



# COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 3

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Joseph A. Fiordaliso  
**President**

Vacant  
**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 Vincent Orgera, *ELL Member* Vacant, *Student Member*

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

## COMMUNITY DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL 3

Wednesday July 20, 2016  
**6:00 P.M. Business Meeting | 6:30 P.M. Calendar Meeting**  
PS 75 Auditorium  
735 WEA, NY, New York, NY 10025  
(Between 95/96<sup>th</sup> St.)

### Calendar Minutes

*Approved at the Sept. 14, 2016 CEC3 Business Calendar Meeting*

#### ❖ **Call to Order 7:05 PM**

- ❖ **Roll Call of Members:** Kristen Berger, Joe Fiordaliso, Zoe Foundotos, PJ Joshi, Daniel Katz, Lucas Liu, Vincent Orgera, Kim Watkins  
Later Arrival Theresa Hammonds 7:50 PM  
**Excused Absence:** Noah Gotbaum

**DOE:** Ilene Altschul, D3 Superintendent, DJ Sheppard, D3 Family Advocate

#### ❖ **Approval of Minutes**

1. June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Calendar Meeting Minutes were approved unanimously by Council members present (8).

#### ❖ **Election of First VP**

1. For remainder of term which runs through June 20 2017.
  - Nominations: Member Z Foundotos nominates CEC3 Treasurer Kim Watkins, seconded by Member PJ Joshi. Kim Watkins accepts the nomination. No other nominations. Nominations closed.
  - Kim Watkins speaks about her qualifications
  - President Fiordaliso calls the question
  - **Roll Call Vote 1:** 8-0. Kim Watkins elected CEC3 First VP
- a) Nominations for CEC3 Treasurer: Member PJ Joshi nominates Lucas Liu, seconded by Member Vincent Orgera. Lucas Liu accepts the nomination. No other nominations. Nominations closed
  - Lucas Liu hopes to aspire to do as good a job as Kim Watkins
  - President Fiordaliso calls the question
  - **Roll Call Vote 2:** 8-0. Lucas Liu elected CEC3 Treasurer.

#### ❖ **Presidents Report** – deferred

#### ❖ **Superintendent Report**

- There are no new principals this year
- Still meeting with Principal Diversity Task force to determine action plan to increase diversity. Will report at the August meeting
- **Summer School**
  1. MS 54- 73 students
  2. PS 163- 125 students

3. PS/IS 76 120 students
4. FDAII/Wadleigh 330 students

- Offering weekly parent workshops on topics such as understanding the Summer School curriculum, what to expect in Summer School, Summer resources, social media, preparing your child for the next grade level, computer class
- PS 9 is the recipient of the \$25,000 Elizabeth Rohatyn Prize for Schools Where Teaching Matters
- 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. The Fair is early but actual admissions process starts mid-winter.

❖ **DOE Presentation of Zone Map Scenarios by Sarah Turchin and Natifah Charles (*on file*)**

- CEC grandfathering applies. Zoned students stay in their school. In-zone siblings have priority.
- Assessment of zone size includes: how many full size rooms, number of seats, administrative spaces needed, specialty instructional classrooms, number of students anticipated both inside and outside the zone.
- Slight change made to the map taking into account Principal comments Change: a block was moved into 199 zone.
- Scenario A impact on zone size: decrease zones PS 199, 87, 9, 166; increase zone size of PS 191, 452, and new school.
- Scenario B: 452 resited to 191 and 191 moves to new building. 191, 199 zones, same as in previous scenario. Support higher zone enrollment in northern part of D3.
- Overview of rezoning process and timeline: Scenario A: resite 191 to new school  
Scenario B: Open a new elementary school in 191 building. Scenario B(a): resite 452 to 191 building.
- 452 family who does not want to commute, and is on waitlist, overflow site historically has been 191. ODP tries to find space in given school. Current zone size is number of K residents in given zone, not number of K students.
- No decision has been made at this point on use of O'Shea space should resiting take place.
- If 452 resited, it will allow for northern part of district 3 to cascade down to alleviate overcrowding in middle and southern portion of district. Also looking into including a portion of northern zone in Scenario A. Loss of seats in O'Shea building would trigger need for rezoning further north.

