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[http://ny.curbed.com/archives/2011/12/15/riverside\\_center\\_schools\\_upper\\_west\\_side.php](http://ny.curbed.com/archives/2011/12/15/riverside_center_schools_upper_west_side.php)

## **Riverside Center Schools Upper West Side**

By Dave Hogarty



One more thing [megaproject Riverside Center](#) will bring to the UWS (besides hundreds of apartments, office space, a [megagarage](#), an auto dealership, and a movie theater) is the neighborhood's **first new school in decades**. Plans will be unveiled this evening for the **brand new PS/IS 342 K-8th grade school** that will be located on the fourth floor of a residential tower and accommodate an estimated 488 students, but DNAinfo has an early glimpse at a rendering, shown above. Other schools have opened as entities within existing school buildings in recent years, but the new

school on **West End Avenue** between 60th and 61st Streets will be the first brand spanking new one in ages.

Project developer **Extell** agreed to build the core (walls, roof, HVAC, and electrical) of PS/IS 342 after some [tough negotiating](#) during the public review process. The School Construction Authority will foot the bill for the rest of the school building. The present 150,000 square foot design is double Extell's [initial 75,000 proposal](#). The capacity of 488 students is much lower, however, than the 1,250-student capacity that neighborhood parents wanted. The school is scheduled to open in 2015.