



COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 3

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

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Ilene Altschul
District 3 Community Superintendent

CEC3

Calendar Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 13, 2018, 7:00 PM

P.S.87 – Auditorium, 160 W. 78TH St., NYC 10023

Calendar Meeting

- ❖ **Call to Order 6:50 PM**
- ❖ **Roll Call of Members** Kristen Berger, Manuel Casanova, Inyanga Collins, Daniel Katz, Lucas Liu, Mike McCarthy, Genisha Metcalf, Jean Moreland, Dennis Morgan, Jane Sun, Kim Watkins
DOE Staff: Ilene Altschul, D3 Superintendent
- ❖ **Approval of Minutes**
 1. Dec. 13, Calendar Meeting Minutes – tabled due to corrections. Will be presented at meeting of Mar. 20.
- ❖ **Superintendent's Report**
 - M185/M208 proposal passed at PEP. The transition team will be meeting after February break.
 - M165/M862 proposal passed at PEP. Applications go out on 3/12 due 3/27, 2 info sessions at school with office of enrollment and my staff.
 - All higher performing schools and non-renewal will be offered (all MS and K-8)
 - Except MS 149, WESS and Center school will not be options.
 - January 26th Legislative Breakfast – Thank you to the CEC.
 - March 1st NYS testing workshop at 6:00 p.m. at JOA
 - Wadleigh proposal- PEP moved to April 25th. Posting will be on or before March 2nd. Letter was sent home today.
 - Council asked if there would be any opportunity to express concerns before the proposal. Superintendent Altschul said emails could be sent to d3feedback@schools.nyc.gov and once the proposal is released, there will be a specific email address to which to send comments. There would also be additional opportunities to express concerns before the PEP, there will be community meetings but she doesn't have the dates of meetings yet. The Joint Public Hearing would be sometime between end of March and April.
 - Council asked if there could be any flexibility with when the meetings are scheduled. Superintendent Altschul said that the meetings are scheduled way in advance and involve more than one school and more than one borough so there is no flexibility.
 - My Brother's Keeper- at NY Historical Society with the PCs will include opportunities to bring parent leaders.
 - Middle School admissions for 2019-2020
 - School survey period has opened and runs from February 12th will close on March 23rd.
 - State Accountability:
 - Focus schools- M191, M149, M145- M256- Lafayette academy came off the focus school list
 - Reward Schools- M163, M199, M243, Special Music
 - All other schools are in good standing
 - Council member had a follow-up questions re making sure that there are age appropriate bathrooms included when 185/208 consolidation occurs.
 - Supt. Altschul responded that Jim Kellis, DOE Space Planning, will be meeting with the school and they will identify space for new bathrooms. It has preliminarily been determined that the 185 side is best suited. The other side is shared with Harlem Link. Bathrooms will not be built in the hallway.

Council member said that it was his understanding that they prefer to take over the larger side of building and that the school that has the auditorium is the schools that has the space. It seems shortsighted not to give our school primary control of the building. Giving Harlem Link the larger space gives them room to grow.

- Supt Altschul said that she hadn't heard that but that she will reach out and discuss it further. She is open to discussion but Harlem Link is actually getting less space.
- What is happening with the idea of a progressive school in Harlem? PS241? Supt. Altschul said they are looking to unzone the area with priority given to students in Harlem. She and Tracy Benjamin Van-Lierop, Renewals School Director, met with UFT and SLT, to discuss what is progressive education> We want community families who might want to build a new school. We also need to see what happens with Opportunity Charter School. We are not going to move on this school if we can only build one section per grade. We need to know if we have the space before we proceed. It could take 5-6 years to build the school. PS180 zone – families go to that school. PS241 zone – families don't go to that school.
 - 241 will be on the agenda at the next meeting.
- If people are being turned away from PS180, why not use that school rather than a small school which will take longer to build up?
 - 180 is doing well and thriving. Schools we take out of zone will be able to accommodate all of their in-zone? Parents are not choosing 241. We can start rebuilding so that more people will go. It is an option.

❖ **SCA Proposed 5 year Capital Projects Presentation (on file) : Michael Mirisola (External Affairs Director) and Steven Tuozzolo (Project Support Manager)**

- The 2015-2019 Capital Plan Proposed Amendment was presented. Every year public school buildings are assessed:.15.5B was budgeted last year, 16.5B was proposed November 2017 Amendment which includes the main program increases:
 - Pre-K Program (\$74m)
 - Replacement Funding (\$145m)
 - New Capacity (\$320m)
 - Universal Physical Education Initiatives (\$105.5m)
 - City Council and Borough President Funding (\$267.5m)
 - DCAS ACE Program (\$25m)
- Capital Investment is 40% or \$6.6B
 - Capital improvement projects accounts for the bulk of the work
- Capacity Projects are 39% or \$6.5B
 - New Capacity funds over 44,700 seats / Pre-K initiatives funds nearly 8,800 new pre-K seats / Class Size Reduction / Facility Replacement
- Mandated Programs are \$3.4B or 21%
- District 3 Seat Need - funded: 692. PS 191 – the Riverside School
- There were 76 capital improvement projects such as: auditorium upgrade, boiler conversion, electrical systems, gymnasium upgrade, playground redevelopment, etc.
 - The Council requested a table with actual D3 schools and projects
- Discussion on specific D3 schools:
 1. PS 118 – Exterior modification
 2. PS191- the boiler was repaired and is running
 3. PS145 & PS2 41 – new boiler installation is complete, awaiting Con Ed to complete hook-up
 4. PS 149 – Success Academy installed an astro-turf field next to the 149 playground. It is improperly installed and has to be removed. 149 will have to replace it.
 5. WESS – kitchen completion by Feb. 2019. It was delayed because problems were found that need to be corrected. Everything else is running on schedule. They will remove existing old science tables. WESS roof will be done next summer
 6. PS 165 will get a new roof. PS 65 undergoing exterior modification
 7. MS 54 – Courtyard, Step Renovation & Ramp new construction, Flag Pole Replacement

