

Community School District 3 District Leadership Team Minutes
Thursday, February 14, 2019 9:00am - 11:00am
Joan of Arc Complex: 154 West 93rd Street, NY, NY 10025 Room 204

Attendees: CSD3 Superintendent, Ilene Altschul; Deputy Superintendent Cynthia Dickman; CSA Representative, Charles DeBerry ; CSD3 UFT Representative, Elizabeth Espert; CSD3 Presidents' Council President, Kerri Keiger; CSD3 Field Support Liaison Matthew Angell; CSD3 Teacher Development Coach, Russell Gonzales; CSD3 Family Support Coordinator, Tracy McClaire; NYCDOE Senior School Improvement Liaison, Tami Sturm; DC37 Representative Adrainer Coleman

Meeting called 9:10 am.

January 28, 2019 minutes were approved

Superintendent Report by Ilene Altschul:

Phase I Grant

- The Equity Workshops held for 4 Parents from each school with the Center for Racial Justice in Education was completed. Parents liked the workshops. They were tough, but appreciated. As a result, there will be more offered in Phase II.
- The reflection on Phase I was completed.

Phase II Grant

- The Phase II grant submission was extended. District 3 submitted the grant on time.
- Root causes of district segregation were identified: the impact of Zoning and real estate, K-8 models, gifted and Talented Programs, Dual Language Programs, the Middle School screening processes and admission criteria, and Implicit Bias.
- Phase II of the grant identifies the steps already taken over the last two years such as Rezoning, the Middle School admission pilot (we are awaiting the data), Schools looking at their programming to provide additional opportunities for integration across the grades/schools. Schools are offering high-level Regents courses. We focused on the importance of Community Engagement including family nights, rebranding. Some schools are tracked by program but are integrating for cluster programs.
- Phase II will incorporate community engagement and participation via CEC committee meetings, CEC meetings, and Harlem Stakeholder meetings to get more input. It will also be addressing biases through professional development and equity teams.
- The State Implementation Team, District Equity Team and Harlem Stakeholders are all working parallel. One idea being looked at is the possible truncation of K-8 schools. The community has shared concerns about loss of community and charter school growth. It was shared that PS 165 was truncated and is thriving. One positive impact of that truncation is that PS 165 feels more like one school and instruction is being offered is rigorous.
- Ms. Altschul shared that by focusing on K-5 or 6-8 the schools can strengthen their instruction which may counter the sense of loss.
- It was reported that Mr. Lowe felt that the students that have been absorbed by Mott Hall II from PS 165 have transitioned well but the 1st year has been challenging.
- Other goals of the Phase II Grant are to increase family/community engagement, continue supporting the Equity Teams and the professional learning in culturally relevant curricula, supporting schools with strategies to further integration, increase marketing and strengthening programming by adding or removing programs, determine if shifts in grade reconfigurations is needed.
- Budget (\$130,000 non-competitive grant) includes: teacher, principal, para per session; teacher per diem; 8 sessions with Center for Racial Justice in Education for parents; professional books; supplies; refreshments; Professional development with a consultant money for culturally relevant curricula and equity team coaching; travel (2 sessions in Albany).

Citywide Diversity Grant

- The Citywide Diversity Grant is due February 28th. We haven't started working on grant – plan on next week and using this grant to support the work with additional funding for the State Implementation Grant. Chalkbeat's article cited the grant is focused on 9 districts and that D3 is one that should apply.
- It was discussed at the CEC meeting that it could further the work with the State Grant. The CEC feels it could also be used to support the middle school initiative. One recommendation is that the District could work with WXY around next steps for the District Diversity work. They could offer other voices and help us dig deeper into the problem. Another suggestion was that more money could be set aside for marketing. The CEC will submit ideas by February 21 on how the grant should be approached. The CEC wants to participate in writing the grant.
- The District has a weekly call on Mondays- the next one is February 25. The focus will be around the diversity grant.
- It was shared that CEC Member suggested that AD council could help and that he will reach out to learn more. Ms. Altschul will reach out to Matt Gonzales from Appleseed.
- Call-in information can be shared with people interested in joining the call.
- It was mentioned that AD council may not be a DOE Vendor. Tami Sturm reached out to central and hadn't received an answer yet.

Equity Team

- The team is focusing on solving disproportionality and achievement. They are looking at the relationship between suspension and race. The team met with Dr. Fergus on January 30th – They looked at the disproportionality data across the district. Dr. Fergus is joining the equity teams at PS 163 and MHII. Jonathan Foy visited equity team at PS 87 and will be attending at PS 452. They have finished the district afternoon sessions and will support equity teams at our schools. Schools should invite them.

PRE-K

- The pre-K application is opened February, and the deadline for families to submit their application is March 15.

