



# COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 3

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Theresa L.C. Hammonds Pradnya Joshi  
Vincent Orgera Vacant, *Student Member*

**Ilene Altschul**  
*District 3 Community Superintendent*

## COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 3

Wednesday May 25<sup>th</sup> 2016

**Calendar Meeting (6:30 PM)**

PS 84, 32 W. 92<sup>nd</sup> St.

(between Central Park West and Columbus Ave.)

### Minutes

(Approved June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Calendar Meeting)

#### ❖ **Call to Order 6:45 P.M.**

**Roll Call of Members:** Kristen Berger, Joe Fiordaliso, Noah Gotbaum, Daniel Katz, Vincent Orgera, Kim Watkins. A quorum was met.

**Excused Absence:** Nan Mead, Theresa Hammonds

**Late:** PJ Joshi 6:49pm, Zoe Foundotos 6:53pm, Lucas Liu 7:00pm

**DOE Staff :** Ilene Altschul, D3 Superintendent

Excused Absence: DJ Sheppard, D3 Family Advocate

#### ❖ **Approval of Minutes**

1. March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Calendar Meeting. Approved unanimously by Council members present (6-0).
2. April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Calendar Meeting (*of Joint Business/Calendar Meeting*). Approved unanimously by Council members present (6-0)

#### ❖ **President's Report** - *embedded in other meeting items*

#### ❖ **Field Tests**

- Member N Gotbaum reporting: Starting Friday 21 D3 elementary and middle schools will undergo field tests. They are stand-alone field tests; neither Superintendent, schools or teachers, get the results. The test company, Pearson, has lost the DOE contract and seems to be the only one who benefits. Member comment that students are used as guinea pigs for a testing company. Superintendent Altschul reports that the information will be used for future tests. Superintendent Altschul requested that principals inform parents and community re field tests and that if any child had previously submitted a letter absenting them from state tests, it applied to field tests. CEC3 was not told about the field tests and could not inform parents. Council concludes that time is short in which to inform parents and community and that everyone taking field tests should get a letter by Thursday afternoon, which is tomorrow, and that that letter include language about opting out.

#### ❖ **Superintendent's Report**

- All 83 visits have been conducted by the D3 Superintendent and Cynthia Dickman, PLF.

If you have any questions, please call Karen Butler at the CEC 3 office @ 212-678-2782 or email CEC3 at [CEC3@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:CEC3@schools.nyc.gov)

Anyone wishing to speak during the Public Comment Portion of the Calendar Meeting must sign in by 8:00pm.

- Renewal schools have shown steady progress as evident in their Quality Review reports which will be released shortly. M149 enrollment has increased.
- Kindergarten Waitlist: These include late arrivals, some added within the last few days.  
03M087: 12 | 03M009: 17 | 03M166: 7 | 03M199: 4  
Expected that most if not all of these will resolve with G&T or over the summer.
- Middle School Admissions: This year all schools were given a 19% target for students with disabilities to ensure equity and access for all students (but only students with an IEP at the time of the MS admission process counted in the 19%) Any students that had an IEP deferred until September did not count into the target percentage. This was determined to equalize schools that were receiving 40% Students with disabilities which was disproportionate to the district-wide percentage. Member states that after applications were due in in December, the number of students with disabilities went up at PS54 as did number of appeals. Superintendent Altschul states that number of seats went from 18 to 58 and there was late notification in the process, after the applications were in. Council member states that it was bad timing as families weren't notified prior to application process. Superintendent did not have that information but many schools exceeded district average and support programs were needed. It was citywide and the appeals cut-off was today. The Superintendent is awaiting appeals analysis and will present to Council upon receipt.
- Anderson is opening a 6th grade ICT
- Center School is opening an ICT class in grade 5. Request to have an analysis of appeals, they will do analysis over the summer and share that data with the CEC once completed.
- Appeal results will be out by mid-June.
- Middle School admissions meeting for 4th grade families on Thursday, May 26th at 6:00 p.m. at PS 75
- Summer school begins on July 7th and ends on August 11th for elementary and middle.
- Wadleigh and PS 149 will be offering summer enrichment programs as part of the DOE's Renewal School Summer in the City. Wadleigh will partner with Teachers College to offer academic and enrichment classes for incoming 6th and 9th graders and SAT prep for 11th graders. PS 149 will partner with Harlem Children's Zone to offer a K-8 program for non-mandated students. Mandated students will attend summer school PS/IS 76.
- PS 145 submitted the grant application for the Russian Dual Language Program for September 2017 for Kindergarten and Pre-K.
- Explanation of lead testing in schools water supply was sent to the Council. All schools are following flushing protocol.

