



COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 3

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Ilene Altschul
District 3 Community Superintendent

Meeting Minutes – Zoning Committee

Thursday, January 14 (9:00 am)

Joan of Arc Complex 154 West 93rd Street

Attendance: 18 members of the community including 3 CEC members, and one elected official representative.

Chair reminded the group that the session was being taped and that to hear recorded podcasts of the Zoning Committee, visit www.spreaker.com/user/8322048.

Chair Updates

- DOE held CEC training for District Planning and Zoning Exercises on December 21, 2015. The following are key take aways:
 - ODP timeline for zoning exercise to be implemented in 2017 includes draft proposal presentation as early as the spring of 2016.
 - Structural or “significant” changes to any school, including grade changes, split siting, building changes, are subject to approval by the Panel for Educational Policy.
- Stakeholder meeting took place in late December at PS191. CEC members Nan Mead and Noah Gotbaum attended on behalf of the CEC, along with DOE leadership, District 3 leadership, PS191 leadership and parents, as well as representatives from elected official offices. Updates will be provided at the CEC meeting on January 20.

Glossary of Terms

Chair Kim Watkins distributed a draft document of terms to define for stakeholders. Discussion of additional terms to define included defining the zoning committee, waiting list, right to return, diversity, A101, and community. Additional input on this document welcome, and it will be on next month's meeting agenda.

2016 Subcommittee Report - Data

Zoning Chair Kim Watkins and Subcommittee Chair Dan Katz met with Office of District Planning on December 17 and received a comprehensive collection of enrollment data for all District 3 schools from the school year 2008/09 through 2015/16.

Note: the Subcommittee on Solutions has not met and will take lead from Stakeholder meetings in the coming weeks.

Spring Forums

Ahead of the official zoning exercise, the Zoning Committee will host two Information Sessions aimed to education the District 3 community about Controlled Choice and All Choice enrollment options

(removing zone lines district wide), as a favored solution among some stakeholders. One session will take place at a school lower in the district, and one in the northern part of the district.

The format of the sessions will be to invite a panel of experts to speak on the different options with a period of public comment/questions afterwards. A number of experts were mentioned as possible participants, including Lisa Donlan from District 1, someone from PS341, District 13, District 7 in the Bronx, Manhattan School for Children founding family. This discussion will continue at the next meeting.

Outreach for Spring Forums

Committee members discussed various ways to reach out to the community once the dates and locations are finalized. Among the obvious methods of dissemination of flyers and using social media, members named CEC3, CSD3 email lists, sending to parent leaders at each school, and to our elected official offices. District 3 public Prek applicants should be targeted.

Other outlets to reach out to, in person with flyers and follow up phone calls include churches, synagogues, community centers, west side media outlets such as DNAInfo, WestSideRag, Harlem Times, etc. Private preschools should also be contacted in earnest, as the children first affected by changes that will be taking place (in 2017) are those who are applying to Prek for 2016.

The meeting adjourned at 10:35 am. Next meeting will be held on Thursday, Feb 4 at 9:00 am at Joan of Arc, 154 West 93 Room 204.