



COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 3

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Vincent Orgera,

Noah Gotbaum
Vacant Seat

Pradnya Joshi
Declan Saint-Onge, Student Member

Daniel Katz

Ilene Altschul
District 3 Community Superintendent

COMMUNITY DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL 3

Wednesday Sept. 14, 2016

6:30 P.M. Business Mtg | 7:00 P.M. Calendar Mtg

Joan of Arc - Auditorium

154 W. 93rd St., New York, NY 10025

(Between Columbus & Amsterdam Avenue)

Calendar Minutes

(Approved at the Dec. 14th, 2016 CEC3. Calendar Meeting)

❖ Call to Order 7:11 PM

- ❖ **Roll Call of Members** Kristen Berger, Manuel Casanova, Joe Fiordaliso, Zoe Foundotos, Noah Gotbaum, PJ Joshi, Daniel Katz, Lucas Liu, Kim Watkins (9). A quorum was reached.
- Excused Absence:** Vincent Orgera

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

❖ Approval of Minutes

- The following three sets of minutes CEC3 Meeting Minutes were approved by unanimous consent of all Council members present (9):
 1. July 20, 2016 Calendar Meeting Minutes - approved
 2. Aug. 17, 2016 Special Calendar Meeting Minutes - approved
 3. Aug. 17, 2016 Calendar Meeting Minutes – approved
- Pres. Fiordaliso recognizes City Council Member Helen Rosenthal.
 - Council Member Rosenthal acknowledges Council and meeting attendees and states she is as anxious as everyone to hear what the DOE has in mind.

❖ President's Report - *deferred*

❖ Superintendent's Report

- Superintendent and her team visited all schools. Asked about staffing, facilities and introduced ourselves to all new District 3 teachers. With the UFT we are holding a New Teacher Meet and Greet on September 28th at 4:00 p.m.
- Continuing discussions and engagement in discussions with principals and the Middle School CEC committee around ways to increase diversity within the middle schools through the admission process. We will not be implementing a low socio-economic target for the 2017 admissions.
- Middle School Principal Forum is September 20th at 6:00 p.m. at PS/IS 76
- Middle School Fair is September 27th at 5:30 p.m. at PS 242
- Working with MFSC to support the parent coordinators and the guidance counselors in increasing their awareness of all middle schools and the process.
- D3 received the Chancellor's Innovation Grant and the focus is to increase teacher pedagogy and student achievement in mathematics.

- i. N Gotbaum: Some districts got grants to initiate programs on diversity?
- ii. Supt. Altschul: It's the Socio-Economic Integration Grant, it was FDA II that received it to work with elementary schools to increase enrollment.

❖ **Department of Education Presentation Draft Zoning Scenarios** (*on file*)

Sarah Turchin, Dir, Analytics, DOE ODP; Nathifa Charles, Asst. Dir. Analytics, DOE ODP:

- Goal to effectively plan for new elementary school in D3
- DOE and CEC3 have been working together
- All current students have the right to remain in their current school
- Grandfathering is supported
- Zoned siblings have first priority to zoned schools
- Scenario A: re-site 191 to 342 / open a new elementary school in 191 building,
 - PS 191, increase in zone size
 - PS 452 increase in zone size
 - PS 199 decrease in zone size
 - PS 87, 9 & 166 – decrease om zone size
- Scenario B: re site 191 to new 342 / re-site 452 to 191 / includes schools in northern portion of district
 - PS 191, increase in zone size
 - PS 452 increase in zone size
 - PS 199 decrease in zone size
 - PS 87, 9 & 166 – decrease om zone size
 - PS 84, 75, 163. 145. 165 increase in zone size
- Potential Scenario “C”
 - PS 191 re-sited to 342
 - New school in 191 building and maintain 452 in M044
 - Includes schools in northern portion of the district
- Timeline: The CEC votes within 45 days of submission of final DOE proposal.

➤ **Council Questions**

- i. J Fiordaliso: If 452 is not re-sited to the 191 building, what measures will be taken to ensure the long-term success of the new school that does into that building?
 - S Turchin: We work very closely with the Superintendent Altschul and there is someone in our office entirely dedicated to opening a new school. We work with the Superintendent to identify a strong leader and creating a sustainable zone size.
- ii. K Watkins: What can you commit to in terms of ensuring that 191 in its new building, is successful?
 - Supt. Altschul: Reaching out to Superintendent of D13 (*in Brooklyn where a rezoning took place*) to see specifically what was done so we can share their practices. Currently, for this year at 191, we are putting a lot of supports in place; they are implementing a new math program, working with the elementary and middle school in mathematics, there is the Spaulding Program, over the school year and the summer teachers have intensive training in reading and working with Teachers College in reading and writing.
- iii. K Watkins: Will schools in Harlem, north of Morningside Park be included.
 - S Turchin: That is something we can address
- iv. PJ Joshi: Scenario A –it's noble to keep in zone students but there are a lot of other students?

