



CHANCELLOR WALCOTT & SPEAKER QUINN ANNOUNCE SCHOOLS SELECTED FOR EXTENDED LEARNING DAY PILOT & EXPANSION OF MIDDLE SCHOOL QUALITY INITIATIVE

12,000 Additional Students Across 40 Schools Will Benefit From \$6.2 Million Expansion

20 Schools Selected to Participate in an Innovative Model Combining Extended Day with Additional Reading & Tutoring

Schools Chancellor Dennis M. Walcott and City Council Speaker Christine C. Quinn today announced the 40 middle schools that will now be a part of the Middle School Quality Initiative, 20 of which will be a part of the new pilot program that will use an innovative model to extend the school day and offer intense literacy training for high needs middle school students. Today, principals from the selected schools will meet with Department of Education officials to learn about the programs. Chancellor Walcott and Speaker Quinn first announced the MSQI expansion and pilot program at the Urban Institute of Mathematics in the Bronx and were joined by Council Members James Vacca, Andy King and Annabel Palma, DOE Chief Academic Officer Shael Polakow-Suransky, Robin Hood Foundation Chief Program Officer Michael Weinstein, the President of The After School Corporation (TASC) Lucy Friedman and Harvard Ed Labs Chief Academic Officer Meghan Howard.

Broken down by borough, the extended learning day pilot will be in six middle schools in the Bronx and Brooklyn, five in Queens and three in Manhattan. Overall, the MSQI expansion will be in 14 middle schools in the Bronx, 13 in Brooklyn, seven in Queens, five in Manhattan and one in Staten Island. This expansion brings the total number of schools in the MSQI to 89.

“We are committed to ensuring that all students are prepared for college and 21st century careers, and the Middle School Quality Initiative has been central to this mission,” said Schools Chancellor Dennis M. Walcott. “We are sharing best practices across our system of great schools and are pleased that this program will expand to 89 schools this fall to benefit thousands of current and future middle school students. I want to thank the New York City Council, Robin Hood, The After School Corporation, and Harvard Ed Labs for their enormously generous support.”

“We’re proud to announce that beginning next September, all sixth graders in each of these 20 middle schools, for a total of 2,000 students - will experience 2.5 more hours of learning time per day as part of our new pilot program,” said Speaker Quinn. “This pilot is a part of the Council and DOE’s Middle School Quality Initiative, which has already shown promising results with both low and high performing kids, and we are confident that a daily dose of extra tutoring for students struggling with English Language Arts will significantly increase students’ ability to comprehend at grade-level across all subjects. I want to thank my Council colleagues, Robin Hood, The After



**Department of
Education**

Dennis M. Walcott, Chancellor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 10, 2013
N-69, 2012-13



School Corporation, Harvard Ed Labs, the Department of Education and members of the Middle School Task Force for their continued dedication to improving New York City's schools.”

“Middle schools are an integral and formative part of an adolescent’s academic experience where they come into their own and continue to gain the necessary skills for critical thinking and social learning. Considering the heavy emphasis on testing during these transitional years of a young adolescent’s life, the extended hours of literacy will provide the much needed support for students to master the skills and knowledge that will ensure their future success,” said Council Member Robert Jackson, Chair of the Education Committee. “I thank all the involved partners for contributing to the Middle School Quality Initiative with a comprehensive program that will continue to help at-risk students stay on track of their educational goals.”

School Name	Cohort	Borough
Juan Morel Campos Secondary School	MSQI + Pilot	Brooklyn
M.S. 223 The Laboratory School of Finance and Technology	MSQI + Pilot	Bronx
Waterside School for Leadership	MSQI + Pilot	Queens
PS/IS 116 William C. Hughley	MSQI + Pilot	Queens
Queens United Middle School	MSQI + Pilot	Queens
Eagle Academy for Young Men	MSQI + Pilot	Bronx
The Highbridge Green School	MSQI + Pilot	Bronx
East Flatbush Community Research School	MSQI + Pilot	Brooklyn
P.S. 043	MSQI + Pilot	Queens
J.H.S. 143 Eleanor Roosevelt	MSQI + Pilot	Manhattan
South Bronx Academy for Applied Media	MSQI + Pilot	Bronx
I.S. 30 Mary White Ovington	MSQI + Pilot	Brooklyn
Renaissance School of the Arts	MSQI + Pilot	Manhattan



**Department of
Education**

Dennis M. Walcott, Chancellor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 10, 2013
N-69, 2012-13



