



# COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 3

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Daniel Katz  
Declan Saint-Onge, *Student Member*

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

## CSD3 PRESIDENTS' COUNCIL & DISTRICT 3 COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL JOINT CALENDER MEETING MINUTES

Wed. June 21, 2017

6:30 PM

P.S.145 Auditorium

150 W. 105<sup>th</sup> St.

(Approved as amended at the Aug. 9, 2017 Business and Calendar Meeting by all Council members present)

### Calendar Meeting

❖ **Call to Order 7:10 PM**

❖ **Roll Call of Members** Kristen Berger, Manuel Casanova, Joe Fiordaliso, Daniel Katz, Lucas Liu, Dennis Morgan, Vincent Orgera, Kim Watkins (8).

Excused Absence: Noah Gotbaum, PJ Joshi

**DOE Staff:** Ilene Altschul, District 3 Superintendent, DJ Sheppard, District 3 Family Leadership Coordinator

❖ **Approval of Minutes**

1. May 10, 2017 Calendar Meeting Minutes were unanimously approved by all Council members present.
2. June 7, 2017 Special Calendar Meeting were unanimously approved by all Council members present.

❖ **CEC3 President's Report**

- President Fiordaliso recapped the 2015-2017 Council's past year. The successes this year with 191, 199, WESS Capital Improvement, the protest against Success Academy's charter renewal application which was rejected by the Board of Regents, Betsy DeVos and Carl Paladino. The CEC3 Harlem Schools Summit to focus attentions on schools in Harlem and the needs that they face and to ensure excellence in D3 schools from Lincoln Center to 125<sup>th</sup> St., the rezoning that will have impact for a long time. The newly elected 2017-2019 Council will start its' term next month.

1. Proposed Draft Zoning Process Resolution (*on file*)

- i. Council Member Berger said that the zoning process has been discussed for some time at CEC3 Zoning Committee meetings. Member Watkins remarked that the zoning process is about to be restarted in Harlem and that Council has not gotten the data they've requested from the DOE Office of District Planning in light of the fact that changes are going to be discussed for 2018. . CEC3 is calling for the changes in the zoning process, a system that needs to be redressed how it "ought" to run and what the DOE's response "ought" to be.

❖ **Superintendent's Report**

1. Reward Schools: M163, M452, M166, Special Music School, Center School, La Guardia HS
2. Hired a Director of School Renewal- Tracie Benjamin-Van Lierop as the Director of School Renewal for District 3. Tracie will officially begin on July 5th.
3. 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.

4. Tracie's career in education spans over fifteen years and she is also a career changer having spent ten years as a marketing specialist in the music and fashion industries before being accepted into 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.
5. 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
6. Leadership from Bank Street College of Education, and certification from Harvard University's Institute for Superintendents and District Leaders.
7. Superintendent stated that Tracie will be a great support and addition to our District 3 Team as she works to support our Renewal Schools.
8. Kindergarten waitlist:
  - 03M009 – they are at 25 on the waitlist (would be at 15 but 10 new families moved into the zone)
9. Summer school – starts July 5<sup>th</sup> through August 10<sup>th</sup> 8:30-2:30 p.m.
  - Parent workshops will be held every week throughout the summer
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> grade program to support our second graders as they transition to grade 3
10. My Brother's Keeper Grant- working with Literacy Inc. this summer August 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> with Isoke Nia – training for teachers August 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>.
11. Offering other PD for Principals and APs and teachers
  - July 17 and 18- Science Planning for teams of D3 teachers/admin with MFSC
  - July 19 and 20 – SS planning for teams of D3 teachers/admin with MFSC
  - July 26 and 27 – 1:00- 3:00 Strategic Assessment Planning PD with D3 team for Principals/APs
  - August 1<sup>st</sup> – Strengthening our Math Practices for Administrators with D3 team 1:00-3:00
12. Restructuring:
  - Met with SLTs from 165 (discussion around truncation of middle school to strengthen the elementary school), Mott Hall II (discussion to expand the middle school) sessions), 185, 208 (looking at consolidating the two schools into one), Wadleigh, 241 to get feedback and opinions around ideas the Superintendent's team has put forth. These are ideas NOT proposals. If we move ahead with these ideas we need community in-put. They are looking at how to strengthen district as a whole but also how to strengthen individual schools as well. Curriculum and instruction are her top priorities.
    - Member Morgan asks about the feasibility of having a more robust curriculum in the schools. The Superintendent responded that those decisions come from within the school to determine what the curriculum looks like. The Superintendent will support the decision but that power rests with the principal.
    - Question is asked regarding afterschool programs; charter schools have longer days and are able to provide support for after school and are therefore attractive to parents. The Superintendent reported that her team has been looking for an afterschool program to support the 185 & 208 community but objects to comparisons with charter schools. We need to look at strengthening D3 schools to give them a competitive option.
    - President Fiordaliso asks for the Superintendent's commitment to Council that discussions and any decisions will be reached in a collaborative way that includes discussion and input from the Council? Superintendent Altschul: Absolutely. Many of these ideas don't necessarily need CEC vote, however, she wants to work collaboratively to make sure that what they are putting forth is the best decision and has community support.
    - As to how the CEC can participate if it is the DOE and PEP making decisions, the Superintendent responded she sees us as coming to a consensus and that the CEC will be speaking on behalf of the schools they represent.
    - Superintendent Altschul explained that Wadleigh, as a Renewal school, takes children from all over the city.
    - The Superintendent's team is looking at where they can put a stand-alone middle school.