- S Turchin: We planned for zoned enrollment , we are still having a conversation with Principal Ryan, if he does increase his in zone enrollment then we can sustainably serve the programs that he has.
- v. L Liu: Between Scenarios A & B, which one provides a longer term solution?
 - S Turchin: We feel both Scenarios are planned for 6 years out.
- vi. D Katz: On the projected demographic tables, it's not based on current enrollment. Current 191 zoned students are 51%, projected new zone is 15-25% but current enrollment at that school is 70%. There is a significant difference between population of designated zone and population that enrolls at the school. Has your office done any analyses of past rezonings of what percentage will actually enroll in school?
 - S Turchin: The goal in creating zone size is that the school will more accurately represent the zone. i.e. 191 does not have the zone size to support the school. The goal is to decrease their zone retention and still support the zone.
- vii. N Gotbaum: Why is a super zone no longer an option? It would implement diversity percentages and give everyone within that zone an equal chance to get into these schools. Why isn't a part of this scenario?
 - S Turchin: It isn't the feedback from the community we have received. If it is something the CEC wants to recommend we can discuss that.

❖ **First Public Comment**

- i. Allen Danzig, 165/185: There is no reason to remove 165 and 185 WEA. . How does DOE determine how many buildings are in an apartment building? Questions DOE analyses of current zone.
- ii. Leah Savitt, 165/185: In both scenarios you have prioritized new residential construction over Lincoln Towers, ignoring our proximity to 199.
- iii. Suzanne Schernwetter 165/185: Rezoning proposal is grossly unfair. The new luxury buildings are being considered over established local community. The new zone does not increase diversity. The proposed zone seems heavily gerrymandered. Central Park West Village is included while 165 and 185 WEA are being obliterated from PS 199 zone.
- iv. Jocelyn Wilk, 165/185: Moving children from 165/185 WEA is inconsistent with the stated goals of the DOE, to increase diversity. Adding 6 luxury building does not increase economic diversity.
- v. Janet Fried, 185: Opposed to rezoning of 199. It shows favoritism to the real estate developers, ensuring that 199 becomes a private school. Social engineering to promote diversity does not work.
- vi. Melissa Shuman, 165/185: The line is drawn through our communities back yard separating 165/185 WEA from Lincoln Towers, yet 6 new luxury buildings, one that is not even built, have been included
- vii. Robert Schernwetter, 165: Supports 165 & 185 and Lincoln Towers community. The proposal splits Lincoln Towers Community. The zone gives preference to the real estate developers.
- viii. Carolyn Kaios, 452: PS 452 is a community; it feels like it has been broken apart. Plan C keeps our community intact.
- ix. Lucy Philips, 452 parent. People like our community school. We need 3 schools, 191, Riverside Center and 452
- x. Robin Krugman, 452: Do not resite 452. It comes at great cost. If moved outside the zone there is no guaranteed success.
- xi. Micheline Tang – 452 parent, Scenario C is the best bang for the buck,

- xii. Gary Laveman, 185: – 185 WEA: No one on Council lives at Lincoln Towers. If your children were affected you'd be outraged. No educational advantage in re-siting. You are saying take children from a high achieving school and move them to a low achieving school. 191 was one of t27 of the “most dangerous” schools in the city. .
 - J Fiordaliso: Council strongly supports 191. To characterize 191 as one of the worst schools in the city is false. 191 is no longer on that list. This council unanimously disagreed with the fact and the manner in which 191 was put on that list. We, since day one have disagreed with the process in which that was done. I am going to stand up and support 191 and every other school in this district.
- xiii. Richard Unis, President 165/185: The DOE made assumptions, made mathematical models and drew lines on maps. It's obvious, given the number of buildings that there are other solutions that will also yield success, maybe with better methods.
Choice is arbitrary. Require an alternative scenario.
- xiv. Alexis Freeman, 452: DOE, please reevaluate the scenarios. .
- xv. Jennifer Kierans, 452 parent, Support scenario C. I encourage you to not include the re-siting of 452.
- xvi. Rebecca Kierevski, 452: Scenario C. Neither A nor B is supportive of 452
- xvii. Mike McCarthy, 452: We are starting to have a dialog. In favor of Plan C
- xviii. Rob Tuchman, 452: Moving 452 doesn't help the overcrowding in the district and it has been shown that it will not increase diversity in the district. Look forward to hearing more about the third scenario.
- xix. Jill Babin, 452: What is the timing of the process? In scenario 3 is there room for 452 to grow?
 - J Fiordaliso: We are learning this today, will huddle and figure out the viability of public hearings. Over the course of the next month we will continue to have a conversation as a community in order to boil it down to one proposal that most people agree with.
 - S Turchin: In Scenario 3, if 452 does stay, we will be having conversations with Principal Parker to create a sustainable plan for 452.
- xx. Michael Wolfeld, 452: Why not maximize seats now when we have a chance to do so, it will keep us from being back here in a couple of years. Keep 452 where it is and open a new school.
- xxi. Andrea Pagliughi, 452: Don't support re-siting. Support scenario that keeps 452 where it is.
- xxii. Hilda Blair, 452: Support re-siting of 452. Faculty and Administration supports move. It's an opportunity for our school. Would like to see 452 offered to more children.
- xxiii. Emily Ramsey, 165/185: How did DOE come to their decision to move zone lines? We get that rezoning has to happen. 199 is my school. 50% of new children from 165/185 are multiethnic. It doesn't make sense and DOE has ignored us.
- xxiv. Seth Lieberman, 165/185: How will DOE improve socio-economic diversity by removing 165 and 185 from 199 from which they are just steps away? Urge CEC to continue advocating for Lincoln Towers Community. Do the right thing
- xxv. Gary Ramsey, 165/185: Several hundred people are on the petition. DOE has not followed up on 2015 Diversity Goal plans. How can you expect us to believe that your diversity intentions are real? We didn't want our community gerrymandered.
 - J Fiordaliso: I have asked DOE through Sarah for 165/185 enrollment numbers. It's important to know how many numbers contribute to the enrollment of 199. When we have it we will share with the community

