we continue engagement, we are sharing the attached Frequently Asked Questions to respond to themes and questions we have been hearing from the community.

NYCPS has published Educational Impact Statements explaining these proposals in greater detail, which are available at https://www.schools.nyc.gov/about-us/leadership/panel-for-education-policy/2025-2026-pages/april-29-2026-school-utilization-proposals and in the main offices of Center School, RSMA, and P.S. 9. A Joint Public Hearing will be held on Monday, April 13 at 6pm, at which community members can share feedback on these proposals. Community members may also share feedback about these proposals by calling 212-374-3466 or emailing D03proposals@schools.nyc.gov.

Please note that the PEP has not yet made a final decision on either of these proposals, and there will be continued opportunities for dialogue and feedback ahead of a vote by the PEP. We anticipate the PEP will vote on these proposals on Wednesday, April 29, 2026 at 6pm at M.S. 131, located at 100 Hester Street, New York, NY 10002, after the PEP considers these proposals and the feedback they hear from the community.

We look forward to continuing the meaningful dialogue about these proposals and how they would impact your students, your school, and the District 3 community. Additional opportunities to discuss these proposals, ask questions, and provide feedback will be scheduled in the coming weeks.

The official Notice of Joint Public Hearing is attached.

Sincerely,

Dr. Reginald Higgins, I.A. District 3 Superintendent

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Why is NYCPS proposing to re-site Center School to building M342?

A: This proposal is grounded in our responsibility to provide all schools with the physical space they need to meet the needs of students and to increase access for all students in our diverse district to high-quality school options at every level. Since the 2024-2025 school year, the District 3 Superintendent's team has been convening working group meetings across the district to discuss how we can ensure all of our students have access to these kinds of schools and experiences. The working groups explored ways to support enrollment and school performance and address space challenges at several schools. The working group members include principals, Parent Teacher Association presidents, school and district United Federation of Teachers representatives, and Community Education Council representatives. This proposal emerged from these working group conversations as a way to improve learning conditions for students at Center School and P.S. 9 by addressing space challenges in building M009 and to bring a proven, high-quality middle school option to the southern portion of the district.

Building M009 is currently and has historically been an overutilized building. According to the 2024-2025 Enrollment, Capacity and Utilization Report (The Blue Book), the building utilization rate for M009 is 105%, and neither school has the space it should have to support a full range of programming. We recognize the flexibility and dedication of P.S. 9 staff and families who have adapted to these space constraints while continuing to support students.

Alongside this re-siting, NYCPS is proposing to change the grades served by RSMA from K-8 to K-5, which would result in available space in building M342 if approved. Re-siting Center School to M342 would utilize the space that would be vacated by RSMA's middle school grades and bring a high-performing, high-demand middle school to the southern portion of District 3, where it will be more accessible to a diverse population of students, including those who may have otherwise attended RSMA's middle school.

Q: Will these proposals have any impact on P.S. 9's enrollment, admissions, or programming?

A: No, the proposed re-siting of Center School and grade truncation of RSMA are not expected to impact current or future student enrollment, admissions, or programming at P.S. 9.

- The proposal to re-site Center School will provide more space for P.S. 9, which will remain in M009.

Q: What happens next?

A: NYCPS is committed to engaging the community and hearing all voices. We will continue to engage with the community over the coming months about the proposals.

- NYCPS has published Educational Impact Statements explaining these proposals in greater detail, which are available at https://www.schools.nyc.gov/about-us/leadership/panel-for-education-policy/2025-2026-pages/april-29-2026-school-utilization-proposals and in the main offices of Center School, RSMA, and P.S. 9.

- There will be a virtual Joint Public Hearing on Monday, April 13 at 6pm where the community can share feedback.
- The PEP is expected to vote on these proposals at its Wednesday, April 29th meeting at 6pm, which will be held at M.S. 131 (100 Hester Street, New York, NY 10002).
- If these proposals are approved:
    - Center School will no longer serve students in M009 after the 2025-2026 school year. It will be re-sited and serve students in building M342 beginning in the 2026-2027 school year, where it will be co-located with RSMA, which will serve early childhood programs and grades K-5.

Notice of Language Access for Families

Translations of this document will be available on the Panel for Educational Policy webpage:
https://www.schools.nyc.gov/get-involved/families/panel-for-education-policy/panel-meetings

If you do not see a translation available in your preferred language, you can request additional translations via email:
ODPTranslations@schools.nyc.gov

Lajmërim për Familjet për Akses Shërbimesh Gjuhësore [Albanian]

Përkthime të këtij dokumenti do të jenë të disponueshme në faqen e internetit të Panelit për Politika të Edukimit (Panel for Educational Policy):
https://www.schools.nyc.gov/get-involved/families/panel-for-education-policy/panel-meetings

Nëse nuk gjeni përkthim në gjuhën tuaj të parapëlqyer, mund të kërkoni një përkthim me e-mail:
ODPTranslations@schools.nyc.gov

إشعار بخدمات المساعدة اللغوية للعائلات [Arabic]

ستكون ترجمات هذه الوثيقة متاحة على الصفحة الإلكترونية الخاصة بهيئة السياسة التعليمية:
https://www.schools.nyc.gov/get-involved/families/panel-for-education-policy/panel-meetings

