

New District 21 School Buildings and Planning: Presentation to CEC 21

Office of District Planning
March 20, 2024



Goals of Presentation

- Discuss district data trends and planning needs
- Share information about all new buildings opening in the district
- Provide detailed overview of plans for the new middle school building, K597. Discuss admission options and review the new school design process
- Collect feedback and answer questions

Office of District Planning

ODP, in collaboration with Superintendents, partners with school communities, CECs, Citywide Councils, other NYCPS central offices, and additional stakeholders to assess district needs and priorities and develop strategic plans to address them.

Levers to make important school or district changes include:

- **Rezoning in partnership with CEC**
- **Unzoning in partnership with CEC**
- **Merger**
- **New School**
- **Grade Reconfiguration**
- **Re-siting**
- **New Program**
- **Enrollment Planning**

District 21 Data

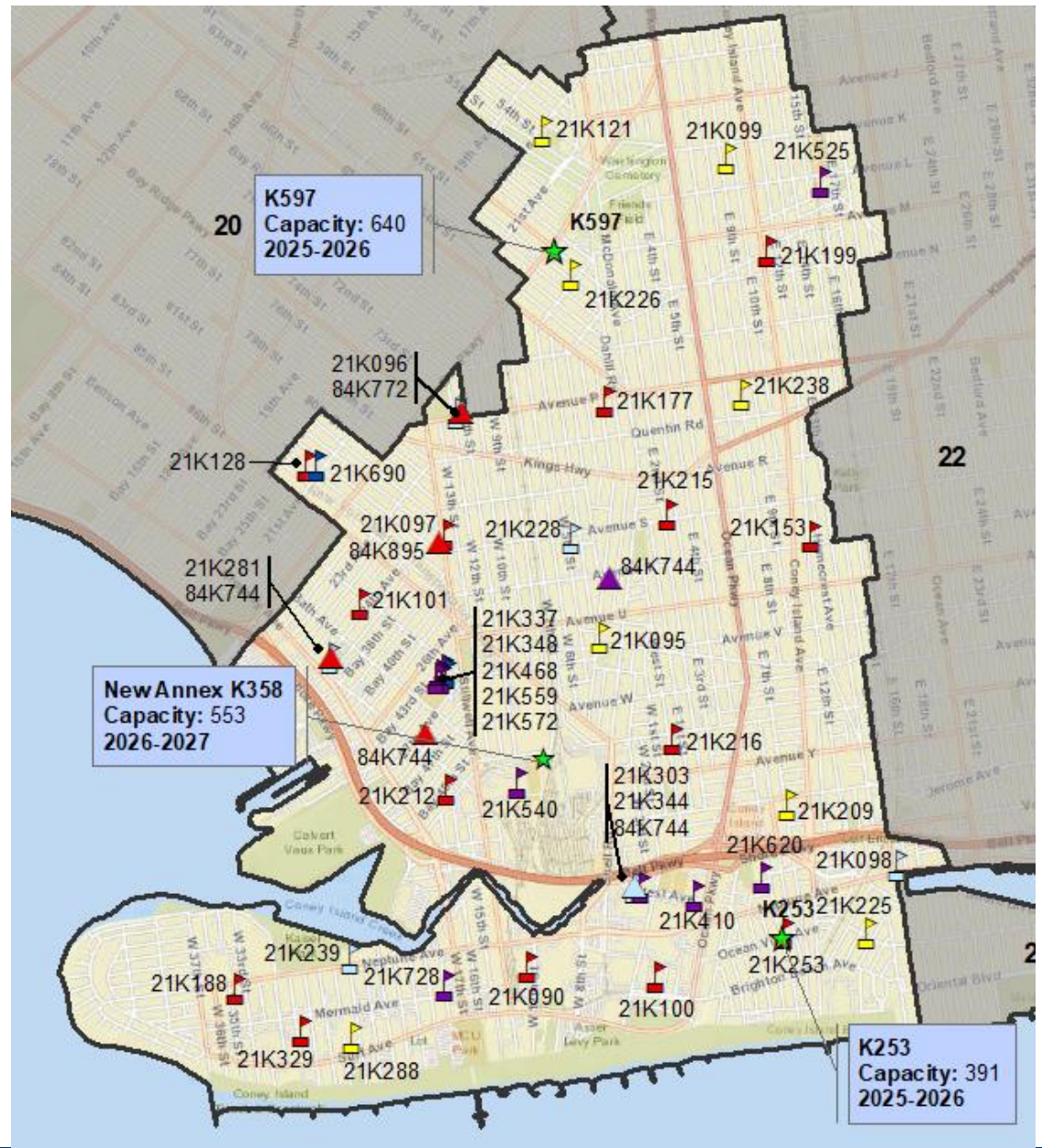
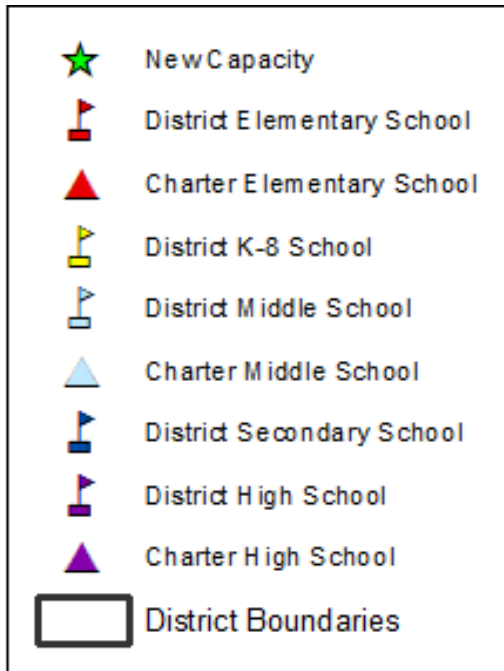
Overview of District 21 Landscape

