



## 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

Joseph A. Fiordaliso  
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**First Vice President**

Zoe G. Foundotos  
**Second Vice President**

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Katz Lucas Liu Vacant, *ELL Member* Vacant, *Student Member*

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

### CEC3 Special Business Meeting

**Monday November 2, 2015**

**6:30pm-8:30pm**

Joan of Arc complex, auditorium

Approved at November 10, 2015 Business Meeting

#### ❖ Meeting called to order 6:44pm

#### ❖ Roll Call of Members

**Present:** Nan Mead, Joe Fiordaliso, Zoe Foundotos, Kristen Berger, Noah Gotbaum, Theresa Hammonds, P.J. Joshi, Lucas Liu and Kimberly Watkins. A quorum was present.

**Excused Absence:** Daniel Katz

**DOE Staff:** Ilene Altschul, District 3 Superintendent; Sarah Turchin, DOE Office of District Planning

#### ❖ Zoning Discussion

##### 1. Letter from PS 191 SLT

Council member N. Gotbaum, liaison to PS 191 read out a letter from the PS 191, Museum Magnet School SLT. This letter stated that the PS 191 SLT supports a rezoning that would pair PS 199 with PS 342. They are not in favor of a lottery ranking the two schools and urge the CEC to delay their final decision until January to give the ideas more thought. (Letter on file)

Numerous questions were asked by council members about the details of how this new proposal from PS 191's SLT would work. They revolved around how the schools would be split, what the school leadership would look like, the logistics and potential DOE support

for such a division and the need for clarity on the amount of time it would take to start a new school (i.e.- 342).

## **2. Overcrowding**

There was general support for the need to relieve overcrowding at PS 199 and address diversity issues in the district. Overcrowding was additionally raised as a concern in other areas of the district and in particularly around the O’Shea complex and the impacts of any zoning decisions that lead to increased enrollment at PS 452.

A number of council member remain concerned about the accuracy of the figures provided by the DOE Office of District Planning for rezoning to PS 452. Council expressed general desire to allowing PS 452 to grow to their original instructional footprint without negatively affecting Computer School (M 245) and Anderson (PS 334). PS 452 is not currently filling its approved instructional footprint according to its Educational Impact Statement and to do so will involve the co-located schools in the building returning some of the spaces they are using which are not in their own instructional footprints.

Council will establish a data subcommittee of the zoning committee to examine the figures offered in the initial DOE proposal for rezoning and assess how many students PS 452 could realistically accept without undue negative impact on the other school in the building. Part of the goal in increasing the zone to PS 452 would be to provide some relief to the PS 199 waitlist.

There was some discussion about suspending the Right to Return for students who accept alternate offers. There was some discussion about not zoning any new buildings into the PS 199 zine unless there are new seats in the zone.

### 3. Zoning Timeline

There was debate amongst council members as to what and how much could be achieved in time to impact September 2016 intake. This included questions to determine if these issues can be met with a combination of long and short term plans, if some more complex plans can be achieved by kindergarten enrollment and how this addresses overcrowding at PS 199.

Council was divided about how the kindergarten connect time line and CEC zoning decision could affect district families and whether zoning changes should be in effect before Kindergarten Connect opens. A number of members of the council proposed providing some short term fixes in time for the September 2016 intake whilst continuing to work on long term solutions to the zoning challenges in the district.

APPROVED The council voted to hold the final vote for the DOE rezoning plan at the December 2<sup>nd</sup> CEC 3 Special Calendar Meeting. Vote approved by 7 for, 2 opposed.

In order to hold a vote on December 2<sup>nd</sup> the DOE will present their final rezoning plan to the CEC 3 Calendar Meeting on November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

### 4. Actions:

- Superintendent Altschul will report what steps are involved in opening a new school and what that time frame looks like at the next CEC3 business meeting.
- CEC would like to have SCA come in with a five year plan and an update on the PS 342 construction as soon as possible.
- Ask that DOE immediately begin the process for a school leader for PS 342

**❖ Meeting adjourned 8:56**

*Submitted by Kristen Berger, CEC Secretary*