إذا لم تجد ترجمة متوفرة بلغتك المفضلة، فيمكنك طلب ترجمات إضافية عبر البريد الإلكتروني:
ODPTranslations@schools.nyc.gov

পরিবারদের জন্য ভাষাগত সহায়তা বিষয়ক বিজ্ঞপ্তি [Bangla]

এই নথির অনুবাদ প্যানেল ফর এডুকেশনাল পলিসি-এর ওয়েবপেজে পাওয়া যাবে:

https://www.schools.nyc.gov/get-involved/families/panel-for-education-policy/panel-meetings

যদি আপনার পছন্দের ভাষায় কোনও অনুবাদ দেখতে না পান, তবে আপনি এই ইমেইল ঠিকানা ব্যবহার করে বাড়তি অনুবাদ অনুরোধ করতে পারেন:

ODPTranslations@schools.nyc.gov

语言使用服务家长通知信 [Chinese-Simplified]

本文件的翻译版本将在教育政策专门小组网页提供：
https://www.schools.nyc.gov/get-involved/families/panel-for-education-policy/panel-meetings

如果您找不到自己首选语言的翻译版本，您可以写电邮要求额外的翻译版本：
ODPTranslations@schools.nyc.gov

語言使用服務家長通知信 [Chinese-Traditional]

本文件的翻譯版本將在教育政策專門小組網頁提供：
https://www.schools.nyc.gov/get-involved/families/panel-for-education-policy/panel-meetings

如果您找不到自己首選語言的翻譯版本，您可以寫電郵要求額外的翻譯版本：
ODPTranslations@schools.nyc.gov

Informations concernant l'accès linguistique pour les familles [French]

Des versions traduites de ce document seront disponibles sur la page Web de la Commission sur la politique éducative : https://www.schools.nyc.gov/get-involved/families/panel-for-education-policy/panel-meetings

Si vous ne trouvez pas de traduction disponible dans la langue de votre choix, il vous est possible de faire une demande de traductions supplémentaires par e-mail : ODPTranslations@schools.nyc.gov

Avi pou sèvis aksè nan lang pou fanmi [Haitian Creole]

Tradiksyon dokiman sa a ap disponib sou pajwèb Komite pou règleman edikasyon an: https://www.schools.nyc.gov/get-involved/families/panel-for-education-policy/panel-meetings

Si ou pa wè yon tradiksyon disponib nan lang ou prefere a, ou ka mande tradiksyon nan lòt lang atravè imèl: ODPTranslations@schools.nyc.gov

가정 대상 언어 지원 공지 [Korean]

이 문서의 번역이 교육 정책 패널 웹페이지에 제공될 것입니다: https://www.schools.nyc.gov/get-involved/families/panel-for-education-policy/panel-meetings

귀하가 선호하시는 언어로 제공된 번역을 찾지 못하셨다면, 추가적인 번역을 다음 이메일로 연락하여 요청하실 수 있습니다: ODPTranslations@schools.nyc.gov

Уведомление о языковой поддержке для семей [Russian]

Переводы этого документа опубликованы на сайте Экспертной комиссии по вопросам образования (Panel for Educational Policy, PEP): https://www.schools.nyc.gov/get-involved/families/panel-for-education-policy/panel-meetings

Если вы не видите документ на предпочтительном для вас языке, вы можете запросить переводы по имейлу ODPTranslations@schools.nyc.gov

Notificación de servicios de acceso lingüístico para las familias [Spanish]

En la página web del Panel para la Política Educativa podrá acceder a traducciones de este documento: https://www.schools.nyc.gov/get-involved/families/panel-for-education-policy/panel-meetings

Si no encuentra la traducción en su idioma de preferencia, puede solicitar traducciones adicionales escribiendo a: ODPTranslations@schools.nyc.gov

Повідомлення про послуги мовного супроводу для сімей [Ukrainian]

Переклади цього документа будуть доступні на веб-сторінці Комітету з питань освітньої політики:

https://www.schools.nyc.gov/get-involved/families/panel-for-education-policy/panel-meetings

Якщо ви не бачите переклад на бажану мову, ви можете надіслати запит на додаткові переклади електронною поштою: ODPTranslations@schools.nyc.gov

خاندانوں کے لیے لسانی رسائی کا نوٹس [Urdu]

اس دستاویز کے ترجمے پینل برائے تعلیم کے ویب صفحے پر دستیاب ہونگے:
https://www.schools.nyc.gov/get-involved/families/panel-for-education-policy/panel-meetings

اگر آپکو اپنی ترجیحی زبان میں ترجمہ دستیاب نہ نظر آئے تو آپ اضافی ترجموں کے لیے بذریعہ ای میل درخواست کرسکتے ہیں:

ODPTranslations@schools.nyc.gov

Oilalar uchun til imkoniyatlari to‘g‘risidagi xabarnoma [Uzbek]

Ushbu hujjatning tarjimalari Ta’lim siyosati paneli veb-sahifasida mavjud bo‘ladi:
https://www.schools.nyc.gov/get-involved/families/panel-for-education-policy/panel-meetings

Agar siz o'zingiz yoqtirgan tilda tarjimani ko'rmasangiz, qo'shimcha tarjimalarni elektron pochta orqali so'rashingiz mumkin:
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