



# COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 3

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Kimberly Watkins  
President

Kristen Berger  
First Vice President

Manuel Casanova  
Second Vice President

Lucas Liu  
Treasurer

Genisha Metcalf  
Secretary

**Council Members:** Daniel Katz  
Dennis Morgan

Jane Sun

Michael McCarthy  
*Vacant seat*

Jean Moreland  
*Vacant seat, student member*

| **Ilene Altschul**  
District 3 Community Superintendent

## COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL 3

Wed., July 18, 2018

6:30 P.M. Business Meeting

7:00 P.M. Special Calendar Meeting

7:30 P.M. Calendar Meeting

P.S. 163

163 W. 97<sup>th</sup> St. - Auditorium

### Minutes

*(Business Meeting minutes approved at the September 12, 2018 Business meeting by all Council members)*

#### **Business Meeting:**

❖ **Call to Order 6:35 PM**

- ❖ **Roll Call of Members** Kristen Berger, Daniel Katz, Mike McCarthy, Jean Moreland, Dennis Morgan, Kim Watkins. A quorum (6) was reached.  
Late: Lucas Liu, Genisha Metcalf  
Excused Absence: Manuel Casanova  
Unexcused Absence: Jane Sun  
DOE Staff: Ilene Altschul, D3 Superintendent

❖ **New Business**

1. President Watkins and the council reviewed the changes to FY'19 budget draft. President Watkins noted that the reimbursement to members line was the largest allocation of the \$20,000 budget, per usual.
2. The CEC3 AA said that the amount to be put on the p-card was \$8300.00 as CEC3 Treasurer Liu had entered in the Draft FY'19 Budget and not the \$7964.00 on the draft spreadsheet. President Watkins affirmed.
3. President Watkins called the motion to approve the FY '19 budget. The motion was seconded by First VP Berger.
4. The motion carried

❖ **Adjournment 6:40 PM**

## Special Calendar Meeting

### ❖ Call to Order 6:41P

### ❖ Roll Call of Members Kristen Berger, Daniel Katz, Mike McCarthy, Jean Moreland, Dennis Morgan, Kim Watkins

Late: Lucas Liu 6:50, Genisha Metcalf, 6:55

Excused Absence: Manuel Casanova

Unexcused Absence: Jane Sun

DOE Staff; Ilene Altschul, D3 Superintendent

### ❖ Election of Council Member to fill vacant seat

President Watkins explained the convening of the special calendar meeting and the election process. She read the CEC3 Bylaws (on file) into the record which covers the process of electing a candidate mid-term. Pres. Watkins explained that the 4 candidates will each be asked to make a brief presentation about themselves followed by Council questions. Candidates will speak in alphabetical order. (Candidate Alex Bernstein was not in attendance at this point but arrived later in the meeting.)

1. Anne Marie Burrows: Her son is presently at PS75 and her daughter graduated from PS75. She has been on the SLT and PTA for 2 years. She loves to volunteer and likes to speak up for people who may not. She chose kids over work which gives her time to volunteer.
2. Sharmilee Ramudit has a PS452 first grader and a child in the NEST program at PS75. She also has a 3 year old and 1 year old. She was previously at Success Academy but opted to change schools. Her son has an IEP and Success Academy had a lack of benefits. Her parents did not graduate high school but she graduated from Columbia with an engineering degree. She feels she has a lot to offer if elected.
3. Eric Wright has a child at MS54 and another child at PS87. He's been working with the CEC3 Middle School Committee revamping the admissions process and would like to put it in the context of how middle school admissions can work with high school admissions. He feels we need to advocate for change and continue what we started
4. Alix Bernstein is the parent of 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> graders at PS166. He thinks there are many ways to do what CEC is trying to do and doesn't think that distributing lowest performing students is the way to go. We should be trying to make all of our schools better. We've let the DOE off the hook, we should hold their feet to the fire (*to make schools better*) and ask the difficult questions. He doesn't believe in a quota system. He feels he brings a different perspective.