## ❖ Old Business

### 1. Zoning

- a. Superintendent Altschul gives an overview of DOE rethinking about where it wants to go re overcrowding and diversity. The DOE District Planning Committee (DPC) engaged with 199 and the 191 SLT communities. The DOEDPC determined that D3 needs 14 more K sections in southern part of the district, 191, 199 and new building at Riverside Center.

The Scenarios:

- i. 191 would move into new Riverside Center. DOEDPC is committed to reciting them to new building. 191 building would then be available, 452 can move into it, giving them a full building and services to themselves.
- ii. What happens to M44 second floor of O'Shea Complex? 191 moving into 342 building, if they are K-8 they will have only 3 sections, if they are truncated, k- 5 they will be able to have 5 sections. 452 moving into 191 building will have 4 K sections, they are currently at 3 K sections. 199, the temporary, short term solution, is to reduce to 5 K sections. Truncation at 191 will give us all 14 K seats, otherwise it will be 12 K seats and two more sections must be found. As in...
- iii. NO community interest and off the table – create an annex for PS87, pre-K to K.

- iv. Expand Computer School by 2 sections, if 191 truncated, make up 2 sections at Computer School. Take part of 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.
  - v. Open new middle school at M44 on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. Superintendent Altschul feels the district is not in need of another middle school, would prefer that all D3 schools reach capacity rather than open a new school.
  - vi. In-District Pre-K / Early Childhood Center. Southern part of district is limited in Pre-K. PS9 and PS87 have one each, PS 191 has 4. The second floor of O'Shea Complex holds 18 pre-K classes which is more than the district needs. Or combination middle school – pre-K, BUT *use of space must be determined before deciding zoning lines*. DOE will present at CEC June 15<sup>th</sup> meeting and begin community engagement.
- b. Kim Watkins, Zoning Committee Chair reporting: The process started last year, the vote culminates in beginning November for any changes in 2017. Site changes with trigger point being Riverside Center opening on schedule for 2018. 191 is on schedule to move into new building as planned, CEC3 supported the move. DOE has to submit plan to PEP for approval. Once that happens, we can talk about zone line changes implemented in 2017 in order to prepare for these 2018 changes. Key number is need for 14 sections of kindergarten by 2018. Job of Zoning Committee is to make recommendations to the CEC who then votes on final proposal submitted by the D3 Superintendent and DOE. Next Zoning Committee meeting is on Monday, June 20<sup>th</sup> at PS191. Total K – 8 enrollment from PS166 south, isn't that volatile. Superintendent Altschul, in response to question about movement of students, comments that current 452 students, were plans to re-site school approved, would be traveling to new site. Any new incoming 2017 students would be part of new zone. For one year, 2017, rezoned students would attend 452 on 77<sup>th</sup> St. and remaining years they would be at their new building. . The rezoning plan is still under survey. There would be a rezoning that is subsequent to re-siting of school. The Superintendent responds to question of whether diversity is being taken into account that yes, they are looking at it as best they can.