- xxvi. Elena Notis(?), Principal of 191 from 1996 – 2006. Don't turn your back on the kids who are not rich, not middle class and who are struggling. Bring in a mediator, talk to each other. It has to be a school whose infrastructure, whose timing keeps you coming,
- xxvii. Cathy Kadets, 185: Why haven't Lincoln Towers concerns been addressed in the scenarios? We should at least be acknowledged in the zoning.
- xxviii. S Turchin None of the scenarios focus on the actual lines, we focus on what schools will be in what buildings, what zones will be incorporated. The scenario outlines are on a higher level overview
- xxix. Caroline Gangi, 452 parent: Opposed to re-siting of 452 since it does not resolve overcrowding issue.
- xxx. Jeffery Bourne, 185: its offensive that new buildings will be included and not Lincoln Towers. Don't accept the three scenarios. Vote against them.
- xxxi. Brett Southworth, 452: parent: Scenario C is encouraging. The uncertainty at 452 is unsettling. If you can take the re-siting of 452 off the table it will help our community.
- xxxii. Mark Gonsolves,165/185: Lincoln Towers is a community. The Chancellor said "rezoning has to happen because we talk and listen to everybody."
- xxxiii. Ross Freedman, 452 parent: Have you done post-rezoning? Do the forecasts match the results? Scenario includes luxury high rises that do not address diversity issue. Keep Lincoln Towers together
- xxxiv. Jason Rosenthal, 166 parent. Who wants to be rezoned? We've worked to live in a particular part of the city; we can't pick up and move. You're giving people not time to adjust.
- xxxv. Dan Paretsky, 165/185: Goals are commendable but opposed to rezoning. Lincoln Towers is a community. Don't separate our building. We have 2400 online signatures asking you to not separate our towers. We will submit a FOIL to better understand this plan. You are in violation of the Chancellor's Public Records Regulation we ask that the DOE not accept any plan that splits up Lincoln Towers.
- xxxvi. Eric Wright: How does this affect middle schools? Do we have enough capacity if we have the larger elementary school and out of zone students coming in?
 - Supt. Altschul: We currently have assessed middle school capacity and it is not a concern.
- xxxvii. Hillary Kopple, 303W66: 191 is a focus school. Focus school parents do have a choice to transfer. I don't think we are going to let out students go to a focus school.
- xxxviii. Billie Goldin, 165/85: Does not make sense, to exclude two building from Lincoln Towers while Trump buildings are being included. Include 165 and 185.
- xxxix. Charles Merrill: Teacher and psychologist for 35 years. . What will help students succeed? Proximity is not an issue. If 25% of students in a classroom are having free lunch, that school will not do well. Too many poor students in as school, the school does not do well.
- xl. Kevin Dahil-Fuchel, 165/185: We should use this as an opportunity to come together whatever happens. Good opportunities are coming for children in our community.
- xli. Seth Rosenthal, 303W66: Doesn't make sense to separate Lincoln Towers in favor of new luxury buildings including one that hasn't been built yet. There has to be a better way. 191 appeared as a Focus School this year and I commend the CEC for its' support but change does not happen overnight.
- xlii. Liza Hamilton, parent 199: Woman – It matters how far your school is. This would be life changing for my kids. It doesn't make sense.
- xliii. Victor (?) parent 199: You will break up the community that built the school.

xliv. Audience Question: Does the 3rd Scenario take Lincoln Towers under consideration?

- S Turchin: We will continue working with the CEC and school communities, we will continue having discussions about specific zone lines.

❖ **Old Business**

1. Middle School Admissions

- K Berger reporting: Continue looking diversity issue for the 2018 school year.
- Middle School Committee and the District Office will announce Middle School Tour dates and signup all on same day, Sept. 20th.

2. Zoning Update

- Council consensus decision to go forward with the zoning public hearing at 191 on Saturday.
- Recommendation on behalf of Presidents' Council by K Keiger to keep the zoning public hearing as PS 87 in order to hear from other schools that are affected.
- Clarify in reminder notices that over course of the two meetings individual can speak only at one of the meetings.

❖ **Committee Reports** - *none*

❖ **Liaison Reports** – *none*

❖ **Second Public Comment** – *none*

❖ **Adjournment 9:37 PM**