



Dear Families,

On January 12th 2024, the New York City Department of Education (NYCDOE) issued a proposal to open and temporarily co-locate a new high school, Motion Picture Technical High School (30Q367), referred to as Motion Picture Tech, with I.S. 429 in building Q429 for the 2024-2025 school year. Q429 is located at 47-10 Barnett Avenue, Queens, NY 11104 in Community School District 30, referred to as District 30. A co-location means that two or more schools are located in the same building and may share common spaces, such as auditoriums, gymnasiums, libraries, and cafeterias.

Below are questions we've heard throughout this process with corresponding answers for more information:

What would the collaboration between I.S. 429 and Motion Picture Tech be?

- A collaboration between I.S. 429 and Motion Picture Tech would leverage the strengths and resources of two innovative, new schools, ultimately enhancing the educational experience and opportunities available to all students. For example, Motion Picture Tech would offer classes and extracurriculars related to film and television production and post-production. Students from I.S. 429 would be welcome to participate in these educational opportunities, as well as other programs and activities.
- Motion Picture Tech would support I.S. 429 with exploring potential partnerships with trusted Community Based Organizations for after-school programming, such as The Astoria Film Festival, Ghetto Film School, Roundabout Theater Company, Urban LiveStream, Studio Institute, Reel Works, etc.
- Furthermore, the co-location would include the development of a state-of-the-art mobile media lab, and this resource would remain at I.S. 429 when Motion Picture Tech move to its long-term site.
- Motion Picture Tech would support I.S. 429 with professional learning for media / digital arts curriculum development which I.S. 429 teachers could adopt for their Arts Academy and beyond.
- Both schools would optimize budgets through the sharing of resources and expertise and opportunities would be explored to share staff where appropriate and available.

How many students would Motion Picture Tech serve in building Q429?

- Building Q429 has the capacity to serve a total of 725 students. If this proposal is approved, building Q429 is projected to have a total building enrollment of approximately 420-450 students across Motion Picture Tech's ninth grade and I.S. 429's grades 6-7 in the 2024-2025 school year. Enrollment projections for each school are as follows:
 - I.S. 429 is projected to serve approximately 230-250 students; and
 - Motion Picture Tech is projected to serve approximately 190-200 students.

How would the co-location of Motion Picture Tech impact I.S. 429?

- This proposal is not expected to impact current or future enrollment, academic offerings, or extra-curricular programming at I.S. 429. This co-location is not expected to change the duties and responsibilities of staff assigned to I.S. 429 for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year. As I.S. 429 continues to phase in, the school is expected to hire additional teachers and school staff.



How does this potential co-location impact middle school admissions?

- If this proposal is approved, there would be no impact on the manner in which I.S. 429 admits students. I.S. 429 currently admits students through the middle school admissions process.
- The middle school application is now closed and offers will be made on April 3rd in advance of the PEP's vote on this proposal.
- More information about the middle school admissions process can be found on the NYCDOE's website at: <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/MS>.

Additional plans to ensure a harmonious environment at building Q429 during the 1-year co-location:

- Motion Picture Technical High School would have designated classroom space for its exclusive use, ensuring a dedicated area for its educational activities.
- Motion Picture Tech's academic schedule would align with I.S. 429's timings, adopting a staggered start to minimize congestion during arrival and dismissal and overlap between the two schools. Specific entry and exit protocols would be in place to ensure smooth transitions for Motion Picture Tech students, utilizing a designated entrance.
- Timing in shared spaces like the cafeteria and gymnasium would be arranged to complement I.S. 429's existing schedule. A Q429 building council would be established to oversee the co-location's daily operations and logistics, focusing on maintaining safety and security for all. Any interaction between high school and middle school students would be carefully managed and only occur under specific, authorized circumstances, ensuring the safety and well-being of all students.
- To facilitate movement within the building, Motion Picture Tech would primarily use specified stairwells, with clear guidelines to prevent congestion. Access to additional facilities, such as the science lab, would be coordinated to ensure minimal disruption.
- The visitor policy at Motion Picture Tech would adhere to the established protocols of I.S. 429 and would be in full compliance with the Chancellor's Regulations to ensure a safe and orderly environment.
- I.S. 429 and Motion Picture Tech would strictly follow all Chancellor's Regulations to prevent bullying and guarantee a respectful, safe environment for every student. Both schools are committed to creating an inclusive atmosphere and prioritizing a positive school culture. Motion Picture Tech would encourage 9th graders to serve as role models for the 6th and 7th graders, reinforcing our values of respect and safety.

Will the co-location extend beyond one year?

- The NYCDOE is planning to issue a proposal during the current 2023-2024 school year in accordance with Chancellor's Regulation A-190 to re-site Motion Picture Tech out of building Q429 to its long-term space beginning in the 2025-2026 school year. More information on Chancellor's Regulation A-190 can be found on the NYCDOE's website at: <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/about-us/policies/chancellors-regulations/volume-a-regulations/1>.
- The NYCDOE expects this long-term space to be a new building Q472, which is currently under construction and scheduled to open for the 2025-2026 school year. Q472 is located at 53-16 Northern Boulevard, Queens, NY 11377, approximately 0.7 miles from building Q429, also in District 30. Beginning



in the 2025-2026 school year, Motion Picture Tech is expected to serve grades 9-10 in Q472 and will continue to phase in to serve grades 9-12 at scale.

- Any future significant changes to school utilization in building Q429 would be proposed in a future Education Impact Statement (EIS) and be subject to a separate Panel for Education Policy (PEP) approval in accordance with Chancellor's Regulation A-190.

How can I provide feedback on the proposal?

- In advance of the PEP vote, a Joint Public Hearing for this proposal will be held via teleconference on Thursday, February 15, 2024, at 6 p.m. All community members will have the opportunity to share feedback about this proposal at the Joint Public Hearing.
- Feedback on this proposal can also be directed at any time to the NYCDOE's Office of District Planning by phone at 212-374-7621 or via email at D30Proposals@schools.nyc.gov
- This proposal must be voted on and approved by the PEP prior to implementation. We anticipate that the PEP will vote on this proposal on Thursday, April 11, 2024, at 6 p.m. at John Bowne High School, 63-25 Main Street, Queens, NY 11367. Feedback about this proposal may also be shared at the PEP meeting. More information about the PEP meeting can be found at: <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/about-us/leadership/panel-for-education-policy>.

We look forward to continuing conversations over the next few weeks to hear your feedback. If you have additional questions about this proposal, please reach out to me at lhidalgo@schools.nyc.gov, or to Reba Lichtenstein in the Office of District Planning, at rlichtenstein2@schools.nyc.gov.

You can also reach out to the Principal Castello of I.S. 429 at mcastello@schools.nyc.gov or Kevin Lopez, Acting Principal Assigned of Motion Picture Tech, at klopez28@schools.nyc.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Lisa Hidalgo'.

Lisa Hidalgo
Community School District 30 Superintendent