❖ **First Public Comment**

*\*The Public Comment Sign-in sheet was lost, full names are noted where possible \**

- i. Melissa Schuman: Opposed to rezoning of Lincoln Towers. City is playing catchup for poor planning. Make available DOE plans for rezoning before rezoning starts.
- ii. ?: Keep 452 where it is. Does not want to be uprooted from their school. They are a community of engaged parents.
- iii. Hilda ?, parent at 452: Supportive of resiting of 452. Sees all the benefits and faculty and administration of 452 are supportive of it. The benefit of having own building out-weighs the drawbacks.
- iv. Ross Friedman (?): New parent looking forward to enrolling son in same school his neighbor went to generations ago. Lincoln Towers and PS 199 are a community
- v. Jason Rosenthal, parent at 166: Proposal is focused on the southern portion of District 3; many parents would have made different choices had they known this zoning had been known. Not adequate enough time to consider. A vote in October or November does not give parents adequate time. Timing needs to be more well thought out.
- vi. Kristen Kerns Jordan, no affiliation: In favor of resiting 452. Commends CEC for tackling segregation in district. Urges all involved to look beyond current zoning to something that allocates school seats.
- vii. Amaya Gellman (?), parent at PS75: There has to be a way for Title 1 schools to retain equity and Title 1 status. Rezoning is not going to help the equity issues in those schools.
- viii. Chris Parkman, parent of 4<sup>th</sup> grader at PS 75: Both plans promote diversity but they don't create real racial equity. We need a plan that does that. He has distributed plan to Council and DOE that is a comprehensive plan that covers district wide diversity.

- ix. Mark Diller, CB7: Reducing target number of sustainable K sections from 14 to 12 or 13 won't work, 15 or 16 seems more correct, 14 seems like a compromise. Projections of Diversity assume the same utilization rate in the district but once some of these changes are made the appetite for private school might change. Playing whack-a-mole with zones lines is not the way to create sustainable diversity.
- a. Sarah Turchin: We included the schools in the northern part of the district in Scenario B is because we are losing those sections. We are shifting all the way north because we need to shift some of those numbers to the northern part of the district.
  - b. Pres Fiordaliso: Request to ODP for algorithm that will show net gain in sections.
- x. Dave Gores: There is an enormous downside to a one mile commute. Move a school farther away and kids no longer want to walk, it contributes to obesity. Do not move forward with either proposal.
- xi. Beate, parent of 2<sup>nd</sup> grader: In favor of resiting and extending rezoning to northern part of district. Would like to see controlled choice and in favor of more ambitious plan.
- xii. Lauri Falchi, with Education Equity of D3: District wide solution is necessary. We can make a district wide policy of controlled choice.
- xiii. Jennifer Kirens, parent at PS452: For Scenario A, keeping it all intact adds additional seats that a new school would provide.
- xiv. Robert Tuchman, parent of 2 at PS452: Both scenarios accomplish the goal but one is disruptive. The least disruptive option to district is to open a new school. Can 452 students enroll in their newly zoned school if resiting happens?
- a. Sarah Turchin: Yes, if there is space. If there is no space they will be located wherever there is space taking geography into account
- xv. Michael Walfeld, parent of 1<sup>st</sup> grader at 452: Both proposals add to diversity. No reason to move 452.
- xvi. Jessica Handlelman: Urges Council to support Scenario B. She lives near 199. Move 452 down, help to diversity zones.
- xvii. Robin Marinel: What are statistics on how many people are traveling from outside these school zones and does it take into account GnT.
- xviii. a. Sarah Turchin: The proposals take into account 2 sections of GnT.
- xix. Will ?: Pro new school scenario.
- xx. Jill ?: Request for sharing of enrollment dates, i.e. what are the stats of current vs future capacity of 452 enrollments? What are the implications of families who won't come to new school should 452 be resited
- a. Pres. Fiordaliso: As data becomes available from DOE it will be posted on the CEC3.org website.
- xxi. Zak ?: How committed is CEC3 to doing something in 2017 school year? Which school would go where?
- a. Sarah Turchin: If 452 is resited and zoning implemented in 2017, they can start in their current space for just 1 year and if there's a new school, that is something we're fleshing out with the CEC and Superintendent but those students would probably be rezoned to 191 for one year and then to the new school when it opens.
  - b. Pres. Fiordaliso: CEC is committed to getting something done ASAP.