8. PS 75 – Boiler conversion and SCA meeting with Principal O’Brian re garden conversion.
9. PS 84 – Was redesigned. Roof green garden project for interior court is ready to go.
10. PS 452@M191 - Library room conversion
 - Resolution A Projects
 1. PS 163 – Science lab upgrade
 2. PS 75 School play yard renovations & upgrades
 3. PS 452@M191 – library upgrade

❖ **Public Comment**

1. Mark Diller, CB7: In regard to boiler/burner conversion, are you done with #6 and issue now is converting from #4 to #2? That’s huge, because #6 has more particulate matter in the air. City buildings have until 2030 to make a conversion. In respect to WESS, \$54m, is that net addition or total? Mr. Mirisola has to find out. You have scheduled 44,700 seats, are you going to make that total? Mr. Mirisola said that is what they have funding for but some will still be in construction. The money will carry into next capital funding. There are another 38,000 seats needed.
2. Cordell Cleare: Follow-up question on PS149. If the charter school put in a condition that is a hazard, why aren’t they asked to remove it? Mr. Mirisola said he doesn’t know any of the particulars about that job, they will follow-up. A number of things could have occurred and he doesn’t want to hazard a guess. Mr. Tuozzolo has to be in the area tomorrow and will take some pictures.

❖ **Old Business**

❖ **New Business**

❖ **Liaison Reports**

1. Wadleigh – Wadleigh held a rally against the proposed truncation of its’ middle school. There is a commitment by school leadership and community to keep school open, it is an engaged community of parents and school leadership. Scoot Stringer shared his concerns for how funding for the renewal schools have been allocated thus far.
2. P.S. 149 – The other renewal school in our district. Members McCarthy and Casanova visited and want to make sure 140 is not put in the same situation as Wadleigh. They share the space with Success Academy and Harlem Children’s Zone.

Committee Reports

1. Excellence & Equity, Genisha Metcalf and Dennis Morgan, Co-Chairs: At the meeting the planning for the Harlem Schools Summit covered what are the goals of the summit. They will identify the keynote speakers and breakout sessions.
2. Middle School, Kristen Berger, Chair: Notes from last committee meeting distributed. The main takeaway was D3 moving to blind admissions for Sept. 2019 enrollment, those are current 4th grade students. The committee meeting was about how that would be implemented. From a parent perspective it is very nice but the concern is that the change will, unintendedly, decrease diversity. Our consensus is that a move to blind admissions is not sufficient to increase diversity. We have not drawn a conclusion on what, geographic, income or academic diversity should be targeted. One of the challenges with income diversity is that low income correlates strongly with academic status with state test scores. The “golden ticket” student has low income status and high test scores and they may be lost to the more popular schools who already have high test score students.
 - Supt. Altschul: The big shift is around screening. With current screening process, with a shift to blind admissions, school will not know how they are ranked so they will have to rethink their screenings. They can decide to interview, for example, only Level 2 students. The screening process will change. Blind Admissions process is non-negotiable. The DOE has decided that it will be implemented in District 3 as it already has been done in other districts. To have racial diversity, which is one of the goals we are looking at, we need academic diversity. Our black and Hispanic students largely fall into Level 1s and 2s. Blind Admission will start to shift schools

with Levels 3s and 4s. We are looking for every school to have 10% Level 1 and 15% Level 2 without changing the entire makeup of the school.

- Across District 3, 18% are Level 1 in middle school. Why isn't that the baseline?
 - Supt. Altschul: We are looking to slowly move the pendulum. I don't think we can bring everybody to the same middle.
- 3. Multilingual, Lucas Liu, Chair: J Sun is working on a multilingual resource list that we can distribute to parents. It will be a single source of information, we are looking at Spanish, French and Russian.

❖ **Public Comment**

1. Cordell Cleare: I think it's appropriate to have another community meeting when the Wadleigh proposal is posted. We have questions and we need to be informed before the next step is dealt with. What happened to the renewal money? Who got it and what was it spent on? We have done all that we could do and our schools went backwards? We don't hear anything about it until they decide to close the school. That doesn't do anything for the educational outcome of anybody. We have 11 charter schools above 110th St., this is historic. Every year there are another group of students that cannot go to a school in their neighborhood. How do we increase enrollment?
2. Julius T (?): SLT co-chair at Wadleigh. We had this fight in 2011. The DOE is not following the mandates we listed then. One of the things was that if the school was in trouble academically, they were entitled to choose a superintendent. The DOE has totally ignored this. Did you even have a discussion with the parents in the beginning? You are supposed to have a meeting with the parents. Ms. Altschul replied that Sept. 10 a meeting took place with parents.

❖ **Adjournment 10:00 PM**