

52 Chambers Street
New York, NY 10007

February 27, 2026

Dear Rockaway Park Families:

I am writing to share that New York City Department of Education (NYCDOE) is proposing to merge Rockaway Park High School for Environmental Sustainability (Rock Park) with Rockaway Collegiate High School (Rock Collegiate) in building Q410 in the 2026-2027 school year. Merger decisions are made on a case-by-case basis in partnership with the superintendent and impacted school communities. They are intended to support under-enrolled schools and address the budgetary and programmatic challenges that may arise because of low enrollment. This merger was developed in collaboration with the Queens South High Schools Superintendent to address the enrollment challenges at Rock Park, which have led to budgetary and programmatic constraints. This merger, if approved, will create a stronger high school with a unified and improved school environment for all students.

This proposal must be voted on and approved by the Panel for Educational Policy (PEP) prior to implementation. If it is approved, Rock Park will be combined with Rock Collegiate such that the students, staff, and resources of Rock Park will become part of the merged Rock Collegiate under the Rock Collegiate name, although the merged school's name may change in a future school year in accordance with Chancellor's Regulation A-860. The merged Rock Collegiate will continue to be co-located with Channel View School for Research (Channel View), United Charter High School for the Humanities IV (HUM IV), and one site of multi-sited District 75 school P.S. Q256 (P256Q@Q410) in Q410.

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

- In the 2026-2027 school year, Rock Park will be merged with Rock Collegiate in Q410. A merger means that two or more existing school organizations are combined into one school to operate and serve students more effectively. Rock Park will be combined with Rock Collegiate such that the students, staff, and resources of Rock Park will become part of the merged Rock Collegiate, which will continue to serve students in grades 9-12 in Q410. Rock Park will no longer exist as a distinct school option following the conclusion of the current school year and will no longer serve students in Q410.
- The NYCDOE is proposing to merge Rock Park with Rock Collegiate due to the benefits that students in both school communities would derive from the additional resources made available by merging the two school organizations into one. Rock Park has experienced low and declining enrollment over the past several years and is currently the lowest-enrolled district high school in Queens South. These enrollment challenges have constrained Rock Park from adding programming. Merging Rock Park with Rock Collegiate, which has consistently higher enrollment, will result in an overall increase to the merged school's budget.
- Therefore, if this proposal is approved, students attending the merged Rock Collegiate will have access to a variety of academic and enrichment opportunities, interventions, and other supports that otherwise may not be financially feasible for either school to offer in the absence of a merger. The schools will work together to combine their strengths and best practices to provide all students with access to expanded programming and more educational opportunities than are currently offered at either school, including merging current FutureReadyNYC pathways available at both schools and considering additional pathways in future school years.
- All current Rock Park students, with the exception of those graduating high school, will be automatically registered to attend the merged Rock Collegiate for the 2026-2027 school year in Q410, which will have sufficient space to accommodate all students. Current Rock Park students who prefer a different school may seek a transfer for the 2026-2027 school year.

- High school offers are expected to be released prior to the PEP vote on this proposal. As such, students who receive an offer to Rock Park will receive direct communication from the Office of Student Enrollment (OSE) and will have their high school offer replaced with the merged Rock Collegiate. If students do not wish to attend the merged Rock Collegiate, they may add themselves to waitlists for other schools to which they are eligible for admission or may work with OSE and Queens South High Schools Superintendent's team to explore other school placement options.
- The merged Rock Collegiate will continue to be co-located with Channel View, HUM IV, and P256Q@Q410, meaning these schools will share common spaces, including the auditorium, cafeterias, gymnasiums, library and pool.
- There is no expected impact to current enrollment, academic offerings, or extracurricular programming at Rock Park for the remainder of the 2025-2026 school year. Beginning in the 2026-2027 school year, all students attending the merged Rock Collegiate will have access to expanded programming and increased educational opportunities as a result of this merger.
- All eligible students will continue to receive all mandated special education and English Language Learner services.

Where can I learn more about this proposal?

For further information about this proposal, please see the Educational Impact Statement and the Building Utilization Plan, which are available in the main offices of Rock Park, Rock Collegiate, Channel View, HUM IV, and P256Q@Q410 as well as on the PEP website at: <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/get-involved/families/panel-for-education-policy/2025-2026-pages/may-06-2026-school-utilization-proposals>. We encourage you to visit this website for any updates.

How can I provide feedback?

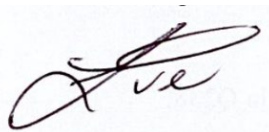
In advance of the PEP vote, a Joint Public Hearing will be held via teleconference on Tuesday, March 31, 2026, at 6 p.m. All community members will have the opportunity to share feedback about this proposal at the Joint Public Hearing.

You may also share feedback about this proposal by e-mailing D27Proposals@schools.nyc.gov or calling 212-374-7621 at any point before 6 p.m. on the day before the scheduled PEP meeting.

We anticipate that the PEP will vote on this proposal on Wednesday, May 6, 2026, at 6 p.m. at Francis Lewis High School, located at 58-20 Utopia Parkway Queens, New York 11365.

The official Joint Public Hearing Notice is attached.

Sincerely,



Josephine Van-Ess, Queens South High Schools Superintendent

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 kërkonit 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 предпочитаемом 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

[Urdu] خاندانوں کے لیے لسانی رسائی کا نوٹس

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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