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COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 2, MANHATTAN

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June 16, 2026

Hon. Kamar H. Samuels, Chancellor,
NYC Public Schools
52 Chambers St.
New York, NY 10007

Honorable Chancellor Samuels:

At its Full Board meeting on May 21, 2026, Community Board #2, Manhattan (CB2, Man.) adopted the following resolution:

Resolution In Support of the Expansion of Lower Manhattan Community Middle School into a Unified 6-12 Secondary School at 26 Broadway

Whereas:

1. [Lower Manhattan Community Middle School](#)¹ (LMC) [was founded in 1997 in Community Board 2 \(CB2\) as the Greenwich Village Middle School](#)² at P.S. 041, and later moved to P.S. 003 before finding its permanent home in the fall of 2010 at the 26 Broadway Educational Campus in Manhattan's Financial District where it continues to serve CB2 students;
2. LMC is a high-performing Education District 2 middle school that provides rigorous academics, arts programming and integrated special education supports, operating consistently at approximately 100% capacity, educating 330 students in grades 6 to 8;

¹ <https://lmc896.org/>

² <https://www.dnainfo.com/20100511/manhattan/greenwich-village-middle-school-moving-financial-district/>

3. Since 2017 LMC has been frequently attended by Middle Schools by students of Greenwich Village's only elementary schools, [drawing the highest enrollment rate of P.S. 003 students](#)³, with increasing demand from PS41 graduates;

P.S. 003 Charrette School (02M003) Frequently Attended Middle School



26%	Lower Manhattan Community Middle School
17%	M.S. 297
10%	M.S. 255 Salk School Of Science
8%	J.H.S. 104 Simon Baruch
8%	New York City Lab Middle School For Collaborative Studies

4. LMC has established a stable school culture, strong parent engagement, sustained academic success, and long-term administrative leadership, making it one of Lower Manhattan's most trusted public schools, scoring 100% - the highest score in the Family-School Trust category of the [2024-2025 NYC School Survey](#)⁴;
5. The 26 Broadway Educational Campus is located inside the Standard Oil Building, a 31-story, 520-foot-tall Renaissance Revival [landmark](#) in Lower Manhattan, that [serves three NYC public schools](#)⁵:
 - a. Richard R. Green High School serving approximately 430 students, with a capacity of 576, on floors one and two;
 - b. Urban Assembly School of Business for Young Women serving approximately 91 students with a capacity of 497, on floors four and five, [which will close in June 2026](#)⁶; and,
 - c. LMC serving approximately 330 students, with a capacity of 327, on floors six and seven;
6. The vertically configured educational facility creates significant operational limitations for LMC, including constrained elevator access, narrow stairwells, a shared gymnasium, no outdoor play yard, and limited common areas, requiring careful coordination of student movement and shared facility use;
7. Due to the deeply interconnected nature of our contiguous districts, CB2 and Manhattan Community Board 1 (CB1) have critical [infrastructure](#)⁷ concerns, including [transportation](#)^{8,9},

³ <https://tools.nycenet.edu/snapshot/2022/02M003/EMS/#INFO>

⁴ <https://tools.nycenet.edu/snapshot/2025/02M896/EMS/#RF>

⁵ https://dnnhh5cc1.blob.core.windows.net/portals/0/Capital_Plan/Utilization_Reports/Blue%20Book%202024-2025.pdf?sv=2017-04-17&sr=b&si=DNNFileManagerPolicy&sig=OjIdQrtlyj69sAtqelIwyy1I%2Bw8uRDEYO9rxRlACE0U%3D

⁶ [https://nycdoe.sharepoint.com/:b:/r/sites/PEPArchive/Shared%20Documents/PEP/2025-2026/04-29-2026%20\(April%202029,%202026\)/School%20Utilization%20Proposals/Proposed%20Closure%20in%20M282/Amended%20Public%20Notice/M282%20Closure%20Amended%20Public%20Notice.pdf?csf=1&web=1&e=sm7fbZ](https://nycdoe.sharepoint.com/:b:/r/sites/PEPArchive/Shared%20Documents/PEP/2025-2026/04-29-2026%20(April%202029,%202026)/School%20Utilization%20Proposals/Proposed%20Closure%20in%20M282/Amended%20Public%20Notice/M282%20Closure%20Amended%20Public%20Notice.pdf?csf=1&web=1&e=sm7fbZ)