- Over the last five years, **D21 elementary school enrollment has declined by approximately 8%**.
- During this same time, **middle school and high school enrollment** has stayed relatively stable.
- There are still 20 buildings across the district operating with a utilization rate above 100%.
- Overcrowding is primarily concentrated in the central/northern portion of the district.

Area	ES Seat Excess (Deficit)	MS Seat Excess (Deficit)
District-wide	(572)	302
Sub-District 1 (Coney Island)	155	780
Sub-District 2 + 3 (Gravesend + Ocean Parkway)	(727)	(478)

New Buildings and School Planning

District 21 Map and New Buildings



New Addition at P.S. 253

1C



- P.S. 253 is located 601 Ocean Avenue
- Opening this upcoming 2024-2025 school year.
- Addition will add 391 seats to address significant overcrowding.
- Building K253 is currently at 156% utilization and is projected to be reduced to ~94% with the addition.

New Annex K358 ("John Dewey Annex")



- Building K358 is located at 106 Avenue X, within the I.S. 281 zone and on the same property as John Dewey (21K540)
- Opening in the 2026-2027 school year.
- 553 middle school seats
- Current idea to expand John Dewey to serve grades 6-12, pending PEP proposal/approval.

New Building K597 ("Bishop Kearny")



- Building K597 is located at 2202 60th Street, within the current P.S. 226 zone
- Opening in the 2025-2026 school year
- Middle school design
- The building has a capacity of approximately 640 seats.
- Opportunity to house first new District 21 school in over 15 years.

Schools Nearby New Building K597

- There is no stand-alone middle school (6-8) in the northern part of the district.
 - The two closest stand-alone middle schools (21K228 and 21K096) are both zoned and over 100% utilized
- 4 of the 6 closest schools in this area are K-8s.
- 4 of 6 schools within 1.1 miles of K597 are over 100% utilized.

