



COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 3

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COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 3

Zoning Meeting

DRAFT

Friday May 1, 2015

9:00 AM

Joan of Arc Building Room 204
154 W. 93rd St., New York, NY 10025
(Between Columbus & Amsterdam Avenue)

Call to Order and Introductions

Attendees gave their affiliation and purpose for coming
Albery Melo from the Office of District Planning spoke about being available for questions and would be liaising with DOE for information, she replaced Kia Higgins and works with Sarah Turchin who arrived later.

Many waitlisted PS 199 parents were in attendance hoping to resolve their concern for going to their zoned school.

Review of Kindergarten Connect Data

1) Northern District Zoning Issues

Data shows that applicants for K declined and that seats exceed applicants. Is it worth considering combining two northern district schools and moving their respective co-locating charters into one school. There's currently not a lot of space in 241, yet a Russian dual language school is looking for space in D3, specifically in 241.

Capacity statistics based on last year's blue book were circulated.

2) Middle District Issues

PS 75 parents expressed that while they have many out-of-district families who attend their dual language program, they would like to expand their zone to fill their seats.

3) District-wide zoning discussion

Discussion on out-of zoned families taking middle school seats, priority should go to residents.

Early registration at PS 166 shows that they might need to add a 6th kindergarten class. Suggestion was raised that maybe the G&T program at 166 should be phased out.

Opening a new G&T in the northern part of the district would attract families to fill their seats, although the G&T program at 165 is under-enrolled.

Anderson parent argued that there aren't enough G&T seats in D3. PS 9 is still angry that its G&T was removed.

Discussion of Extra K classes Added at 9 and 87 and Overcrowding at Southern End

Parents do not want to go back to the days of 8 and 9 K classes, kids don't get enough gym, music or art. Bubble classes aren't a one-year issue.

Discussion turned to Sarah Turchin from DOE who confirmed that PS 342 would not open until 2018.

Ira M. gave a brief history of how PS 452 was created from the overflow at 87 and 199. He and Mark D. advised that the developer would push back against adding seats in 342. The total seats has shifted from 475 to 692 and is now back to 500.

In order for zoning changes to go into effect for Fall 2016, we would need to submit everything for approval by November 2015 which was deemed unrealistic with new CEC. Still, all agreed that timing was of the essence.

Discussion of combining the zone and having 342 a K-2 school and 191 a 3-5 or something similar. Superintendent Eileen Altschul expressed her lack of approval for this idea. It's too difficult shifting a 2nd grade to a new school for 3rd grade. The adjustment is too much.

Suggestion of phasing out 191's middle school was raised to allow for more elementary seats, a possible G&T or dual language program. Eileen A. confirmed that we have excess middle school seats with WESS opening in the Fall.

Other Discussion

Suggestions of how to promote schools was raised, ideas were shared.

Closing

Next Meeting was set for May 28th at 6:30 pm at PS 191 on West 61st Street. Meeting adjourned at 11:00.