



COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 3

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District 3 Community Superintendent

Meeting Minutes – Zoning Committee

Friday, November 6 (9:00 am – 12:00 pm)

Joan of Arc Complex 154 West 93rd Street

Attendance: 41 members of the community including 5 CEC members, Sarah Turchin and Eric Hermann from DOE District Planning, and four elected official representatives.

Chair reminded the group that the session was being taped and that to hear recorded podcasts of the Zoning Committee, visit www.spreaker.com/user/8322048.

This Zoning Committee meeting was set up because the Monday, November 2 committee meeting was postponed in order for the CEC3 to hold a Special Business Meeting. Members of CEC3 did not complete their zoning deliberation at the Town Hall and Calendar meeting on October 28 and therefore needed additional time to do so.

Zoning Committee Findings were presented to the CEC3 at the Calendar meeting on Wednesday, October 28 and again at the Special Business Meeting on Monday, November 2. With hundreds of community members weighing in on the draft plan presented to District 3 at two public hearings and several council meetings, the following represent the findings:

1. Council reached consensus that siblings should be grandfathered into any rezoning plan.
2. Council reached consensus to reject the DOE draft proposal.
3. Council concluded that programmatic enhancements be included for PS191, however at the CEC Special Business meeting on Nov 2, PS191 presented council with a proposed solution to pair up with PS342, which is the main topics for this meeting.
4. Council discussed several contingency measures for PS199 overcrowding that will also be discussed after the sub-committee work.

The goal of this Zoning Committee meeting to discuss the following issues and arrive at some level of agreement on a next set of recommendations to the full CEC3 at the business meeting on Tuesday, November 10:

- the PS452 allocation data and map
- the proposal from PS191 on grade pairing with PS342
- contingency plans for the overcrowding conditions at PS199

Before breaking into two subcommittees, PS452 data and PS191 proposal, members of the SLT from PS191 read an updated proposal letter. In this letter, the Principal and SLT of PS191 requested the following:

- that PS191 pair with PS342 in a grade-split structure when PS342 opens in 2018
- that only a two-school pairing be considered
- that a lottery and/or controlled choice be eliminated from consideration
- that PS342 not be incubated at PS191 ahead of its opening in 2018
- that the PS191 zone grow this year

Subcommittee Findings

CEC3 Member Dan Katz led the discussion of the DOE draft proposal's allocation to PS452. Sixteen committee members joined in on this breakout session. The DOE plan specifies that the PS452 zone will grow from 69 kindergarteners to 80-90 kindergarteners with the proposed zone line changes. However, real estate data shows that 3068 residential units are included in the zone change.

Though the discussion didn't result in specific recommendations for zone line changes, the subcommittee returned to the full committee with agreement that PS452 should grow to its intended size of three sections across grades, provided that space considerations for the other schools remain open and transparent.

CEC3 Member Kristen Berger led the discussion of the PS191/PS342 grade pairing proposal. This group first tackled the task of clarifying the proposal details, specifically, that the intent of the PS191 proposal was to split grades PreK-2 and 3-8. Principal Keville and the administration from PS191 request that they be included in the search for the new principal. They also reiterated that they prefer a scenario that includes only PS191 and PS342.

The Co-Chair of the PS199 SLT spoke in agreement that the long-term solution not include PS199 along with PS191 and PS342 in a shared or lottery based zone or grade pairing. She indicated that a letter of consideration was being drafted for the CEC3.

Ad hoc members of the Zoning Committee who prepared a detailed comparison of solutions for PS191 reiterated that the three school solution was the only solution that would fully integrate the southern part of the district, that integration has been shown to improve low performance without hindering high performance.

Additional implementation planning and other work on the proposed solution would be needed, and Kristen Berger suggested that the subcommittee meet on Thursday, November 12 at 9:00 am.

The group rejoined one another around 10:15 to provide each other with the above summary findings. At the conclusion of the summary from Dan Katz, the Zoning Committee took a vote on the following two points of recommendation:

Topic	Support	Against	Abstain
Support for current PS452 allocation	8	30	0
Support for PS452 desire to grow to 3 sections across grades with this rezoning	24	0	15

PS199 Contingency Plans

Assuming that the zone line change for 2016 implementation only includes the allocation of additional space to PS452, the need for contingency planning to ameliorate the extreme overcrowding situation at PS199 is extremely important.

Several measures were discussed at the CEC3 Special Business Meeting on November 2, including the following:

- a kindergarten cap of 5 classes
- a revocation of the right to return to PS199 after kindergarten
- alternate offers to wait-listed families from PS199
- potentially rezoning some newer buildings out of the 199 zone

The committee didn't spend any discussion time on the second of the four items, as additional detail was cited as being needed. However, we did discuss the kindergarten cap and revoking of return and took a vote on the two items as part of the committee recommendations (note: this vote took place after many in attendance had left the meeting):

Topic	Support	Against	Abstain
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Cap PS199 kindergarten sections at 5 classes	14	4	7
Revoke the right to return to PS199 for first grade for a period of one year only	7	n/a	n/a
Revoke the right of return to PS199 for first grade for a period of three years	11	n/a	n/a
Do not revoke the right of return to PS199 for first grade	5	n/a	n/a

Review of timeline moving forward:

Sub-committee on PS191 and PS342 Pairing (2018) plans to meet on Thursday, November 12th at 9:00 am. Kristen Berger, Subcommittee Chair will be continuing the discussion about the implementation of grade pairing when PS342 opens in 2018.

Other upcoming dates:

CEC 3 Business Meeting

November 10th, 2015

6:30 pm

Joan of Arc Complex, auditorium

154 W 93rd St.

Zoning Committee

November 16th

6:30 pm

Joan of Arc Complex, room 204

154 W 93rd St.

CEC 3 Calendar Meeting and Official DOE Presentation

November 19th

6:30 pm

PS 87

160 W 78th Street, auditorium

CEC3 Special Calendar Meeting

December 2nd

6pm

Joan of Arc Complex, room 204

154 W 93rd St.