### **Public Comment on Zoning**

- i. Brian Bird, parent of two 1<sup>st</sup> graders at 452: Moving of 452 bad idea. There wasn't transparency in informing parents and no consideration of impact. 452 is a community school not a commuter school. The parents are being dictated to. President Fiordaliso, as liaison to 452, does not consider DOE a fait accompli. Superintendent Altschul responds it was not a hidden agenda. Nothing has been decided
- ii. Micheline Tang, parent at 452: Appreciates UWS needs to be rezoned. 452 is a community school, of the three schools in O'Shea Complex, that the middle school is not being considered to move nor is Anderson School, a city-wide G&T program but the youngest elementary school, that is a community school, is being asked to move. She strongly advocates against proposal. Does administration trump parent objection? The Superintendent responds that Computer and Anderson were not considered. They are looking to get consensus before a decision is made and vote is taken.
- iii. Liz Campbell, parent of second grader and incoming K at 452 and PTA President at 452. Speaking for families. Until yesterday it was an idea and not a proposal. SLT and some members of PTA are open to possibility of move. Principal and staff in favor of move. Asks that DOE provide more information as to timing and how zoning would be handled so they can more appropriately respond.
- iv. Mark Diller, CB7: Target of 14 K sections relating to artificially low waiting list is not the driver of the proposal. We need to re-evaluate entire district, presenting

wider possibilities. Leaving a whole floor open to opportunistic programs you don't ever want to do. A broader rezoning, embracing broader things than just waitlist.

- v. Kathleen Barefoot, PS 452 parent of second grader: School is performing well, why move something that's not broken? What is public comment process if we go ahead with it? What documents will be released for analysis? Superintendent Altschul responds that after PEP vote it's done. There is no environmental impact statement. There will be public comment once the proposal is presented, it will be part of the proposal. 452 is not a 100% in-zone school.
- vi. District 3 Task Force for Equity in Education, Parent Leadership Project:
  - a. Ujju Aggervil(?), District 3 has a need for rezoning and also experiences a severe case of segregation.
  - b. Lorraine Falchi, parent, PTA and SLT member: Appreciate changes in case of access and equity. Understand that these are systemic problems and need leadership. Community input is needed and concerns whole district. We hope council will consider process for community wide controlled choice that they have requested before.
  - c. Marian Gullo(?), Bloomingdale Family Program: We are diverse, teach respect. Would like her daughter to go to a school where her daughter will be happy.
- vii. Christian Drexler, parent at 2<sup>nd</sup> grader of 452. Against move. Originally zoned for PS87, the new school 452 opened, they love it, love where it is.
- viii. Lucy Philipp, parent of 1<sup>st</sup> grader and incoming K: Loves 452, community and staff are amazing, it's diverse. Pleased to hear it is a scenario and not a proposal but nothing said 452 stays where it is. Superintendent Altschul responds that the other scenario is that 452 stays where it is and they open a new school. President Fiordaliso responds that the Council, through the Zoning Committee, will meet at other times with intent of giving parents opportunity to weigh in with Council so that it is an open and collaborative process.
- ix. Parent responds that last night was the first mention of it for most parents. The Superintendent responds that it was discussed with the SLT, possibly in April as well as with Principal Parker and District Planning. Sara Turchin of District Planning will have a meeting to further hear from the voices of parents and community of 452. Zoning Committee Chair, K Watkins responds that the community will be given ample opportunity to respond via meetings, emails and public comment.
- x. Colin O'Donnell, 452 parent: Vehemently opposed to this move. Potential to disrupt success of school. Logical inconsistency in moving the school south. Vacuum in one part of the district is fixed at the expense of the other part of district. Why can't other two schools in O'Shea Complex move? The Superintendent responded that the idea is coming to life because the 452 principal brought it to her attention. He wants to grow and diversify and she and the DOE saw the benefit of it.
- xi. Danna Hirschman, 452 parent of 2<sup>nd</sup> grader: Decision making doesn't seem logical or strategic for our district. Put a middle school in 191. Seems like backing into zoning that could have a negative impact on K. Ks should be able to walk to school, 8<sup>th</sup> graders can get on the subway to get to school.

