



October 20, 2014

The Honorable Margaret Chin
Council Member
New York City Council, District 1
Chatham Green, 165 Park Row, Ste. 11
New York, NY 10038

Dear Council Member Chin,

I am writing to inform you that Success Academy Charter Schools – NYC (“Success Academy”) has been approved by the Trustees of the State University of New York to open a new public charter school in Manhattan that we plan to locate in Community School District 1 (“New Success Academy”).

The mission of the charter school will be to provide students with an exceptionally high-quality education that gives them the knowledge, skills, character, and disposition to meet and exceed New York State standards, and the resources to succeed and lead in school, college, and a competitive global economy.

The school will serve low-income and/or mixed-income populations residing within Community School District 1 or the neighborhood of location, including English Language Learners and students with special education needs. The aim would be to educate all students at the same high level, irrespective of socioeconomic, racial, ethnic, and/or other status. We deeply believe that economically and racially integrated school settings provide important benefits to both students and the community. Students from low-income families benefit academically from attending mixed-income schools, and the establishment of high-quality mixed-income schools raises the bar generally for lagging middle-class schools. It is a core principle at Success Academy that every child should have access to a high-quality public school option.

The New Success Academy would open in August 2015 with Kindergarten and 1st grade, and add one grade each year until it serves Kindergarten through 12th grade (pre-Kindergarten, middle school grades, and high school grades subject to government approval). The planned total enrollment in the school’s fifth year of operation is 600-675 students.

The academic program will include daily reading, writing, math, and exploratory-based science instruction, as well as chess, art, sports, and frequent field studies, among other offerings. On any given day, students might dive into a good book, hypothesize about whether an object will sink or float, mold a papier-mâché dragon head, sing songs, solve the word problem of the day, challenge a fellow student in chess, write a compelling story, or score the winning soccer goal. Success Academy scholars are critical thinkers who love learning and are college-bound.

In elementary school, the school day will run from 7:45 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. in Kindergarten and until 4:30 p.m. for all other grades, except one day each week, when the school day will run from 7:45 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Extensive professional development will be provided for teachers on those afternoons. Teachers will use student assessment data to drive instruction and employ a research-based, results-driven curriculum that goes beyond New York Common Core Learning Standards.

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We welcome your comments, which may be made via e-mail to NewSchools@successacademies.org. To leave a voicemail with your comments, please call 646-747-6196, and be sure to specify the school your message concerns. We want to serve your great community, and we will endeavor to incorporate the community's input as we embark on this exciting mission.

We look forward to working with you and becoming an integral part of your community.

Sincerely,



Eva Moskowitz
Chief Executive Officer
Success Academy Charter Schools