



# COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 3

154 West 93<sup>rd</sup> Street New York, New York 10025 - Room 204 Tel (212) 678-2782 Fax (212) 678-2804 Email: CEC3@schools.nyc.gov

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

## CEC3 BUSINESS MEETING 6:30PM SPECIAL CALENDAR MEETING 7:00 PM

**Wed., Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

Joan of Arc Auditorium – 154 W. 93<sup>rd</sup> St., New York, NY 10025  
(Between Amsterdam/Columbus Aves.)

### Special Calendar Minutes

*(Approved at the 1/25/2017 CEC3 & CSD3 Presidents' Council Joint Calendar Meeting)*

#### Special Calendar Meeting

❖ **Call to Order 7:11 PM**

❖ **Roll Call of Members** Kristen Berger, Joe Fiordaliso, Zoe Foundotos, Noah Gotbaum, PJ Joshi, Daniel Katz, Lucas Liu, Dennis Morgan, Kim Watkins

Excused Absence: Manuel Casanova, Vincent Orgera

**DOE Staff:** Ilene Altschul, D3 Superintendent, DJ Sheppard, D3 Family Leadership Coordinator

❖ **Approval of Minutes**

1. Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Special Calendar Meeting Minutes approved as amended earlier by unanimous consent of all Council members present.

❖ **DOE Final Zoning Presentation- on file**

- Supt. Altschul introduced Deputy Chancellor Elizabeth Rose, welcomes D3 Principals, Sarah Turchin and Nathifa Charles, DOE Analytics.
  - Rezoning in D3 is necessary to allow for equity and excellence for all children. Current proposal has been developed in collaboration with CEC3 and extensive community engagement.
  - PS 191 will be moving into Riverside Center School. They will have a new 3<sup>rd</sup> grade GnT, a new instructional coach for math and literacy and to ensure and support growth of teacher's pedagogy in support of students. New programs have been implemented this year using Teachers' College reading and writing, a new cutting edge math program and they will have technology support to help with school technology.
  - By re-siting 452 it will give it room to grow in the building where 191 is currently located. It will expand their enrollment 1-2 sections per grade, provide room for a pre-K program and expand their enrichment in special education programs music. We need to ensure we are addressing the over-crowding at PS 87, 166 and 199.
  - There will be a separate zoning proposal for rezoning of schools from Central Park North to 124<sup>th</sup> St. area which will include PS 241, 76, 180, 185 and 208 including changed to the map with the consolidation of PS 241 and PS 76.

- Sarah Turchin, DOE Director Manhattan Office of District Planning, Nathifa Charles, DOE Associate Director, Analytics, Jessica O'Brien, Sr. Director Analytics.
  - **W. 59<sup>th</sup> St. - W 116<sup>th</sup> St. Rezoning:** New elementary school capacity in the 2017 school year. Key objective goals:
    1. Alleviate overcrowding
    2. Promote diversity
    3. Ensure all D3 schools are successful
  - DOE plans to propose 3 re-sitings in southern district:
    1. PS 191 re-sited to new building PS 342; PEP vote for re-siting will happen next Wednesday.
    2. PS 452 re-sited to vacated PS 191 building.
    3. MS 247, Dual Language Middle School re-sited to MS 44
  - All current students have the right to remain in their current school
  - Sibling grandfathering will be in effect.
  - **Central Park North – W. 116<sup>th</sup> St. Rezoning**
    1. Proposed consolidation of PS 241 with PS 76 for 2017-2018 to address budgetary and programmatic challenges.
    2. Distribute PS 241 zone across the 3 adjacent zones.
    3. Explore with community the best use of M113 space if PS 241 is consolidated with PS 76.