Concern around Dual Language programs

- The Chancellor and Superintendent Altschul and Linda Chen are all committed to dual language programming, and see importance of immersion in multiple languages for all of our students.
- Superintendent Altschul spoke to Ms. Chen about some of the concerns she's heard around dual language and confirmed that both she and the Chancellor remain deeply committed to these programs. In fact, Linda Chen championed dual language programming for all students, including ELLs, while she was principal in District 3 at PS 165.
- When Superintendent Altschul talked to Ms. Chen, Ms. Chen completely understood the financial challenges schools face in sustaining dual language programs, and Ms. Chen shared her own story of strategic budgeting to keep her dual language programs open. Ms. Chen absolutely wants to work with District 3 to think about how D3 can support our schools in sustaining dual language programs, and her team in the Division of Multilingual Learners is committed to continuing to work with all schools and their borough offices to look at dual language programming opportunities and sustainability.
- It was shared that usually there are 60 students on a grade to fill 2 classes, but 20 in DL. The system must recognize the need for 3 classes.
- Lucas Liu, Hydra Mendoza and Mirza Sanchez Medina have a meeting with Ms. Chen on February 14, 2019.
- Superintendent Altschul does not see the DL programs closing, but must ensure that they are retaining students. One idea would be to add more students in the 1st grade. Another would be to convince ELL families to register for Dual language programs.
- Superintendent Altschul and Deputy Superintendent Dickman have completed 36 PPO school visits.

- On February 13, 2019 Superintendent Altschul participated in WESS 9th grade expedition on an issue in our community and how students can get involved. She discussed the segregation issue and how as a community, we have addressed it and different ways for students to get involved.
- Next **Harlem Stakeholders** meeting is March 1st at PS 185.
- Spelling Bee was held on February 9th 2019. Thank you to PS 185, PTA of PS 185, President's Council, Liz Espert, DJ Sheppard, Tracy McClaire, the Principals and APs that came to support their student representatives. Congratulations to Sebastian Sakmann Grade 5 at PS 452 and Kaia Yamaguchi- Grade 7 at MS 54
- The School survey for parents/guardians, students and teachers and support staff is now open—will close April 3. Depending on plan, survey coordinator should distribute the survey soon.

Upcoming Dates:

- Parent Testing Workshop – February 28th
- Science Expo- March 9th
- Budget training for SLT teams- March 12th with UFT

High School Report- None

President's Council Report-By Kerri Keiger

- January 28th President's Council Held the Fundraising & Grants for Your School session. 22 District 3 schools were represented and about 35 attendees.
- Marisa Maack came from Helen Rosenthal's office to discuss Participatory and Capital funding from their office.
- Mark Levine came and spoke for a bit about funding opportunities from his office.
- The representative from Gale Brewer's office could not come, but Kerri Keiger went over the materials in her place.
- The next meeting, on PA/PTA Budgets & Galaxy Budgets is scheduled for Friday, March 1st, 9:30am. However, they may reschedule this meeting due to the Harlem Stakeholders Meeting is the same time.
- The CEC3 Candidates Forum on April 15th, from 6-9pm at PS 242. PC will be organizing the format, questions, and running the forum.

DCEP Discussion Facilitated by Tami Sturm

- Framework goals were distributed dated February 2019 to review the midpoint target.
- We are reviewing the ESSA data to identify schools that could possibly fall into TSI.
- The progress monitoring goals were reviewed
 - Goal 1 –overall goal not met as 1 schools has been identified as CSI but the progress monitoring goal was met.
 - Goal 2 --Not met-There was a slight increase.
 - Goal 3 –Yes- we met this goal Ongoing- Schools are getting support in RtI from Marissa Schoenfeld from Manhattan Borough Office. She has been visiting schools.
 - Goal 4—Not met
 - Goal 5—Not met data shows 80% of application only listed three choices.

Support for School Leadership teams

- Schools need to review bylaws for open meeting law and protocols for guests to speak. Kerri Keiger asked about an SLT bylaws template being forwarded.

Safety/Facilities

- At the last DLT meeting facilities was added to the Agenda.
- PS 145 Issue: The boiler- black fumes are still present.
- PS 241 – Issue: The Playground -There will be a meeting regarding the RESO-A projects. Superintendent Altschul will be meeting with Mike Mirisola regarding District 3 projects.
- Special Music School – Issue: A lack of ventilation - Air testing will be done at the classes at the Martin Luther King building. If it fails the Department of Education has to have a plan to fix it

Karen Goldmark, Deputy Chancellor and Tom Tarako have been looped in and will be visiting MLK.

- Mott Hall 2 Issue: Wiring- The school needs wiring for the air conditioner it has a large number of air conditioners.
- PS 166 – Issue: The bathroom and the roof have issues and are in need of repair. The roof is being addressed.
- It was noted that some projects take a very long time.
- West End secondary –The kitchen has been completed. The school is now serving hot food.
- UFT District Representative Elizabeth Espert shared that their new safety standards.
- Frank Jordan shared new safety standards with the principals and Ms. Altschul provided the documents at the last principal meeting.

Meeting ended at 10:55 next meeting

Next meeting is March 14th