⁷ <https://web.miniextensions.com/api/public-attachments/LUO0d1BEC5zgaAqyneqF/recqXA3cY1n1qg1oz>

⁸ <https://cbmanhattan.cityofnewyork.us/cb2/wp-content/uploads/sites/9/2025/12/CB2M-Resolution-Concerning-the-Proposed-Canal-Street-Redesign-2025-12-18.pdf>

⁹ <https://web.miniextensions.com/api/public-attachments/LUO0d1BEC5zgaAqyneqF/recxy8Sryl190ISj1>

[waterfront resiliency](#)¹⁰, and [education](#)^{11,12,13,14}, and have a longstanding history of collaboration, including supporting one another's resolutions and efforts;

8. Manhattan Community Board 1 heard community testimony and passed resolutions in [March 2026](#)¹⁵ supporting the expansion of LMC to grades 6 to 12 and in [December 2021](#) insisting that any future educational planning for the building must account for student safety, emergency egress, pedestrian congestion, and coordinated use of limited shared resources;
9. In February 2026, New York City Public Schools (NYCPS) announced a proposal¹⁶ to co-locate a new high school at 26 Broadway in the space occupied by the closing of Urban Assembly School of Business for Young Women; and
10. In response, parents, alumni, students, educators and Lower Manhattan residents, including many Community District 2 families and community leaders, organized publicly in support of [EXPAND](#)¹⁷ LMC to urge NYCPS to expand LMC into a unified 6-12 secondary school rather than co-locate a new high school, which would enable coordinated operations, aligned schedules, shared supervision, centralized safety protocols, and efficient facility use, while leveraging an established leadership team, faculty, school culture, and community demand, thereby avoiding the higher costs, duplicative systems, and greater risks associated with creating and operating a separate new institution;
11. On April 27, 2026, NYCPS Chancellor Kamar H. Samuels withdrew the proposal for a new colocated high school from Panel for Educational Policy consideration and [publicly acknowledged](#) the need for more meaningful engagement with families and communities before advancing major school utilization decisions;
12. Manhattan Community Board 1 heard community testimony and passed resolutions in [March 2026](#)¹⁸ supporting the expansion of LMC to grades 6 to 12 and in [December 2021](#)¹⁹ insisting that any future educational planning for the building must account for student safety, emergency egress, pedestrian congestion, and coordinated use of limited shared resources;
13. There are clear benefits to students enrolled in a 6-12 secondary school:

¹⁰ <https://web.miniextensions.com/api/public-attachments/LUO0d1BEC5zgaAqyneqF/recIgtJZIDMvwArCE>

¹¹ <https://web.miniextensions.com/api/public-attachments/LUO0d1BEC5zgaAqyneqF/rec2aW7VTyuFNLlmq>

¹² <https://web.miniextensions.com/api/public-attachments/LUO0d1BEC5zgaAqyneqF/recGEMJ78aj9tgrYP>

¹³ <https://web.miniextensions.com/api/public-attachments/LUO0d1BEC5zgaAqyneqF/recKQe4JSbmcmuQoq>

¹⁴ https://cbmanhattan.cityofnewyork.us/cb2/wp-content/uploads/sites/9/2021/01/1-January-2021_Schools-and-Education-Resolution-Resolutions.pdf

¹⁵ <https://web.miniextensions.com/api/public-attachments/LUO0d1BEC5zgaAqyneqF/recP3LEFIN72hH5eh>

¹⁶ [https://nycdoe.sharepoint.com/:b:/r/sites/PEPArchive/Shared%20Documents/PEP/2025-2026/04-29-2026%20\(April%202029,%202026\)/School%20Utilization%20Proposals/Proposed%20Closure%20in%20M282/Amended%20Public%20Notice/M282%20Closure%20Amended%20Public%20Notice.pdf?csf=1&web=1&e=sm7fbZ](https://nycdoe.sharepoint.com/:b:/r/sites/PEPArchive/Shared%20Documents/PEP/2025-2026/04-29-2026%20(April%202029,%202026)/School%20Utilization%20Proposals/Proposed%20Closure%20in%20M282/Amended%20Public%20Notice/M282%20Closure%20Amended%20Public%20Notice.pdf?csf=1&web=1&e=sm7fbZ)

