



# COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 3

154 West 93<sup>rd</sup> Street New York, New York 10025 - Room 204 Tel (212) 678-2782 Fax (212) 678-2804 Email: CEC3@schools.nyc.gov

Joseph A. Fiordaliso  
**President**

Nan Eileen Mead  
**First Vice President**

Zoe G. Foundotos  
**Second Vice President**

Kristen Berger  
**Secretary**

Kimberly Watkins  
**Treasurer**

**Council Members:** Noah Gotbaum Theresa L.C. Hammonds Pradnya Joshi Daniel Katz  
Lucas Liu Vacant, *ELL Member* Vacant, *Student Member*

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

## DISTRICT 3 COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL Business Meeting MINUTES

Thursday September 10, 2015

6:30 PM

Joan of Arc Complex  
154 W. 93<sup>rd</sup> St.

Unanimously Approved by the Council Members Present (9-0) at October 14<sup>th</sup>,  
Business Meeting

### 1. Meeting Called To Order – 6: 32 p.m.

### 2. Roll Call

**Present:** Kristen Berger, Joseph Fiordaliso, Zoe Foundotos, Noah Gotbaum, Theresa Hammonds, P.J. Joshi, Daniel Katz, Lucas Liu and Kimberly Watkins. A quorum was present.

**Excused Absence:** Nan Mead

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

### 3. Approval of Minutes

The August 19, 2015 Minutes were approved by a unanimous consensus of the Council Members present.

### 4. President's Report

- a. Summary of city-wide CEC presidents meeting with Chancellor Farina 9/22/15
  - i. Chancellor Farina discussed her intent to make all superintendents more accountable. CEC 3 council president raised concern that we have not received any feedback or acknowledgement on the superintendent evaluations we submitted over the last two years. Chancellor Farina committed that there will be follow up on these reports.
  - ii. Summary of Presentation by Tom Taratko, Chief Executive of Space Management, made 9/22 to CEC presidents meeting  
Mr.Taranko reported that his department has teams working on co-locations of all kinds and they can be dispatched to co-located schools to investigate issues of concern. His office has some latitude to mediate issues in co-located schools.
  - iii. Renewal Schools CEC President questioned the Chancellor on the impact of new principals in the two Renewal schools in District 3. The Chancellor

saw the new principals as an opportunity for the schools. Superintendent Altschul commented that both Renewal schools in the district have met their benchmarks. Superintendent Altschul to look into it and clarify whether the Renewal School program is two or three years long.

- b. Appointment of Lucas Liu as Chair of CEC 3 Multilingual Committee- approved by unanimous consensus of Council members present

## 5. Superintendent's Report

- a. Introduction of Dr. Evelyn Lolis, Interim Acting Principal at 03M084
- b. Introduction of Tracy McClaire, CSD3 Family Support Coordinator
- c. 1<sup>st</sup> day of school Superintendent Altschul visited all D3 schools. Mayor DeBlasio held a press conference at PS 9
- d. Principals Meeting
  - i. First Principals Meeting for the year was on 9/3 and principals developed Triad Inquiry groups
  - ii. Principals PD Focus Group will be on 9/16 to ensure safe learning environments for all students, this will be attended by Frank Jordan, the Borough Safety Director
  - iii. By 9/11 all principals in D3 have been trained in safety procedures and emergency preparedness
- e. Upcoming events: CSD Middle School Fair 9/30, HS Articulation Presentations on 10/3, Middle School Principals Forum 10/8/15
- f. School Renewal
  - i. Extended learning time: Wadley has partnered with Teachers College and PS/MS 149 has partnered with Harlem Children's Zone
  - ii. FDA II has been awarded NYS Socio-economic integration grant
  - iii. Noted by Council Member Gotbaum that FDA II is a priority school (not a renewal school), Superintendent Altschul says that the principal is confident that FDAII will be off that list when they are reevaluated. There will be a hearing about the designation. When asked about a specific improvement plan to remove FDAII from the list, Supt commented that the District "renewal" person was spending time at the school.
- g. Council president Fiordaliso questioned if all principals have been trained in safety procedures does that mean that all principals will be responsible directly for preparing and filing incident reports? Superintendent Altschul stated that principals can designate someone to enter incident reports but ultimately it is the principals' responsibility. Superintendent will be proving the name of person responsible in each school for preparing the incident report. The designees will receive training if they were not trained as principal designees.
- h. Asked how many Kindergarten students per class in PS 452, 20 & 21 K students per class
- i. Superintendent does not anticipate any additional changes to principals in the fall.

## 6. Old Business

- a. AA Transition Update
  - i. Mary Kane is no longer serving as the AA for CSD3 CEC. CEC President Fiordaliso was informed by FACE that the position cannot be posted until M Kane is officially dropped from the HR computer from the AA position.

