



COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 3

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Kimberly Watkins
President

Kristen Berger
First Vice President

Manuel Casanova
Second Vice President

Lucas Liu
Treasurer

Genisha Metcalf
Secretary

Council Members: Inyanga Collins Daniel Katz Michael McCarthy Jean Moreland | **Ilene Altschul**
Dennis Morgan *Vacant, ELL Member* *Vacant, student member* *District 3 Community Superintendent*

COMMUNITY DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL 3 ANNUAL, BUSINESS, CALENDAR MEETING CALENDAR MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday July 19, 2017

M.S. 54

103 W. 107th St. NYC 10025

(Approved as amended at the Aug. 9, 2017CEC3 Business & Calendar meeting by all Council members present)

Calendar Meeting:

❖ Call to Order 7:21 PM

❖ Roll Call of Members

Kristen Berger, Inyanga Collins, Lucas Liu, Mike McCarthy, Genisha Metcalf, Jean Moreland, Dennis Morgan, Kimberly Watkins

Excused Absence: Daniel Katz, Manuel Casanova

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

❖ Introduction of New Officers

1. Kim Watkins, President
2. Kristen Berger, First Vice President
3. Manuel Casanova, Second Vice President
4. Lucas Liu, Treasurer
5. Genisha Metcalf, Secretary

❖ Superintendent's Report

- Welcome to the new CEC members and welcome back to those returning. Working on filling the student seat. I hope everyone is enjoying the summer.
- Tracie Benjamin-Van Lierop is introduced as the new Director of School Renewal.
 - She began on the D3 team as the Director of School Renewal on July 5th.

Tracie Benjamin-Van Lierop was a Senior Director in the Office of School Quality in the Division of Teaching and Learning for the New York City Department of Education. In this role, she served as a reviewer and evaluator of K-12 schools in curricula, pedagogy, assessment, school culture, and systems for improvement. Additionally, she supported the evaluative process and a team of administrators throughout the city in an effort to ensure that all schools received fair, accurate and informative review experiences. In her role she also facilitated professional development for a broad range of educators.
 - Tracie's career in education began working with the New York City Teaching Fellows program. Prior to joining the Office of School Quality team, she was a charter school building leader for a high school in the Bronx. Before going to the Bronx, Tracie held various positions as a district level administrator in New York City and Newark and began her career as a high school teacher of students with disabilities in Washington Heights, New York.
 - Tracie holds an undergraduate degree in Communications from Hunter College, an M.S. Ed. in Students with Disabilities from The City College of New York, M.Ed. in Educational Leadership from Bank Street College of Education, and certification from Harvard University's Institute for Superintendents and District Leaders.
- Working on filling 3 principal vacancies
 - Community Action- MS 258 John Curry taking a position at Tweed
 - PS/IS 180- Lana Fleming is retiring as of August 28th