- xii. Andrea Pagliughi: Shocked and disappointed that Principal Parker would propose this proposal. Against idea. Proposes Anderson School move into new space. She relocated family to be in 452 zone, won't commute 20 blocks south to a relocated 452.
- xiii. Ira Mitchneck, VP PS9 PA: We now have the longest waitlist in the district and the only one that is not guaranteed of clearing. This proposal will hit 166, 9 and probably 84. Every proposal to move zone lines has not come to fruition. PS9 has gone from 40 gen ed kids to now 100 solid gen ed kids and 40 gen ed kids in zone. This isn't being discussed. Once zone lines are moved you have to discuss siblings of people who fall out of the zone lines.
- xiv. Walter Krudop, parent of 1<sup>st</sup> grader at 452: Was impetus for move based on K sections? Response is that the Impetus was space for school to grow. Is there another way to look at this for all of schools to take the pain.
- xv. Rachel Fink, parent of K at 452: Out of zone enrollment may be higher at 452 because it is a new school. Moving school again deflates confidence in it. It's a community, neighborhood school. Other schools can be moved, that shouldn't be off the table.
- xvi. Diane Heath, Anderson SL teacher: Whatever happens to 452 impacts Anderson. If 452 does leave we encourage planning and CEC to take into account shared space that needs to occur. Anderson had to leave PS9, we don't want to do it again .
- xvii. Colin Chang, parent of 1<sup>st</sup> grader: Move makes no sense for kids in community. Anderson is a city-wide school. What is the trade-off for people in the community. Who decided? What do we get out of it?
- xviii. PJ Joshi, Council Member: How does it solve the problem that we need a 14 section K? Comment: You could draw the line differently, you wouldn't be taking an entire community and making them move.
- xix. Theresa Arletta: Mayoral Control – called mostly charter schools, they didn't call CPAC. Represented ECC. PEP should have fixed terms. Entire schools should be allowed to vote. CEC have should 3 year terms instead of 2. Senate is discussing it now. You can support spirit of resolution. JF responded that Council had it on their business agenda, no consensus pro or con. It is on agenda to give Council opportunity to discuss it.
- xx. Don Lee Wong, parent at Anderson. There is no perfect plan. Don't attack each other. Why move? President Fiordaliso responded that is a tough issue all the way around. Council are committed to a collaborative and equitable solution.

2. DRAFT Resolution Calling upon PEP to Revise Certain Sections of CR A-101 Admissions
  - a. Resolution was previously discussed by Council in prior meetings and via email, Council has reviewed the Resolution as amended, further discussion is waived by Council. The Resolution, as amended, is read into the record. (*on file*) Public is offered chance to comment. No comment.
3. DRAFT Free Lunch Letter for all D3 Middle Schools
  - a. There is no Council objection to moving forward and sending letter out. President Fiordaliso instructs CEC3 Administrative Assistant Karen Butler to send the letter to all electeds.

4. High School Admission Workshop Wrap-up
  - a. The workshop was a success. There were 98 attendees, 4 high schools, tutor information and presentation PDF was sent to attendees. Perhaps have a workshop on 6<sup>th</sup> grade next year.
5. Mayoral Control
  - a. Continues to be an important issue and Council may want to develop long term position on it. Discussion of ECC Resolution is tabled until later CEC3 business meeting

❖ **New Business** - *none*

❖ **School Liaison Reports**

1. PS145 School Safety Officer – *held*
2. WESS Lunch Letter - *Member N Mead absent*
3. Middle School Waitlist – *held*
4. PS 84 Incident
  - a. Teacher assaulted, parent arrested.
5. PS 165
  - a. Awarded \$ 90,000 grant for Lighthouse Program Leader and Me. It's a 3 year grant, 5 year program.

❖ **Committee Reports**

1. Middle School, K Berger, Chair, reporting: Middle School meeting June 6.
2. Health and Wellness – T Hammonds, Chair absent
3. Multi-Lingual, L Liu, Chair reporting: Russian Dual Language Program moving forward
4. Diversity – N Mead, Chair absent.

❖ **Public Comment** - *none*

❖ **Vote: Resolution Calling Upon PEP to Revise Certain Sections of CR A-101 Admissions**

Roll Call Vote: The Council Members present at the meeting voted unanimously (8-0) to approve the CEC 3 Resolution as amended *Calling Upon PEP to Revise Certain Sections of CR A-101 Admissions*.

❖ **Adjournment 9:10PM**