



# COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 3

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## CEC3 High School Admissions Committee Meeting Minutes

January 17, 2019, 9:00 a.m.  
Joan of Arc, Rm 204  
154 W. 93rd Street

❖ *Attendance: Jean Moreland, CEC3 High School Admissions Committee Chair, Kim Watkins, CEC3 President, Kristen Berger, CEC3 Vice President, Sharmilee Ramudit, CEC3 Member, Deirdre Garrett-Scott, CEC3 Member, Mark Diller from Community Board 7, and 16 community members*

### 1. Updates:

1. Meeting with Frank McCourt after this meeting today to learn more about their CUNY College Now format, the chances that they can/want to expand. Also working on a meeting with the principal of Manhattan Hunter Science High School.
2. Christa McAuliffe lawsuit against DOE changes to Discovery program: Request for court to make a decision about the injunction by February 25 so that it does not significantly delay admissions offer timeline.
3. Letter to elected officials: smaller committee working group has been going over the data and letter that Sharon Just compiled. All the date updates are not available yet today. This data and detailed analysis would be backup to the “asks” we want to make of elected officials. They need more of a summary document. Chris Giordano created a summary letter, and Jean a talking points document of the main points (new high-quality high school seats needed). After discussion, it’s doubtful that CEC would sign off on the language of the letter. It would most likely need to be signed off by parents. There was not consensus in the group of the tone of the letter. Although all parents seem to feel strongly about the need for additional seats, there is not agreement on the mayor’s proposal.

### 2. CEC3 Draft Resolution

1. Read through the new draft resolution and committee members gave detailed comments and concerns. Full council to vote on the resolution at the January 23 CEC3 calendar meeting.
  - i. Concern that the proposal could undercut the work we are doing as a district with middle school diversity in admissions.
  - ii. There should be emphasis on the small number of seats citywide that have access to at least 5 of these AP STEM classes (Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Calculus AB, Calculus BC). Use STEAM, instead of STEM as that term doesn’t lose site of the Arts. We don’t want to forget that strict STEM is not for everyone and the arts are very important.
  - iii. Ask for 5000 seats with access to this STEAM curriculum. We want in District 3, but really just needs to be in reasonable commuting distance. DOE’s definition of reasonable is not reasonable, debate over how to phrase this. Discussion about whether we should ask for a particular format for these seats (i.e. 1, 2, 3 schools,

mention closing underperforming schools etc.). Decision to focus on access to “seats”. with AP curriculum, rather than “schools”

- iv. Ask to remove all district priorities citywide or convert to borough priorities?
- v. Add benefits of integration
- vi. Jean will incorporate the discussion points and send around another draft for review before the January 23rd meeting.