

Notice of Joint Public Hearing

The Proposed Merger of City Knoll Middle School (02M933) with The Facing History School (02M303) in Building M535 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 is as follows:

Date: Thursday, March 7, 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 M535 and share feedback.

The New York City Department of Education (NYCDOE) is proposing to merge City Knoll Middle School (02M933), referred to as City Knoll, with The Facing History School (02M303), referred to as Facing History, in building M535 in the 2024-2025 school year. City Knoll is a district middle school serving students in grades 6-8 in building M111. City Knoll has been temporarily co-located with P.S. 111 Adolph S. Ochs (02M111), referred to as P.S. 111, a district elementary school serving students in grades K-5 as well as a pre-Kindergarten program, since the 2019-2020 school year. M111 is located at 440 West 53 Street, New York, NY 10019 in Community School District 2, referred to as District 2.

Facing History is a district high school currently serving students in grades 9-12 in building M535, located at 525 West 50 Street, New York, NY 10019. M535 is also in District 2, 0.3 miles from M111. Facing History is co-located in M535 with four other district high schools serving students in grades 9-12: High School of Hospitality Management (02M296), referred to as Hospitality Management; Food and Finance High School (02M288), referred to as Food and Finance; Manhattan Bridges High School (02M542), referred to as Manhattan Bridges; and The Urban Assembly School of Design and Construction (02M300), referred to as Design and Construction. Additionally, M535 also houses a site of an existing multi-sited District 75 program, P.S. 138 (75M138) referred to as P138M@M535, which serves students in grades 9-12. M535 also houses the school-based health center Ryan Health Chelsea-Clinton.

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.

If this proposal is approved by the Panel for Education Policy (PEP), City Knoll will be combined with Facing History such that the students, staff, and resources of City Knoll will become a part of the merged school, Facing History, which will serve students in grades 6-12 as of the 2024-2025 school year. If this proposal is approved, City Knoll will no longer exist as a distinct school option as of the 2024-2025 school year and will no longer serve students in M111. Beginning in the 2024-2025 school year, if this proposal is approved, the merged Facing History will be co-located with Food and Finance, Hospitality Management, Manhattan Bridges, Design and Construction, and P138M@M535 in M535.

For further information about this proposal, please see the Educational Impact Statement, which is available in the main offices of P.S. 111, City Knoll, Facing History, Food and Finance, Hospitality Management, Manhattan Bridges, Design and Construction, and P138M@M535, as well as on the PEP website at: <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/about-us/leadership/panel-for-education-policy/2023-2024-pages/march-20-2024-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: 160-997-4908#.

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

- To participate in Spanish, dial 646-964-1167 (Toll Free) and enter Meeting ID: 160-976-6510#.

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 212-374-3466 or emailing D02proposals@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 20, 2024 at 6 p.m. at the Bayard Rustin Educational Campus, located at 351 West 18th Street, New York, NY 10011. 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>.

Published on February 2, 2024