



COMMUNITY DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL 3

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CEC3 Resolution Vol. 13 (P) No. 8

RESOLUTION TO OPPOSE THE AUTHORIZATION OF SUCCESS ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL AND ANY OTHER FUTURE CHARTER SCHOOL TO CO-LOCATE IN OUR COMMUNITY SCHOOLS AND TO REQUIRE EXISTING CO-LOCATED CHARTERS TO PAY RENT

Approved by Unanimous Roll Call Vote of Members Present (9-0)
at the August 7, 2013 CEC3 Calendar Meeting

WHEREAS, District 3 has been dealing with charter school co-locations since 2006, and currently has charters co-located in 7 of our 20 school buildings - 6 of which are Success Charter co-locations - by far the highest number of Success Charter schools in any district in the city of New York; and

WHEREAS, most charter schools neither enroll nor educate even close to equivalent proportions of English Language Learners, economically disadvantaged students (including free lunch), and special needs students (including self-contained) - as our district and City-wide averages, much less their local host public schools; and

WHEREAS, the DOE's Enrollment-Capacity-Utilization Report (Blue Book) routinely overestimates the extent of space available in our public school buildings, and underestimates the space needs of public school students - especially those with special needs; and

WHEREAS, charter schools, especially Success Academies, receive preferential treatment from the DOE vis-a-vis their public school hosts including improved classroom renovations and modernization, far better layout and space location, scheduling preference, and consistent central office intervention; and

WHEREAS, the school governance law calls for charter schools to pay rent "at cost" to cover the costs of building maintenance and services; and

WHEREAS, the Independent Budget Office has determined that without such rent reimbursement payments, co-located charter schools receive upwards of \$1000 more per student per annum than public schools receive; and

WHEREAS, most charter co-locations in District 3 and throughout the city have resulted in students with disabilities receiving their mandated services in hallways or in closets or not at all; bitter battles between parents; increased public school class sizes; and the loss of critical public school cluster and/or specialty spaces; and

WHEREAS, charter school admissions policies have been non-transparent, and their oversight lax - as demonstrated by the DOE's failure to respond to basic information requests from CEC3 as well as multiple Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests from CEC3 dating back to 2010; and

WHEREAS, most charter schools have resources and the means to locate and fund their own facilities outside of the Department of Education's building inventory; and

WHEREAS, the State University of New York has continued to authorize co-located charter schools and the Department of Education has continued to co-locate them in record numbers - some years in advance of actual student enrollment - despite consistent opposition to these charter co-locations by Community Education Councils, local Community Boards, and the vast majority of our local elected officials; Therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Community Education Council District 3 opposes further authorization of Success Academy Charter School and any future charter school to co-locate in any District 3 school building and in any New York City public school building; and be it further

RESOLVED, That Community Education Council District 3 hereby calls upon the New York City Department of Education, the Panel on Education Policy, the Chancellor of the New York City Schools, the Board of Regents, and the New York State Commissioner to REJECT any request by Success Academy and any other charter school to be co-located in a District 3 school building or any public school building in New York City; and be it further

RESOLVED, That existing Success Academy Charter Schools and other co-located charter schools be required to pay rent "at cost" as mandated by law and as calculated by the Independent Budget Office of the City of New York.