### Council Questions to candidates:

- a. What does volunteering mean to you? What impact do you see yourself having on all of the schools?

AM Burrows: Loves volunteering, it means being committed and having a voice. Whatever her children are in, she's there. She brought the music program to PS75, likes to bring good programs to the schools. She likes being an advocate for parents. She brings energy and attitude to what she does.

*(Candidate Alix Bernstein arrived at this point and Council reverted to him for his introductory statement, #4 above)*

- b. Most things that are problems in the education system were proposed as solutions. Speak about a time you realized you were dead wrong about something.

S Ramudit: Her son has an IEP. She fought his placement at PS75 because she didn't want to have him labeled and didn't want to admit it and wanted to keep her children in the same school. She realized she was wrong to fight his admittance to the program and glad she went to PS75. In terms of the bigger picture, it will be a challenge as a family; in terms of leadership, you have to move forward.

A Bernstein: He's worked in Human Resources. People called to tell him things, some of them offensive things that their co-workers had done but when you dig a little deeper you realize there are other circumstances. You educate yourself around that issue so that people understand. In regard to educational matters, he used to work for the Board of Education in a unit that challenged the placements and patterns and IEPs. There were a lot of parents that were using the system but as he approached the system he realized there were a lot of students that had particular needs that didn't necessarily fit the placement.

E Wright: In his young work life, his boss decided to reorganize the seating arrangements in the workplace and the boss came out with a new plan but Mr. Wright thought it didn't work so he took it upon himself to tweak it without being asked. The boss said that the two people Mr. Wright had placed near each other in his tweaked plan was the whole reason they were doing the reorganizing.

AM Burrows: She is a bulldog for her son. He told her his teacher wouldn't let him use the restroom and a few other things the teacher had done so she went to speak to the teacher about it and got a completely different story. She realized her son wasn't telling the truth.

- c. CEC has an active set of committees. Can you say one or 2 committees you'd like to see your contribution added to? We have an Excellence & Equity Committee, a Middle School Committee, a High School Admissions Committee, a Multilingual Committee, a Charter School Committee and potentially, we could recompose the Zoning Committee should a zoning issue come up.

A Bernstein: Whatever issue comes up, he's just interested in contributing, doesn't have a particular committee in mind.

S Ramudit: She attends the Excellence and Equity Committee meetings. Her increased interest in the CEC has played out at 452 where she launched a diversity inclusion initiative. She would continue on the E&E committee.

E Wright: He's active on the Middle School Committee. He'd like to know more about what options are available and how they all interact.

AM Burrows: *The mic did not pick up the candidates full response clearly.* She is interested in the Charter School committee.

- d. A lot of the work of the Council is advocating is beyond your own school. Share when you really took initiative to help another school, another student, to advocate outside of your own school or community.

A Bernstein: Believes in giving back. I work in health care and there are opportunities to go into the nursing home with my kids and socialize with the residents. Is that going above and beyond? I would say 'no' but that's what I am able to do.

S Ramudit: Can't think of recent examples. Looking for opportunity to connect schools so there is more coordination rather than separation. Would like to see parents come together.

E Wright: In terms of education, I've done a bunch of looking at other school choice systems around the country. It's more independent research than advocacy.

AM Burrows: I automatically thought of volunteering at the D3 Arts Fair, she helped out as much as she could.

- e. What does making a school better mean? What initiatives would you institute?

AM Burrows: Schools in D3 are great compared to the other schools in the city. I do think that boys don't seem to score as high, they need more movement in their life. Would try to cultivate ways to improve educational programs for boys.

E Wright: DOE has test score measures, impacts measures, we need to question some of these measures. We need to look at programs. What is beyond pure academics?

S Ramudit: I've stayed to the very end of a lot of CEC meetings. This is a priority for me. I'm committed time wise and energy wise. I'm a supporter of social-emotional learning. Would love to know what schools in the district are using/doing for social emotional supports.