- ii. Working Group to hire a new Administrative Assistant consists of: Joe Fiordaliso, Nan Mead, Theresa Hammonds and Noah Gotbaum. Kristen Berger will serve as additional member if need be.
- b. Town Hall with Chancellor Fariña Update
  - i. October 28<sup>th</sup> 2017, 6:30 pm has been confirmed for the Town Hall, PS 191 is the tentative venue awaiting approval.
  - ii. The Chancellor will only be at the town Hall for one hour and the council strives to maximize this time.
  - iii. Discussion of last town halls structure and details were made available. Council will retain some aspects of that structure. Council to discuss priority issues and question format within two weeks to allow enough time to advertise the event.
  - iv. Council asked to have summary of last Town Hall posted to CEC 3 website.
- c. ELL Position / High School Member Update
 

Needs continued outreach. DJ recently sent out additional solicitation for High School Member to area High Schools.
- d. District 3 Meet and Greet Planning
 

Meet and Greet October 14<sup>th</sup> at Joan of Arc. This event is only one hour long and the council agrees that it should focus on networking. The program will consist of brief introductions by Superintendent, CEC president and the Presidents Council and the rest of the time will be for networking.
- e. PS 191 Update
  - i. Council Member Gotbaum, PS 191 school liaison, read out a letter on behalf of the PS 191 PTA,(on file) noted that Gail Brewer and Linda Rosenthal have both submitted FOIA requests for additional data about the PDS designation. Update from 191 PTA states that: effective 9/8/15 school remains on PDS list, as of Aug 24 2015 Deputy Chancellor Rose stated that State Ed Department would not entertain an appeal to be removed from the PDS list until next year and an internal audit shows that the school index is too high to warrant a review. A form letter from the school was sent to all parents informing them on Aug 24 that the school is on the PDS list.
  - ii. Superintendent has still not received information on where NCLB seats will be yet, she will request again on behalf on CEC3.
  - iii. Council agrees to support PS 191 in bolstering their reputation. The problems points to systemic problem with reporting incidents at schools. NYS Comptroller audited that state system and overwhelmingly questioned states ability to properly train staff in this system, NYC was not in the audit. Council should request that the city comptroller's office conduct an audit on the PDS reporting process.
  - iv. Full support to write resolution on this topic. Subcommittee to write resolution: Kim Watkins, Noah Gotbaum, Joe Fiordaliso.
- f. PS199 Update- Nan Mead, school liaison sent letter in her absence.
  - i. PS 199 PTA met w deputy Chancellor Rose where PTA expressed concerns about total enrollment and class size (27 kids in each of the 7 kindergartens). SLT presented to Deputy Chancellor Rose trend line on how if this continues they will lose cluster rooms & questioned how this model is sustainable.
  - ii. Update on placement of student on 199 who were still on waitlist as of last council meeting 8/19: 24 students received offers for seats at PS 452 and

10 accepted and 5 received offer to PS 87. Council member Theresa Hammonds asked to find out where all the families who were on the waitlist and not placed within our district schools have gone? Superintendent Altschul does not have that information but we can perhaps office of student enrollment knows..

- g. Strategic Plan Discussion
  - i. Will update and work on collaboratively. Current Strategic Plan to be shared as google doc for feedback from council members. Should be posted soon and council will take time to ensure thoughtful process, perhaps a month or two.

## **7. New Business**

- a. Budget Update & Collection of Activity/Reimbursement Forms- turned into Kim Watkins
- b. Council Response to FACE Survey – Joe Fiordaliso
  - Granted extension from FACE to complete survey, will use current reflections in strategic plan and chancellors memo to provide answers.
- c. Middle School NEST Program Discussion – introduced by Council member P.J. Joshi
  - i. i. Only 3 elementary schools in Manhattan (LES, UWS, & D4) for student on Autism spectrum and only one Middle School in the borough (119<sup>th</sup> street). As the PS 75 NEST population ages we should start planning for how we will meet their needs so that our students attending D3 schools will have a place to go.
  - ii. ii. The incentive for a middle school to start a NEST program within their school is that they will have very highly qualified teachers who then share strategies with whole school. There is a wider student population, not just those in need of services who may be attracted by the program.
  - iii. iii. Superintendent Altschul believes there is space in the district middle school, she will start conversation w one to two principals and then go to district planning.
- d. NYS Regents 9/16 vote on Teacher Evaluation System- introduced by Council Member Daniel Katz
  - i. i. CEC to send letter urging Regent Bendit to vote no on making current teacher and principal evaluation systems, which are overly reliant on standardized testing, permanent. D Katz to draft and circulate to Council for approval
- e. School Liaison visit protocol-
  - Experienced council members shared that it is currently done in an ad hoc manner. CEC 3 formalized school liaison reporting into business meetings last year. To be further discussed in Strategic Planning process.

**The Business Meeting was adjourned at 8:44pm**

*Submitted by Kristen Berger, Secretary, CEC 3*