#### ❖ CEC3 Comments and Questions

- Does PS 87 have the capacity to expand to another section?
  - i. S Turchin: They do not have the capacity to open a new section in 2016-2017 school year.
- Building utilization in the northern part of the district is not predicted to improve that much. We are concerned with under-utilized schools and charger encroachment.
  - i. Supt. Altschul: We are working with the schools to increase enrollment.
  - ii. S Turchin, DOE: The consolidation of PS 241 with PS 76 is a step in the right direction for supporting a sustainable enrollment.
- There does not seem to be parity in the northern part of the district, there doesn't seem to be the same bullet points as in the southern part? We need the opportunity to put high ticket items in the northern part of the district otherwise it is not going to change much.
  - i. S Turchin: This is the beginning of the conversation
- How will this effect PS 190's Title 1 Funding?
  - i. These are projections based on the zone, not the facility the children attend,
- How will 241 space be used if merger does happen?
  - i. S Turchin, DOE: The DOE will work with the community to determine the best use of that space should the consolidation happen. Separate from the rezoning process we will be working very closely with the principals of the schools impacted by re-siting to make sure they have an opportunity for feedback.
- If PS 241 is relocated there will be 5-7 classes vacated and Opportunity Charter School is looking to expand. How does DOE see use of that space?
  - i. S Turchin, DOE: Opportunity Charter applied for expansion before this process began and it is a separate process. The DOE does not have anything specific in mind yet for that space.

- Is there a chart of block by block list of every rezone line change?
    - i. S Turchin, DOE: That would be part of our official rezoning proposal.
  - N Gotbaum: This plan was submitted 3 weeks ago, this process and public hearings are a sham. The CEC has already voted on this plan. It was developed in private by one member. To say Council will now hold public hearings on this plan is a travesty. Parents deserve to have their questions answered. The movement of 452 does nothing for diversity and is not necessary. Removing 300 seats from the district will create chaos. The DOE could start a new school. 241 and other folks have not have input into closing. I believe the dye has been cast and a decision made.
  - D Katz: CEC does not have legal authority on school closings.
- D3 Principal Comments
- Robert Ryan, PS 75: After 19 years, I have a little perspective. These problems have been intractable for a long time. It is a brave thing to take on and a long standing process. Thanks Sarah Turchin and Superintendent Altschul. I acknowledge the CEC.
  - Henry Zymeck, MS 245 The Computer School: Happy these changes are taking place, 'cause overcrowding sucks! Surprised parents don't respect Principal Parker's vision. The move is a win-win
  - Caitlin Caldwell, MS 247 Dual Language Middle School: The demands of a middle school in an elementary school building are difficult. This will provide opportunities and support.
  - Dr. Evelyn Lolis, PS 84: I am honored to be part of a community that understands what it means to be a global citizen. Sharing a building with Dual Language Middle School was becoming unsustainable. Your students will benefit from the move.
  - Lauren Keville, PS 191 Museum Magnet School: Excited to be moving to a new building and continue the work we've started. We support the zoning plan and welcome new families. We've doubled proficiency levels in one year, we are rolling out a new math curriculum TURK Investigation, 3 dynamic new teachers experienced in Teachers College Ready & Writing Program. At 191 we focus on the whole child. When you come and see 191 you will see the great work we are doing.
  - David Scott Parker, PS 452: I recognize this proposal is not a popular choice in my community and for some of the Council. This is hard and we are trying to do our best. It's what we love. SLT, I and my staff heard and understand your concerns. Our #1 concern is to provide an environment that provides love. There are growth opportunities for all of your children. I choose to embrace this with an open mind. We do support the proposal so we don't have to negotiate all the time. We can have pre-K. We want to encourage you to stay and I will do anything I can. I pledge to serve your children in the best way possible.

#### ❖ Public Comment

- Wendy Flagstaff, PS87: Fear 87 will become overcrowded.
- Gary Ramsay, LT: Some of the new developments have been cut out but our children still have to walk. This process is rooted in bad data. This group should be disbanded
- Caroline Gangi: If 452 is rezoned to 87, there aren't enough seats. No one has listened to parents.
- Hilda Blair, 452: In support of moving.