A Bernstein: There are many great schools here, how do we make schools better? There has to be more leveraging. There is opportunity to leverage the experience and knowledge of some schools, into other schools. There are opportunities to learn. My child is in GnT, I would do away with that, it excludes certain

students and it counters diversity. There isn't one answer that fits all. In terms of time, whatever it takes, it takes.

f. How do we effectively outreach to our communities?

S Ramudit: *unclear audio*

A Bernstein: You need to interact with other parents. We need to be part of the conversation.

AM Burrows: We need to talk and let people know what things are about. Talk to 3 or 4 people a day and bring people to meetings.

E Wright. – *unclear audio*

g. It all comes down to fundraising, how do we balance inequities when we have a system that relies on parents feeding certain schools and others who can't, where there are schools, through their parent bodies and community, that can raise a bunch of funds and schools that cannot?

E Wright: Instead of doing something for one school, can we do something for the district? Looking district wide is certainly something we can do, we need to look at other entities besides parents.

AM Burrows: Schools are going to have to get creative. i.e. street fairs, as way to pull in money from the community. It has to come from the schools if they want the program and the community has to want the program and they have to become creative.

S Ramudit: You can't buy something you can't afford. If one person has learned how to do it and that person can go back and become the local expert and share that knowledge about programs that should be available at a school, if there is a local expert in fundraising, perhaps they can share that knowledge.

A Bernstein: Our school raises a lot of money and funds extras but it lets the DOE off the hook; music, art should not be 'extras.' It should be a partnership. We have to start thinking about things differently, we have to push back and discuss the significance of what this means. It is creating a disparity. We are never going to have the levels of diversity and achievement if we have this disparity.

h. What does partnership with the DOE look like to you? And what values in Harlem could be advanced?

E Wright: It's Important to work in partnership with the DOE. It's all about advocating for the right thing. For parents, for families, for students. My eyes were opened at the (CEC3) Harlem School Summit over the last 2 years. Kids in Harlem are going to about 60 different elementary schools outside the district. How can we give kids choices to stay? We need to develop a plan for that. We need to articulate what that means. We want to people to look at how K-8 schools interact with middle school choices.

AM Burrows: Interaction with the Board of Education is difficult for public schools and charter schools. Parents find it difficult so I know it's difficult for you to try to get results. With regard to Harlem schools, diversity of staff. It's important for children to see people that look like them in order to be encouraged to succeed.

S Ramudit: I would really like to see the CEC work in collaboration with the DOE. It seems like the DOE presents an idea and then the CEC comments on the idea but why can't it be in collaboration? Research should be done so that we as a council could present some kind of plan. It would be nice to if the Harlem schools could say what it is that they want to happen and we work in partnership with them.

A Bernstein: It's a partnership, that's the way we can make all of our schools. You hold up your agreement, we need them (DOE) to hold up theirs. That's why CECs were established. When CECs give the feedback, act on it. I am not familiar with the issues in Harlem. I will say this, every child, no matter where they are, deserves an appropriate public education. We have to focus on the things we can control.

Conclusion of candidate interviews

8:00p – Council breaks for Executive Session

8:30p – Council reconvenes Business Meeting

❖ **Adjournment 8:30PM**

DRAFT

**Calendar Meeting**

❖ **Call to Order 8:30P**

- ❖ **Roll Call of Members** Kristen Berger, Daniel Katz, Lucas Liu, Mike McCarthy, Genisha Metcalf, Jean Moreland, Dennis Morgan, Kim Watkins  
Excused Absence: Manuel Casanova  
Unexcused Absence: Jane Sun  
DOE Staff: Ilene Altschul, D3 Superintendent

❖ **Approval of Minutes**

1. May 15, 2018 Calendar Meeting Minutes were approved by all Council members present
2. May 22, 2018 Special Calendar Meeting on Middle School Admission Minutes were approved as amended by all Council members present.
3. June 20th, 2018 Jt. Calendar Meeting Minutes will be presented at the next meeting

❖ **President’s Report**

Mark Diller from Community Board 7 will speak later in the meeting about the CB7 resolution that was mailed to the council.