¹⁷ <https://www.change.org/p/expand-lmc>

¹⁸ <https://web.miniextensions.com/api/public-attachments/LUO0d1BEC5zgaAqyneqF/recP3LEFIN72hH5eh>

¹⁹ <https://web.miniextensions.com/api/public-attachments/LUO0d1BEC5zgaAqyneqF/reciTeuMzLhlyvYuK>

- a. [Educational research](#)²⁰ demonstrates that reducing the number of school transitions experienced by adolescents improves continuity of academic support, strengthens long-term student success, by mitigating the disruption commonly associated with the transition from eighth grade to ninth grade;
 - b. Schools are able to scaffold academic expectations, counseling, arts instruction, and advisory programming over seven years, thereby strengthening both rigor and social-emotional continuity for students;
 - c. Students benefit from sustained counseling relationships, longitudinal college and career advising, stronger peer continuity, and an increased sense of belonging during the most developmentally sensitive years of adolescence; and
14. LMC has maintained strong enrollment and family trust throughout its history, and families consistently express anxiety regarding the high school transition process, particularly families of students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs), English Language Learners, and students from economically disadvantaged households, who face structural disadvantages within New York City's high school application system;
15. Arts-integrated high schools in New York City have demonstrated strong outcomes in student retention, attendance, and graduation rates, and LMC offers a distinctive combination of Advanced Placement coursework, full inclusion, and arts integration that does not exist at scale elsewhere in New York City;
16. LMC is uniquely accessible to families residing in Manhattan neighborhoods below 14th Street due to its proximity to multiple major transit lines, including the 1, 2, 3, A, C, E, F, M, N, R, W, J, and Z subway lines, as well as key bus routes such as the M1, M2, M3, M5, M6, M8, M9, M14A/D, M20, M21, M55, and M103, providing direct and frequent access for students and families across Lower Manhattan;
17. The impending availability of the Urban Assembly space, the demonstrated success of LMC, and the organized support of downtown public school families and the education community together create a timely and compelling opportunity for NYCPS to establish the first unified public 6-12 secondary school in lower Manhattan.

Therefore be it resolved that Community Board 2 Manhattan:

1. Strongly supports the expansion of Lower Manhattan Community Middle School (LMC) into a unified public 6-12 secondary school housed within the 26 Broadway Educational Campus using the space vacated by Urban Assembly School of Business for Young Women, with such expansion to occur under the current LMC administration, and oversight by the New York City School District 2 Superintendent;
2. Requests that any future school utilization planning for 26 Broadway prioritize coherent single-program building management, coordinated student scheduling, equitable access to shared facilities, emergency preparedness, and pedestrian safety surrounding the campus;

²⁰ <https://www.instituteoftheequity.org/resources-reports/improving-school-transitions-for-health-equity/improving-school-transitions-for-health-equity.pdf>

3. Insists that New York City Public Schools engage LMC families, school leadership, local elected officials, Community Education Council District 2, and the Lower Manhattan community in a transparent and collaborative planning process regarding the long-term educational future of the 26 Broadway campus.

Vote: Unanimous, 29 Board Members in favor.

We respectfully request that your agency take action consistent with the positions expressed in the above.

Respectfully submitted -



Valerie De La Rosa, Chair
Community Board 2 / Manhattan

Copy: Hon. Brad Hoylman-Sigal, Manhattan Borough President
Hon. Julie Menin, NYC Council Speaker
Hon. Christopher Marte, NYC Council, 1st District
Hon. Harvey Epstein, NYC Council, 2nd District
Hon. Carl Wilson, NYC Council, 3rd District
Hon. Brian Kavanagh, NY State Senator, 27th District
Hon. Erik Bottcher, NY State Senator, 47th District
Hon. Grace Lee, NY State Assembly Member, 65th District
Hon. Deborah Glick, NY State Assembly Member, 66th District
Kelly McGuire, NYC DOE District 2 Superintendent