- Asked about 241 STEM and how it will be affected given their small enrollment of 130 and the fact that they don't have the necessary programming to offer, the Superintendent responded that originally, they were looking at consolidating 241 because of low enrollment. They are looking at developing a progressive school that is unzoned bringing in outside zone prospective parents but to roll out a successful school they need more space. There are a lot of unanswered questions which will impact if this idea is put forth.
  - The idea of truncating Wadleigh's middle school because of low enrollment. Working with the Manhattan Borough Arts Office to highlight Wadleigh's arts program. The SLT did not like this idea of truncating its middle school but it has not all been thought out yet.
  - Met with PTA from 165, 185
  - Scheduled to meet with PTA of 241 STEM on June 28<sup>th</sup>
13. Save the dates for next year:
- Middle School Principal Forum is September 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at PS/IS 76
  - Middle School Fair is October 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. at PS 242
  - Elementary School information session with Office of Enrollment – October 24<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ **CSD3 Presidents' Council Business** - none
- ❖ **Old Business**
1. Riverside Center Update and Summer School Changes, Mike Mirisola, SCA.
    - Riverside Center construction is moving along in a timely fashion and Mr. Mirisola fully expects everything to be ready by move-in date. The cafeteria will be ready from day one.
    - He will leave a manager at Riverside Center for about a year to take care of any punch lists.
    - Council question about how the other 3 schools that are moving are faring? Mr. Mirisola said that James DeKelis from Space Planning is working with them.
  2. Chancellor's School Diversity Plan
    - Council will ask next Council to focus in on it and find out how it will be administered. More detail needs to be forthcoming.
      - Member Watkins notes that a District 3 Diversity Plan would be a good idea as the district is in a good position to outline parameters of a diversity plan that should be tackled in the next year.
      - Superintendent Altschul responded that the Chancellor's Diversity Plan is looking at admissions in 2019, not 2018. Her team will be working closely with DOE Deputy Chancellor for Enrollment, Josh Wallack and looking at what enrollment in the district looks like.
  3. Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Plan
    - The Council sent a letter to the NYS Education Commissioner MaryEllen Elia in support of the plan and offering specific comments as what they feel would benefit students. The letter is also posted to [www.cec3.org](http://www.cec3.org).
- ❖ **Public Comment**
1. Theresa Arboleda, CCELL: Thank you to the Council for all their hard work. Thank you to Member Liu for his hard work with the Multilingual Committee and getting the Russian Dual Language Program at 145.
- ❖ **Liaison Reports** – none
- ❖ **Committee Reports**
1. Middle School Committee will be meeting over the summer. More information will be coming in July
  2. The next CEC3 meeting is July 19 Annual, Business and Calendar meeting at MS 54.
    - Superintendent Altschul reported that the Joan of Arc building will be closed over the summer due to construction. Adults only may enter to meet with the Superintendent.
- ❖ **Roll Call Vote**
1. Proposed Zoning Process Resolution is called.
  2. The motion passes

3. The resolution is passed unanimously by all Council members present ( 8 yes / 0 no / 0 abstain).

❖ **Adjournment 8:45 PM**