We were contacted today by the Chancellor’s office to convene a District Town Hall September 26<sup>th</sup>. The Chancellor will be joining us. That will require as a council that we have a couple of smaller meetings regarding questions. The last Chancellor’s Town Hall was 2 years ago, last year’s Town Hall with Chancellor Farina was cancelled. The AA will recirculate the past scrip that was used.

❖ **Superintendent’s Report**

The superintendent updated the council on the number of kindergarten sections in our elementary schools, the number of sections that they are currently having.

**Kindergarten enrollment and Waitlist**

- 03M009: 31 zoned students – the waitlist has gone up. The Office of Enrollment is doing an analysis to look at is a little deeper. The principal doesn’t this it’s a sibling or grandfathered issue. It looks like there are 7 more students since last year.
- 03M199: 17 zoned students
- 03M087: 1 zoned student

School	Number of sections	Zoned Waitlist
03M009	4	31
03M075	4	
03M076	2	
03M084	4	
03M087	6	1
03M145	4	
03M149	1	
03M163	4	
03M165	4	
03M166	5	
03M180	2	
03M185	3	
03M191	3	
03M199	5	17
03M241	1	
03M242	1	
03M333	4	
03M452	4	

PS 149, 241 and 242 sections are not full but the Superintendent spoke with many principals about enrollment and they get a lot of new students in September.

**PreK updates**

1,207 District 3 families applied to pre-K for fall 2018

- 1,064 of these families got an offer to a program they listed on their application
- 143 of these families did not receive a program from their application. Of these families:
  - 87 received an offer to a program in D5 (this doesn't mean they will accept the offer)
  - 26 received an offer to a program in D4
  - 17 received an offer to a program in D2
  - 10 received an offer to a program in D3
  - 3 received an offer to a program in D6

### Pilot Training Grant

The Superintendent reported that they had a session June 29<sup>th</sup>. The next sessions is 16/17 August. Member G Metcalf participated in the recent session. We did direct development of affirmative action and discussed engagement opportunities. We are going to change the plan for how we hold the Middle School Forum. We are also changing the location to 180 which is wheelchair accessible. We will have 16 tables, which hold 6-12 people. Each principal will go to each table. They will have 5 minutes to present their school and then move to the next table. They can bring a parent leader, students, or a teacher. To start off the event, we will give unknown facts about each school. The idea is that you don't know about every school so please be open-minded. Council member remarked that she loves the forum as it is. The superintendent remarked that it's important they hear from every principal. A member asked if we could film it and put it online. Another member suggested creating a YouTube channel.

### K-8 Retention data:

School	2016-17 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Enrollment	Left this School in 2017-18	Remained	Retention
P.S. 76 A. Philip Randolph (03M076)	49	11	38	77%
P.S. 149 Sojourner Truth (03M149)	34	17	17	50%
P.S. 180 Hugo Newman (03M180)	52	20	32	62%
The Riverside School for Makers and Artists (03M191)	29	8	21	72%
Manhattan School for Children (03M333)	86	32	54	63%
The Anderson School (03M334)	57	0	all	100%

### Equity and Access update

Principals and District leaders have started participating in training with the office of Equity and Access in Disproportionality and Implicit Bias. Culturally Relevant Curriculum will begin in early to mid-August. We are one of 12 districts selected to be part of the Equity & Access Initiative as part of the \$23 million grant. Principals and district leaders have started participating this summer in training as part of the Office of Equity & Access. Almost all of principals have signed up for the series of 3. They will be offering support to our schools and there will be an equity coach for the schools. Each school will be intensifying their equity goals.

Council member raised a question about charter school students being able to attend public school summer sessions. The Superintendent replied that any student who lives in the zone must be provided access after seats are offered to public school students. It doesn't cost any extra money because the money is already allocated. The member responded that it's a convenient expense off the charter's line items, it's a big expense they don't have to expend.