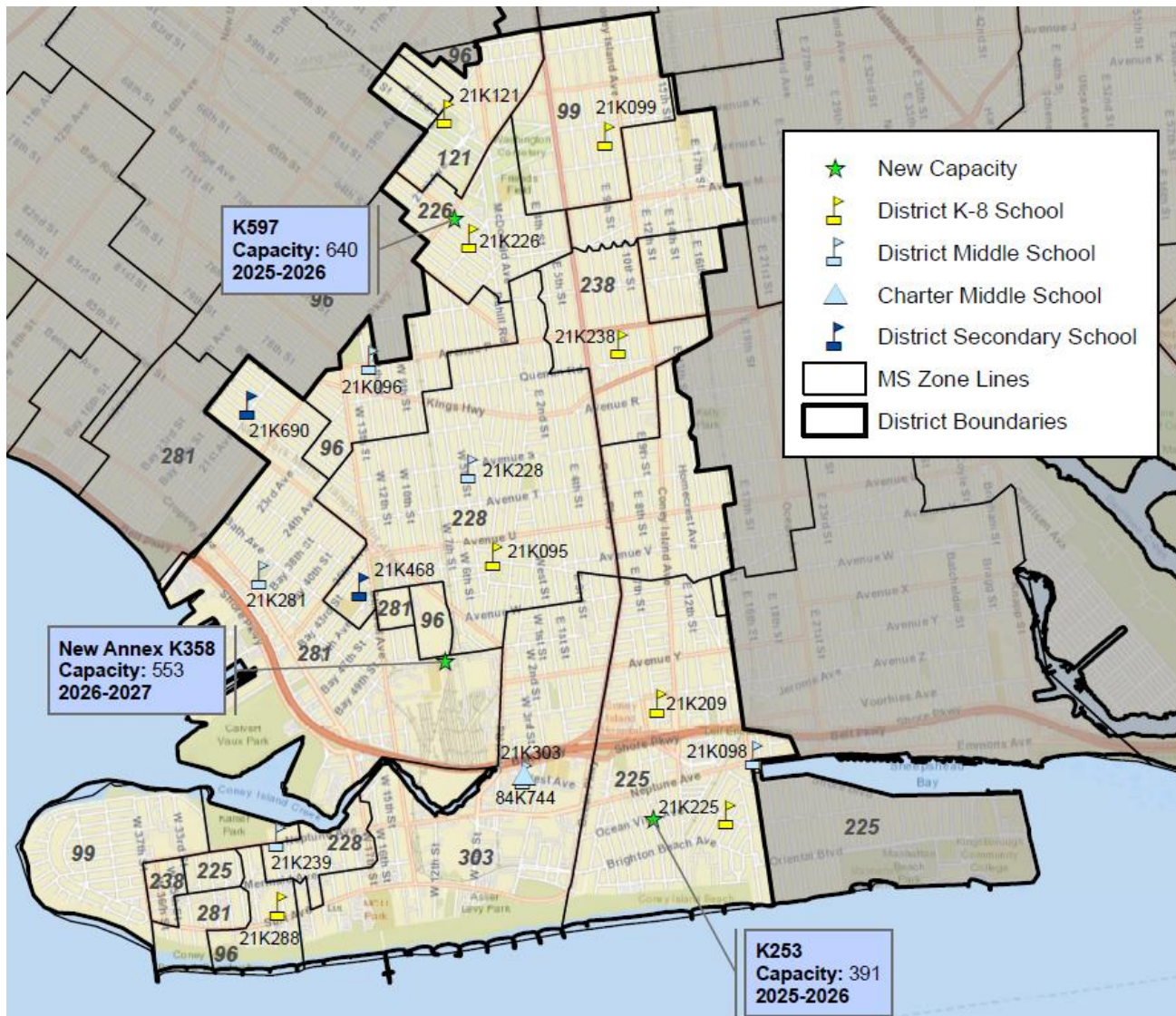
DBN	School Name	Distance from New Building K597	Grade Span	Current Total Enrollment ¹	Org Capacity ²	Org Utilization ³
21K226	P.S. 226 ALFRED DE B. MASON	0.2 mi	K-8	897	930	96%
21K177	P.S. 177 The Marlboro	0.6 mi	K-5, Pre-K	901	822	110%
21K121	P.S. 121 NELSON A. ROCKEFELLER	0.7 mi	K-8	304	293	104%
21K199	P.S. 199 Frederick Wachtel	1.1 mi	K-5, Pre-K	539	455	118%
21K099	P.S. 099 ISAAC ASIMOV	1.1 mi	K-8	840	672	125%
21K238	P.S. 238 ANNE SULLIVAN	1.1 mi	K-8	551	666	94%

¹ 2023-2024 Audited Register

² 2022-23 Blue Book

³ 2023-2024 Audited Register / 2022-23 Blue Book

District 21 Middle School Zone Map



Planning for New Building K597

- Through this new building, there is an opportunity to address overcrowding at both the elementary and middle school level in District 21 and bring a new, high quality middle school option to the community
- Currently District 21 has only two middle schools without any zone priority, Mark Twain and Bay Academy. Both admit all students through audition or talent testing.
- Benefits to a new stand-alone, unzoned district middle school in K597 could include:
 - Alleviate overcrowding at some of the surrounding K-8s and at Seth Low and Boody
 - Maintain MS zones at K-8s in the area
 - Offer families in the area a stand-alone middle school experience much closer to home

Next Steps

- Today is an initial opportunity to discuss the new school buildings in District 21 and the potential plan for new building K597.
- ODP will continue discussions with the CEC and school community about K597 and broader planning needs across the district.
- Should a decision be made to proceed with a new school, the Office of New Schools, in collaboration with Superintendent Dimola, will support design planning sessions with parent leaders, families, students and other community stakeholders in the coming months to begin the process of designing and developing the new school option.

Discussion and Feedback

Guiding Questions

- What are the greatest needs/priorities for middle schools in District 21?
- What are your top priorities in planning for new building K597?
- Which admissions method(s) for the new school can best serve students and families in District 21?
- As we plan for the new school, what are the most important priorities when thinking about curriculum and overall school design?

Contact Information

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Please also feel welcome to direct any comments and questions to
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Appendix

ES Zone Map