- Amita Rodman, 452: Moving 452 does not remove options. Who am I to say these fine educators shouldn't have the opportunity to work. This sends the right message
- Mark Sieman, 452: In support of DOE rezoning proposal. It offers an important and realistic framework. Resiting would let 452 perform to its fullest capacity.
- Rachel Singer, 452: Hope everyone can embrace the move. What the new space offers is amazing.
- Emily Ramsay, LT: This is a sham. I can't respect that there are private meetings going on. This is rigged.
- Larry Shapiro, 452: It's clear that this is a great plan that 452 should move into its own school. The move and plan are exactly what ought to happen.
- Heather Tait, 452: I would follow 452 to the moon. This is an opportunity.
- Ami Kantawala, 452: Congratulations on a brilliant proposal.
- Brian Reich, 452: This process is never pretty. I think the plan is great.
- Joe Rappaport, UWS: Supports parents who support 452 move. You have a chance to right this wrong and advance this proposal.
- Leah Savitt, 199:
- Ross Friedman, 199:
- Melissa Paretsky, 199: I'm not sure why CEC & DOE were intent on splitting Lincoln Towers. I thought CEC was the voice of the parent. This process has removed my faith.
- Rebecca Ravski, 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher 452: 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher, supports resiting plan.
- Brooke Josefs, teacher, 452: As a staff we support this move. I see the happy faces that go home. I want to provide that for more children.
- Liza Martinez, 87: The zone is still too big! Our best case scenario is 32 kids in first grade and 36 is a possibility. No one is saying these numbers will be capped.
- Ira Mitchneck: You solved a lot of issues affecting schools in the middle of the district. We are together in this.
- Jackie Dolson-Shewchuk & Debbie Saito, 87: We'd like to see the real impact (on 87) in writing. You are acting without numbers on the impact.
- Michel McCarthy, 452: DOE plans to cap class sizes which will limit families that do not want to move. Why can't you staff a new school? It appears some of the CEC weren't informed of the plan. It appears 87 doesn't have the space.
- Chris Drechsler, 452: 452 should stay where it is. Put a new school in 191.
- Daniel P, LT: Lt residents have submitted various proposals showing better alternatives. I ask CEC not to vote on the plan.
- Nathan O'Reilly, PT teacher, 452: Supports plan. Would love to see kids grow (in new building). If you take your children out of 452 they will be missed.
- Robert Heber, 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher, 452: 8<sup>th</sup> year teaching. Fully support the move.
- Rachel Brody, 452: We are for the move. 6 years ago families took a chance on 452 now you're asking them to do it again.
- Gina Pisarczyk, 87: PS87 will be the only zoned elementary school within 14 blocks. Fears overcrowding.
- Meg Ocampo, 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, 452: The resiting is welcome.
- Alan Danzig, Pres. 165/LT: Questions the process; parents have been ignored. When the principals spoke, they were not held to the 2 minute speech.
- Mark Diller, CB7: 191 is already a gem, it just hasn't caught up.
- Eric Wright, 87: 87 is possibly going to be over-capacity.

- Andrea Steinkamp, 199 PTA Co-Pres: We have not endorsed specific zone lines. Our community needs and wants rezoning. We have 250 students over capacity.
- Scott Sieman, 145: The chances of sending his kids to 145 are 0. It's zoned 2% white, 100% free lunch. It is zoned for homeless and transient.
- Teresa Arboleda: Is Spanish Dual Language being considered for expansion?
  - Supt. Altschul: If there is a need. We have other schools that offer Spanish Dual Language.
- Robin Krugman, 452: 452 was created to relieve over-crowding.
- Seth Rosenthal, 303W66: Can't understand how cutting out 2 LT buildings and 303 will relieve over-crowding. Disappointed in the process.
- Tracy Peterson, 452: Why are Anderson and Computer School being considered for resiting?
  - Supt. Altschul: Anderson is too small and Computer School is too small.
- Jennifer Levine, 87:
- Arlene Hellerman, 87: New zone is not small enough to absorb 452. Removing 452 puts onus on 87 as the only zoned elementary school.
- Andrea Pagliughi, 452: It's pointless to be here. This doesn't make sense yet they refuse to answer why they won't move Anderson.
- Alexis Freeman, 452: Process is a sham. We met with Dep. Chancellor Elizabeth Rose who said, "we look at best use the building." Meetings are for show only. Data is only shared with it is convenient.
- Alexei Kroujiline, 87: ?
- Berna Barshay: You are not looking to obvious solution, moving Anderson.

❖ **Adjournment 11:00 PM**