### SIGA update

Next session is August 16<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup>  
Developed draft of our Theory of Action (share)

### Summer school

Students are having opportunity for 2 cultural events  
All sites are offering 2 parent workshops

### PS 242 Italian DL

Moving forward with PreK DL and Italian Cluster.

### Quality Review updates from 2017-2018:

school	date	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	2.2	3.1	3.4	4.1	4.2	5.1
M076	1/16	WD	P	WD	WD	P	P	WD	P	P	P
M163	10/11	WD	P	WD	P	P	P	P	WD	WD	P
M165	1/24	WD	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
M180	1/17	P	D	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
M243	1/30	P	P	WD	WD	P	P	WD	P	P	WD
M333	12/14	P	WD	P	WD	WD	P	WD	P	WD	P
M054	12/17										
M075	5/31										
M166	11/28										
M149	5/15										
M415	5/10										

Listed below is the description of each indicator (1.1, 1.2, etc...)  
The remaining QRs should be released shortly.

School name:	UD	D	P	WD
Overall QR Score				
<b>Instructional Core</b>				
<i>To what extent does the school regularly...</i>	UD	D	P	WD
1.1 Design engaging, rigorous, and coherent curricula, including the arts, physical and health education, for a variety of learners and aligned to key State standards?				
1.2 Develop teacher pedagogy from a coherent set of beliefs about how students learn best that is informed by a research-based, common teaching framework and is aligned to curricula, engaging and meets the needs of all learners so that all students produce meaningful work products?				
2.2 Align assessments to curricula, use on-going assessment and grading practices, and analyze information on student learning outcomes to adjust instructional decisions at the team and classroom levels?				
<b>School Culture</b>				
<i>To what extent does the school...</i>	UD	D	P	WD
1.4 Maintain a culture of mutual trust and positive attitudes that support the academic and personal growth of students and adults?				
3.4 Establish a culture for learning that communicates high expectations to staff, students and families, and provide supports to achieve them?				
<b>Systems for Improvement</b>				
<i>To what extent does the school...</i>	UD	D	P	WD
1.3 Make strategic organizational decisions to support the school's instructional goals and meet students' learning needs as evidenced by meaningful student work products?				
3.1 Establish a coherent vision of school improvement that is reflected in a short list of focused, data-based goals that are tracked for progress and are understood and supported by the entire school community?				
4.1 Use the observation of classroom teaching with a research-based, common teaching framework and the analysis of learning outcomes to elevate school-wide instructional practices and implement strategies that promote professional growth and reflection, with a special focus on new teachers?				
4.2 Engage in structured professional collaborations on teams using an inquiry approach that promotes shared leadership and focuses on improved student learning?				
5.1 Evaluate the quality of school- level decisions, making adjustments as needed to increase the coherence of policies and practices across the school, with particular attention to the CCLS?				



## ❖ New Business

### Long-term Harlem Visioning

The Supt. reported on Harlem Stakeholder meetings. She is looking to set up Harlem Stakeholder meetings with Principals, parent leaders and SLT or UFT and CEC members to discuss the needs of the schools in Harlem and next steps and to attend meetings to hear what the community wants before any changes are made and to hear what are their goals and what they want. She would like to hear any other suggestions.

By September, the northern Manhattan Family Welcome Center (remaining on West 125 St) will have wall-paper posters made and translated highlighting the "hidden gem" schools from Districts 3- 6.

Other initiatives will include Harlem Crawl, There will be monthly meetings with Daniella Phillips who is working with D3, 4, 5, & 6. It is suggested that Daniela Phillips should speak at a CEC meeting. The Supt. Concur.

The Supt. will share the goals of the initiative in the next meeting.

President Watkins felt that as a council and as a district, our conversations should take precedence with the DOE. The feeling is that stakeholders have a lack of trust in the DOE. We want to focus our attention is to continue to work within the stakeholder groups we already communicate with on a regular basis and ask significant questions, i.e. Is 241 branded as progressive school or is it not? Do we want a middle school that stands alone? Should there be a gifted and talented program in Harlem. Should the K-8 be truncated? We need a conversation with the DOE but we are or it won't be productive.

