



COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 3

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Daniel Katz
Declan Saint-Onge, *Student Member*

Ilene Altschul
District 3 Community Superintendent

CEC3 Special Calendar Meeting 6:30 PM
Business Meeting 8:00 PM
SPECIAL CALENDAR MEETING MINUTES
Wed., June 7, 2017

P.S. 241 – 240 W. 113th St., New York, NY 10027

(Between Frederick Douglass and Adam Clayton Powell Blvd.)

(Approved at the June 21, 2017 CEC3 & CSD3 Presidents' Council Joint Calendar Meeting by all CECE3 members present)

Agenda

Special Calendar Meeting

❖ **Call to Order 6:36 PM**

❖ **Roll Call of Members** Kirsten Berger, Manuel Casanova, Daniel Katz, Lucas Liu, Dennis Morgan, Vincent Orgera, Kim Watkins

Late: Noah Gotbaum 6:49 PM

Excused Absence: PJ Joshi, Joe Fiordaliso

*Meeting Chaired by Kim Watkins, 1st VP.

DOE Staff: Ilene Altschul, District 3 Superintendent, DJ Sheppard, District 3 Family Coordinator

❖ **SCA Harlem Stakeholders Update**, Sarah Turchin, Director, District Planning for Manhattan (*on file*)

- Sarah Turchin presented the Planning Process Overview Update for Harlem Stakeholders.
- Partnered with the Division of Space Planning, superintendents, principals and communities to identify and address district needs primarily in the area of schools and work with the Office of School Governance to oversee collocated schools.
- In developing strategic plans for a district, *School Structure, Learning Conditions and Access to Schools and Programming* are looked at
- Representatives from Harlem schools, DOE, District 3 leadership and CEC3 have met on
 - December 22, 2016
 - February 17, 2017
 - April 26, 2017
- **Superintendent Altschul** remarked that she is meeting with SLTs this month and having conversations with PTAs before any proposals are made. This presentation is to get thinking started. If families have ideas or solutions, we want to hear from them.
- A. Harlem schools have a 726 K seat capacity (public and charter schools). 417 K students live in the northern zone of the district. There is more capacity for K enrollment than demand.
- B. Out of 642 K students attending schools in Harlem, 162 are zoned for those schools

- C. Out of 417 K zoned residents, 39% or 162 go to public school in their zone while over 60% go to charter or non-D3 or other district schools in D3.
- D. In K-5 elementary schools, 50% go to D3 public schools, 11% go to other district schools, 39% go to charter schools.
- E. There are 9 standard middle schools in District 3. There are no standard middle schools in Harlem. There are 5 serving middle school grades in Harlem.
- F. With a lot of schools competing for K seats in Harlem, the goal is to
 - o Align elementary school capacity and enrollment in Harlem
 - o Increase sustainable demand for Harlem elementary schools
 - o Support instructionally sound middle school designs
- G. Timeline: Continued Harlem Stakeholder meetings
- H. Council Discussion
 - o Member K Watkins remarked that only one SLT parent came to any of the three Stakeholder meetings.
 - o Can Harlem sustain 6 elementary schools or is the DOE planning to make significant changes?
 - S Turchin: We are looking at ways to increase demand for existing schools and that might involve a redesign

Charters are given information on third party (marketing) vendors and told how to target families by zone, by grade, how can we have thriving public school enrollment when district schools don't get this information?

 - S Turchin: We had talked about putting together a brochure of the zoned schools in Harlem and the programs that they offer. I will follow up with the DOE on that.

In response to a question about Success Academy expansion, Ms. Turchin responded that there were no plans to pursue collocated high schools at this point.
 - o Only 75% of K seats in Harlem are being filled. In the past decade we have lost a full third of seats from K-5 in this part of the district. What information are actually driving those choices that parents are making? We don't teach marketing, who will take responsibility in the larger organization for making certain the resources these schools need are finally going to move into the schools?
 - o S Turchin responds to a question about the expansion of Success Charter schools that no space has been opened up for 2017 for expansion
 - o Capacity is based on the bluebook but does not reflect capacity of a particular session. Discussion arises about charter capacity vs. public school capacity. Charters do not have to follow UFT models.
 - o In response to Council question on how enrollment data is gathered, Ms. Turchin responded that all enrollment data is of the audited register, Oct. 31. Charter school data comes from the "Charter Headcount" as reported by the authorizers. They self-report. There has been no history of dishonesty.
 - **Superintendent Altschul:** The Chancellor is exploring options to see if there is a way to monitor the number of incoming students after the October 31st and if the school reaches a certain threshold of students beyond the projected enrollment, there could be additional funding provided.
 - o Council Member rejects the appearance that charter and public schools are held to the same standard because the capacity number for public schools is a contractual obligation while the same is not true of charter schools. The decision on which public schools to close is not validated by an equal measurement and is not fair.

kids because they are offering something for the child. The more you engage with stakeholders the more

7. Inyanga Collins, PS 76: I love my school. Charter Schools have done a good job showing that they are offering something public schools are not. We have after-school care, do parents' know that? It's not being advertised.
8. Kumar Samuels, Public School Design: The more you engage with stakeholders the better the proposal that is put forward. Rumors arise but with you must be able to address the questions that are put forward.
 - **Superintendent Altschul:** I want to have conversations with the SLTs but feel this is not the forum. I will be very transparent and let you know what our thinking is. Decisions will be made as a community.
 - SLT meetings are open even if you are not a member of an SLT.
 - The next CEC3 Calendar meeting is June 21 at P.S. 145 and the July meeting will be July 19th. Meeting information will be posted to the website.

❖ **Adjournment of Special Calendar Meeting 8:42 PM**