## ❖ Old Business

### 1. Middle School Admissions

- Middle School Committee meeting of June 27<sup>th</sup> had 96 people in attendance. They continue to work on streamlining Middle School Fall tours, publishing on same date so all families can be aware of options.
- D3 Superintendent addressed low economic status in middle schools re increasing diversity across the district with the addition of target numbers. Middle School principals are looking at implementation of 30% target re 2017-2018 school year and Middle School Committee requests the information be made public before Middle School Fair in September so that families know what they are looking at.
- 21 speakers at the meeting, most noted a lack of diversity in D3 middle schools and supported an increase in diversity but are concerned about how that would be implemented. Primary area of concern is rush to implementation. Parents request more information on targets.
- Concern there will be fewer seats for low economic students and that standards might drop.
- Next meeting Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 PM.
- Member K Watkins noted that D13 in Brooklyn recognized segregation as a problem in their district, applied for and were awarded a grant from NY State to help diversify their schools; suggests employing something along those line. D13 chose middle schools

because they don't have catchment zones, same as D3. D2 is also starting a diversity group. What is the impact of proposed change on middle schools? D3 Superintendent response is that currently there are 4-5 schools that take middle school students and are below 30% target. They are taking feedback into account and looking at different possible solutions to slowly start to make shift in admission policy. 30% is inclusive of students with disabilities. IEP students will get the same access as all students.

- Title 1 schools that are above the 60% mark will not lose their Title 1 funding.

❖ **Committee Reports** – none

❖ **Liaison Reports** – none

❖ **Second Public Comments**

- i. Katie Miller, parent of PS194 PS87 and MS 54 students: Do these proposals take away choice? Children should be able to go to schools that suit their needs.
- ii. Barbara Denham: Are there budgets to accommodate special needs students at these schools?
  - a) D3 Superintendent: Budgets are accommodated to make sure all IEP students are covered as well as students with physical handicaps. As well, any child with a physical handicap would be placed in a barrier free school.
- iii. Eric Shuffler, elementary and middle school parent: This seems to come down to forced placement. If school doesn't get required number of applicants in order to meet that number, what happens? If DOE places certain number of school kids in a school to meet target, how does it serve the school and the kids?
  - a) D3 Superintendent: That is part of the discussion we are having around those numbers. We are analyzing enrollment data; there are plenty of students who are eligible.
- iv. William Hass, parent of two children at PS 87: How do the mechanics work for LES targets? We have a timeline for zoning but no real data, we need data prior to meeting so we can analyze.
  - a) D3 Superintendent: Rezoning, resiting have a formal timeline. There is no formal voting/approval process for a district initiative and no formal timeline that is why we engage with the community. Zoning data comes from a different entity. We have requested data from the Office of Enrollment around application data and appeal data but they can't provide that until the end of the summer. It is a citywide initiative that all schools were going to increase their seats for students with disabilities. There was a huge inequity in our district schools with some schools have many more students with disabilities than others. Our district numbers were analyzed and a district average was assessed. We want to meet the needs of all of our students and address the huge inequities.
- v. Bev: Sounds like the decision has been made to do this and the only thing under discussion is the target?
  - a) D3 Superintendent: This is really under discussion. The district leaders are on board to do something but what's going to be implemented is under discussion. We are looking at all of options and looking to see what is the best solution.

❖ **Council Business**

1. CEC3 FY 17 Budget and Resolution (*on file*)

- Draft Budget Resolution to Approve the FY17 Budget read into the record subject to Council review and approval.
- Member PJ Joshi makes a motion to amend the FY17 budget by increasing the Childcare line item \$1000 by reducing Member Reimbursement line item by \$1000. Council discussion ensues and Council agreement is reached on increasing Childcare line item (+)\$500 and reducing Member Reimbursement line item (-)\$500.
- Amendment to FY17 Budget Resolution is approved as amended by all Council member present subject to Council approval and review at July 20<sup>th</sup> 2016 Calendar meeting,

❖ **ROLL CALL VOTE** on Draft Budget Resolution as Amended:

- Resolution approved by unanimous vote of all Council members present at time of vote 9-0. Motion passes, budget passes.

❖ **Adjournment 9:02 PM**