Thurgood Marshall Academy for Learning and Social Change	MSQI + Pilot	Manhattan
I.S. 340	MSQI + Pilot	Brooklyn
Andries Hudde	MSQI + Pilot	Brooklyn
Frederick Douglass Academy V. Middle School	MSQI + Pilot	Bronx
P.S. 109	MSQI + Pilot	Brooklyn
J.H.S. 123 James M. Kieran	MSQI + Pilot	Bronx
Village Academy	MSQI + Pilot	Queens
Academy of Public Relations	MSQI 3	Bronx
Hunter's Point Community Middle School	MSQI 3	Queens
Urban Science Academy	MSQI 3	Bronx
Brownsville Collaborative Middle School	MSQI 3	Brooklyn
Urban Assembly School for Applied Math and Science, The	MSQI 3	Bronx
J.H.S. 050 John D. Wells	MSQI 3	Brooklyn
Dr. Susan S. McKinney Secondary School of the Arts	MSQI 3	Brooklyn
P.S. 007 Samuel Stern	MSQI 3	Manhattan
Kappa V	MSQI 3	Brooklyn
Accion Academy	MSQI 3	Bronx
P.S. 157 Benjamin Franklin	MSQI 3	Brooklyn
Middle School 322	MSQI 3	Manhattan
P.S. 089 Bronx	MSQI 3	Bronx
Staten Island School of Civic Leadership	MSQI 3	Staten Island
I.S. 232	MSQI 3	Bronx
East Fordham Academy for the Arts	MSQI 3	Bronx
I.S. 238 Susan B Anthony	MSQI 3	Queens
P.S. 20 P.O. George J. Werdan III	MSQI 3	Bronx
M.S. 246 Walt Whitman	MSQI 3	Brooklyn
J.H.S. 014 Shell Bank	MSQI 3	Brooklyn



**Department of
Education**

Dennis M. Walcott, Chancellor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 10, 2013
N-69, 2012-13



In 2007, the City Council convened a task force that included academics, unions, the DOE, parents, CBOs, and former principals to produce the Middle School Task Force Report. This report was adapted into the Blueprint for Middle School Success, which the DOE currently uses. The current Middle School Quality Initiative grew out of that work and is still overseen by the Task Force. Introduced in 2011 with 18 schools, MSQI has deepened instruction in grades 6-8, and currently works with 49 schools across the city. School leaders, teachers, and networks receive professional development on Common Core-aligned literacy strategies and promising practices. MSQI schools also receive targeted funding for literacy-focused training and instructional materials. This fall, 40 additional schools will take part in the initiative – bringing the total number of MSQI participating schools to 89. By year three, the expansion will benefit approximately 12,000 additional students.

Most significantly, the expansion of MSQI will provide the opportunity to develop a new model for accelerating middle grade students' progress toward meeting Common Core literacy standards. Through a partnership with The After School Corporation (TASC) and the Education Innovation Laboratory at Harvard University (EdLabs), participating middle schools will be able to offer their students an additional twelve hours per week of literacy-focused support embedded within an engaging, high-interest extended learning day. This model could play an important role in our City's progress toward ensuring that all graduating 8th graders leave middle school securely on the pathway to college and career success.

MSQI's expansion next year is made possible through \$4.65 million in grants provided by Robin Hood and the New York City Council, with the help of other funders. The New York Department of Education is also contributing \$1.55 million dollars to the expansion.

This year alone, MSQI facilitated over 78 days of professional development and supported more than 400 educators. The initial results of the program are promising – and for the students who need it most: On nationally-normed assessments of reading comprehension, students who attend schools participating in MSQI are on track to exceed the average annual growth of middle school students nationwide. Further, evidence shows that students who severely struggled with reading demonstrated 1.5 grade levels of progress between February and June of 2012. These severely at-risk students reaped the greatest gains due to MSQI efforts, substantially exceeding the annual benchmarks set for their peers nationwide.

Of the 40-school MSQI expansion, 20 of those schools will participate in TASC/EdLabs' innovative learning model. TASC will work with community-based organizations across the city to offer students high-dosage reading tutoring and an array of learning activities aligned with students' interests and affinities through an extended school day. An estimated 2,000 students per year over



**Department of
Education**

Dennis M. Walcott, Chancellor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 10, 2013
N-69, 2012-13



the next three years will participate in this component of the program. EdLabs will work with the Department to design the reading tutoring model, and will also evaluate the project and identify effective practices that can be shared across middle schools citywide and beyond. The 20 schools, which have not yet been identified, will be randomly selected from among a pool of applicants. The program, like MSQI as a whole, will be targeted at middle schools across the City that serve high-needs students.

By the end of next school year, MSQI will have served approximately 27,000 students total. The Department hopes to build on the early success of the program and see even greater gains for students participating in the new extended day and reading tutoring components of the program.

###

Contact: Erin Hughes – DOE (212) 374-5141
Justin Goodman – Council (212) 788-7121