The Superintendent has publicly stated that she does not plan on doing any school reconfigurations for the 2018-19 school year without community input. We can use this year as a real time to think ahead and plan strategically as to what our next steps are.

Member Metcalf felt that we needed to identify stakeholders to begin with. She would like to see an institutional partnership before we engage with the community because we don't quite have that access yet. It would be helpful to make a list of stakeholders that would be a living Google doc. The second part is engaging the disengaged i.e. having a table at a street fair, or at the African American Day Parade, local street festivals, etc.as a gesture of good will, before we go to the DOE. Build our engagement strategy.

Suggestion was made by a member to engage parents in schools.

Where would the money come from? Supt. Altschul said some would come from Daniele Phillips, Office of School Design and some of it would be from the state inclusion grant. Ms. Phillips meetings are with the superintendents of districts 3,4,5,6. Around marketing. We can't have that discussion until we have real conversations around what's working, what's not working. We need to discuss what the needs and what are the next steps.

## ❖ Liaison Reports

1. Wadleigh, Kim Watkins, liaison: They are still working on what are the next steps, both on the administration side and on the parent side. Zeroing on stakeholder statistics are the development of an advisory board for Wadleigh. The PTA and SLT are working on a list to be submitted to the Chancellors office and DOE to develop a group of stakeholders. Comprised of religious community, community board, CEC, the community itself, an elected official. September is the first meeting of the group working on this. They have funding for a full time librarian who will be shared with FDAI.
2. Council will revisit school liaison assignments in light of new member election.
3. PS 242, Lucas Liu, liaison: The Italian Dual Language preK program is still interviewing. If interested, call or go to the school.

## ❖ Committee Reports

1. Middle School, Kristen Berger Chair: Monday September 17 is the tentative first meetings of the committee. It will be in the evening and we will set the location and inform you. The superintendent mentioned that Monday will not work for her. The chair will meet with the superintendent to reschedule the meeting but also has to check in with the Office of Enrollment who she would like to be present. Bullet points will be discussed at the August meeting.
2. High School Committee, Jean Moreland, Chair. There is a meeting at PS 75 tomorrow evening at 6:30p. Mike Kraft from PEP will be present. She will be also have a meeting with Josh Wallack, NYCDOE Deputy Chancellor of Strategy & Policy

3. Charter School, Mike McCarthy, Chair: Gave Council a directory of charter schools in D3 he had put together and noted that there is not central place where all of this is together. There are 9 charter schools within and 4 on the borders of D3. Enrollment numbers are different from each entity.

❖ **Public Comment**

1. CB 7 Co-Chair of Youth, Education and Libraries: Addressed the 'work in progress' CB7 Resolution in Support of Middle School Admission Changes. And said we need to continue to address those folks who will not be getting priority as well as how it translates into budget and allocation.

❖ **Roll Call Vote**

1. President Watkins read from the section on Election of Members from the CEC3 Bylaws. There are four candidates and Pres. Watkins encouraged the 3 who will not be successful to please stay involved and try again.in April when the open election for council members for the 2019-2021 term begins.
2. The Secretary called the vote for the election of a new council member.

3. Election of New Council Member: ( 8 council members present)

**Candidate Sharmilee Ramudit received 7 votes** (Voting Yes: Dan Katz, Lucas Liu, Mike McCarthy, Genisha Metcalf, Dennis Morgan, Jean Moreland, Kimberly Watkins)

Candidate Eric Wright received **1 vote** (Voting Yes: Member Kristen Berger)

Candidate Anne Marie Burgess received **0 votes**

Candidate Alix Bernstein received **0.votes**

No Abstentions

4. Sharmilee Ramudit was elected the new member for the CEC3 2017-2019 term.

❖ **Adjournment 10 PM**