- 247 Dual Language Middle School- Caitlin Caldwell is resigning from the DOE as of August 14th and has accepted a position in Monroe, NY. Principal Caldwell ensured that everything is done and they are ready for their move.
 - The Council queried Superintendent Altschul on whether or not retiring principals alert their community and school families to the fact that they are leaving.? As far as she knows, President Watkins mentioned that PS/IS 180 families had not been notified yet that Principal Fleming is retiring.
 - Superintendent Altschul said retiring principals are encouraged to do so but she leaves it up to them how that is handled. For some principals it is a difficult and private decision. In regard to 180, the Superintendent had encouraged the PA to inform their parent community.. Principal Fleming is still the principal until Aug. 28.
 - Council member remarked that if the principal shared this information with the president of the PTA, then it seems there is an expectation that the parents can be notified. Question on who takes responsibility for communication with the community and parent. Superintendent Altschul responds that it is the current principal's responsibility, the principal on record, which is Principal Fleming until August 28th. Question was asked about who introduced the new person to the community and Superintendent Altschul responded that she introduces the interim acting Principal to the SLT and PTA.
 - On the question of how a principal is found, Superintendent Altschul explained that when a position becomes available she currently has a pipeline of Assistant Principals as well as she reaches out to the Leadership Programs for likely candidates and for resumes. She then interviews with her team, references are checked and candidates are vetted. It takes several weeks before a candidate is approved.
 - Responding to Council question on whether the DOE would approve someone from the "rubber room" for a position, Superintendent Altschul has placed 17 principals and believes she knows how to identify a qualified candidate for each school.
 - Member Watkins asks where does one come to the conclusion that there is true parent input from the parent body (at 180) in this process, not just from an "exclusive" group? The parent body has not actually been notified. What is the logic when a meeting took place with 2 candidates and the representations supported one of the candidates but there was no real parent input? Superintendent Altschul responds that she was being as open as possible, when she hears the community has been informed, it means, to her, that an email has been sent to parents and they have notified. With regard to the meeting she had with 2 candidates, there was no secrecy. There was supposed to be 3 candidates however, at the last minute, the third candidate declines. She reached out to the PTA President and asked to select parent leaders to participate in the meeting. I asked if they wanted to participate and if they are they available. We thought any one of these candidates would be a good person for the position. The Chancellor's Regulations indicate that representations of parents in the interview process is the C-30 process, it is the parent leaders who sit on the C-30 committee and every person in that meeting signs the confidentiality agreement.
 - Have parents ever been engaged in the interactive appointment process prior to the 180 meeting? Superintendent Altschul said that yes, in slightly different capacities. It's how it's been done. There have been processes that have been different than others. She explained that for this selection she was looking for further input from the community (parents, teachers and administration) and thought she was being strategic. The question again comes back to why the 180 process was so different when in previous decisions this has not happened and the Superintendent again responds that she wanted input for 180.
 - Council continued to question the Superintendent on why the 180 interim acting appointment process was so different when in previous appointments, i.e. Dual Language or Community Action School, it has not been so. Is it because a "controversial" figure is one of the candidates? The answer, a council member states, is in the candidates being considered. The Superintendent restated that the process has been open.
- **Summer School**
 - MS 54- 111 students
 - PS 163- 149 students registered; 56 M, 93 NM
 - PS/IS 76 125 students registered; 15 grade 2; 16 no-shows (11 M/5 NM)

