



COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 3

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Joseph A. Fiordaliso
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First Vice President

Zoe G. Foundotos
Second Vice President

Kristen Berger
Secretary

Lucas Liu
Treasurer

Council Members: Manuel Casanova Noah Gotbaum Pradnya Joshi Daniel Katz
Dennis Morgan Vincent Orgera, Declan Saint-Onge, *Student Member*

Ilene Altschul
District 3 Community Superintendent

DISTRICT 3 COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL Business Meeting Minutes

Wed. Mar. 1, 2017

6:30 PM

Joan of Arc Complex Auditorium

154 W. 93rd St.

(Approved at the April 5, 2017 Business & Special Calendar Meeting by all Council members present)

❖ Meeting Called To Order - 6:40 P.M.

❖ Roll Call of Members:

Present: Kristen Berger, Manuel Casanova, Joe Fiordaliso (6:43pm), Zoe Foundotos, PJ Joshi (6:49pm), Lucas Liu, Vincent Orgera, Kim Watkins. A quorum was reached (6)
Excused Absence: N Gotbaum, D Katz, D Morgan

DOE Staff: Ilene Altschul, District 3 Superintendent

❖ Approval of Minutes

1. Jan. 4, 2017 Business Meeting minutes were approved by all Council members present.
2. Feb. 15, 2017 Business Meeting minutes were approved by all Council members present.

❖ President's Report - *deferred*

❖ Superintendent's Report

- 50 school visits have been completed by Superintendent Altschul with her PLF Cynthia Dickman. Almost every school has been visited. Focus and Priority schools get more visits. The PPOs are not public but the Quality Reviews are on line.
- PS 145 has an authentic TV studio
- A stakeholder meeting was held at 149. The discussion was on what is a healthy enrollment? Office of District Planning shared data around retention, enrollment and capacity in Harlem. The Superintendent shared the data with Council (*on file*)
 - Questions were raised such as
 - How do you feel about school choice?
 - In upper grades what is the influx or leaving of students to charter?
 - What is in my control?
 - What are curriculum factors that go into parent choice?
 - What are the barriers?
 - How are we presenting our schools? (programming, funding, operation)
 - Council discussion ensues with regard to capacity with regard to out of zone students (118) filling seats in the area from 110th St – 122nd St. and resources for the 13 Harlem schools (6 public / 7 charter)
 - Council agrees they have no control over charters; focus should be on making public schools stronger. Ms. Altschul reported that they will continue discussions, looking at

what is in their control, delving into questions on curriculum factors, how are we presenting our schools?

- Met with Clara Hemphill to work with her and the schools in facilitating school visits and positive PR
- Opportunity Charter is being truncated starting in September 2017. They will no longer have grades 6-8. However, Opportunity Charter can appeal the decision. We are working with District and Space Planning to engage the community on the way forward regarding the space in the building.
- PS 145 will be opening the Russian Dual Language program in Kindergarten. They received funding to hire a Staff Developer to support the opening of the program. They will be starting to interview for a Russian DL teacher.
- Save the Dates: Science Fair April 22nd and Art Fair May 24th and 25th
- Summer School will run from July 5th to August 10th from 8:30-2:30 p.m.
- My Brother's Keeper Grant - Susan Green attended the symposium in Albany
- PreK application period has been extended to March 3rd
- Rezoning Transfer Process begins this week. Families of current K-4 students in 9, 199, 452, 191, and 87 who have a new zoned school will receive a communication from Office of Student Enrollment. Families have until April 7th to indicate interest in transferring to their new zoned school. In early May, the families will receive decision letters and May 26th is the deadline for families to accept offer and pre-register at offered school.
Council engaged in a discussion that letters should go to all rezoned families in all 11 schools and not just 9, 199, 452, 191, and 87.
- State Testing ELA March 28, 29, 30 Math May 2, 3, 4

❖ Old Business

1. There has been no update from DOE on FOIL requested by Concerned Parents.

❖ New Business

1. Member Zoe Foundotos reported that Michael Kraft, in his move to PEP, left a vacancy on CCHS for Manhattan representative. Ms. Foundotos applied and was appointed last night to the vacant seat. She is therefore stepping down from CEC3
2. Member Vincent Orgera would like to meet with James Dekeles, D3 Space Planning and have them present to CEC3. Council has no objection.

❖ Liaison Reports

1. Member Liu reported that AM L Rosenthal is trying to find space at PS 859 and will attend Multilingual meeting Friday.
 - a) Member Watkins reported that the Mid-Manhattan Adult Learning Center on 120 St. between ACP & FD is underutilized and might be a consideration.

❖ Committee Reports

1. Charter School Committee: President Fiordaliso would like to set up another meeting of the Charter School Committee.
2. Middle School Committee: Chair Berger, reported that the Middle School Committee had 3 people in attendance and the next meeting is Tues., Mar. 21 at 6pm.
3. Multilingual Committee: Member Liu, Chair, reported that they met with the DOE Independent Budget Office. Also met with AM O'Donnell re funding for Dual Language. 452 is considering an introductory language class.
4. Zoning Committee; Chair Watkins reported that there is a meeting tomorrow morning. Member Morgan and Chair Watkins have been meeting frequently planning the Harlem Schools Summit. They want to keep parents involved.
 - There are 4 breakout sessions, one run by Manhattan Borough President's Office "Parent Self-Advocacy Toolkit."

- Nan Mead, NYS Regent and former CEC3 member will run workshop “New Parent Bootcamp.”
- Two other sessions, one by Jimmie Brown, Title 1 VP DPAC and CSD3 President’s Council, Mark Diller and CEC3 Member Dennis Morgan on parent engagement, the other session will be in participation with the DOE on enrollment and choice.
- Epic Theatre Company will present Laundry City.
 - Member PJ Joshi will reach out to the media, Hannah Jones, Errol Lewis, Bess Hertig, Yasmine Khan and NY1.
 - See if Bill Perkins can attend.

❖ **Adjournment – 8:26 P.M.**