- FDAIL/Wadleigh 100 students; 69 mandated, 31 in Summer Bridge
 - PS/IS 149 (non-mandated program) 129 students
 - Administrative Intern- Velda Cambronne is working with Parent Coordinators and Parents. Offering weekly parent workshops on topics such as understanding the Summer School curriculum, what to expect in Summer School, summer resources, cultural experiences for parents, literacy and math, preparing your child for the next grade level, computer class
 - The Superintendent shared results from the Chancellor's Innovation Grant with the Council (*on file*). District 3 received a grant from the Chancellor for CSD3 to work on increasing math achievement and to increase teachers' instructional practice in planning and preparation and questioning and discussion in mathematics. 10 schools (12 teachers, 10 principals) participated focusing in on grade 5 and 7 (determined based on math data). There were 2 onboarding sessions, 3 all day trainings with planning and in-class visits at the lab-site school (PS 84 and Mott Hall II), and 1 end of year wrap-up session, and 5 sessions for only principals.
 - Chancellor's Mid-Year Progress Report (*on file*)
 - DCEP goals – (*on file*)
 - The Superintendent handed out the draft of “*Superintendent Goal Setting Document*” for D3. The three main goals are
 1. To support schools with improving teaching strategies in mathematics through collaborative practices that result in success and improvement of math instructions and increased math performance of all students.
 2. To support Renewal, Priority and Focus schools in District 3 that results in increased student achievement and meeting the New York State Accountability Metrics (M149, M415, M241, M208, M145, M256, M191).
 3. To broaden the understanding and appreciation of diversity within the district to ensure equity.
 - Member K Berger would like to see mention of increased middle school diversity.
 - Member G Metcalf notes that the Equity and Action plan mention restructuring and restructuring in Harlem has meant school closure in Harlem. How would restructuring provide resource allocation?
 - Superintendent Altschul responded that resources are driven by student population so we need to increase enrollment in order to increase funding to the schools. It is restructuring but it is also rethinking of the whole area. We are not planning to close schools.
 - Member J Moreland notes that in Harlem charter schools offer a competitive edge by having greater resources and longer days with afterschool programs.
 - The Superintendent and the Office of District Enrollment are looking at how to increase enrollment and she agrees with the need of afterschool programs for some school communities.
 - Office of Interschool Collaboration offers three innovative programs:
 - Learning Partners: 03M191, 03M185, 03M163 Host, 03M247
 - Showcase Schools: 03M165
 - MSQI schools: 03M256, 03M247, 03M250, 03M421
 - PROSE: 03M452
 - Save the Dates:
 - Middle School Principal Forum is September 27th at 6:00 p.m. at PS/IS 76
 - Middle School Fair is October 10th at 5:30 p.m. at PS 242
 - Elementary School information session with Office of Enrollment – October 24th
 - Summer PD for Principals/APs and teachers
 - My Brother's Keeper Grant- working with Literacy Inc. with Isoke Nia – training for teachers August 2nd and 3rd.
 - July 17, 18, 19- There was Science and SS Planning for teams of D3 teachers/admin with MFSC that was well attended.
 - July 26 and 27 – 1:00- 3:00 Strategic Assessment Planning PD with D3 team for Principals/APs
 - August 1st – Strengthening our Math Practices for Administrators with D3 team 1:00-3:00
- ❖ **Council Business ~ tabled**
1. CEC3 Strategic Planning 2017-2019. CEC3 Admin will send the document to the Council for discussion at the Aug. 9 meeting.

❖ **Public Comment**

1. Kaliss Y. Salas, CPE1: Commented on CPE1's former principal Monica Garg who was removed for poor leadership after a contentious battle, over several years with CPE1's parent body. It is her understanding that CPE1's former principal is being considered for another position in Harlem after removal from CPE1. Harlem has become a dumpster for poor principals, please be advocates for our children
2. Mark Diller, CB7: Speaking on Land Use Zoning and the construction project planned for the street across from PS 75. HPD is leading the process to tear down building across the street that have long been used as garages. An Environmental Impact Statement needs to be more robust in scope with things that will impact the environment around PS 75. Community Board 7 comments three different times of the year on the city budget and we are open to comments re the operating capital budget; how they are allocated has a lot to do with how people are being served.
3. Melissa Chu, PA Pres., PS 185: Combining 185 with 208, the concern is that with the merger what makes her school special will be watered down.
 - Superintendent Altschul responded that it will not be a new school, there are successful things in both schools that are great.
4. Candace Field, PTA Secretary, PS 185: Uncertain why this was proposed. Enrollment has been increasing.
5. Kenya Dilday, CPE1: Negative remarks about former CPE1 Principal Monica Garg, including that she has the lowest scores.
6. David Vimont, PS/IS 180: Hopes that whichever person is selected as Ps 180 principal is as amazing as Principal Fleming.
 - Member asks who is controlling communication around a controversial potential hire? Superintendent Altschul responded that when a candidate is selected, vetted, approved, she will be.
 - Member Morgan said he will inform community this week that no one has yet been selected as a principal hire for 180.
 - President Watkins assures attendees that everyone here wants the best for their students. What happens to one school affects all.

❖ **Vote**

1. CEC3 FY18 Budget Resolution
 - The CEC3 FY 18 Budget Resolution is read into the record.
 - The Roll Call Vote is called.
 - The CEC3 FY Budget Resolution is approved by unanimous consensus of all Council members present at the time of the vote (8 yes /0 no / 0 abstain.)

❖ **Adjournment 9:13 PM**