



COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 3

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District 3 Community Superintendent

CEC3 High School Admissions Committee Meeting Minutes

September 21, 2018, 9:00 AM

JOA – Room 204

154 W. 93rd Street

❖ **Attendance:** *Jean Moreland, High School Admissions Committee Chair, and 5 community members.*

1. Review of Upcoming HS Events:

1. Manhattan Borough High School Fairs: 9/22 and 9/23, MLK Campus 9-3
2. Register by October 11th to audition for LaGuardia or take the SHSAT—through school counselor or at Family Welcome Center
3. **HS Applications due Monday, December 3rd**
4. Applications online this year. According to Amy Basile, families have reported good experiences so far, still working with guidance counselors to get them used to the interface. There have been a lot of families logging on to the interface via their phones, which is encouraging.
5. The Chancellor's D3 Town Hall is next week, 9/26 before the CEC calendar meeting. Submit questions via CEC3 website or at the town hall. Each CEC committee will ask one question, ours will revolve around D2 priority schools.
6. December 3: Round 1 Applications due for 2019-20 school year

2. Reviewed match data from Round 1, Fall 2018.

1. More D3 students (41%) received offers to a SHS than Manhattan as a whole (30%) or the city (18%). There were also a higher percentage of offers to LaGuardia. Angeline pointed out that this is not all positive. Since D3 students do not have access to the D2 schools that have full slates of AP classes, do not have D3 equivalents and do not have a priority to Beacon, many D3 students are putting all their eggs in the SHS basket.
2. HS Admissions will be getting us 2 more years of this data for comparison
Reviewed issues discussed at the August 3 working group meeting at Tweed with the HS Enrollment team. This discussion was focused around topics that are under city/DOE control (as opposed to the SHSAT issue, which requires state legislative action). We discussed the idea of a common application (SHSAT and main round combined as well as common screening parameters), eliminating interviews and the strict screening on absences, Virtual tours, streaming of tours and a centralized calendar to make evaluating schools easier, audits of school rubrics (which has been done by the comptroller, but the last one was 2013) and finally, the possibility of changing D2 priority schools to Manhattan priority and the need for larger high schools that can have a full range of college-prep classes. In addition, Michael Kraft is working with Gale Brewer's office to have a liaison structure for high schools that is more similar to how CEC's function for elementary and middle schools. Right now we have the CCHS (Citywide Council on High Schools). However, there are only 2 members to represent ALL Manhattan high schools (vs 1:3 ratio our CEC has with elementary/middle schools)

They were very receptive to our ideas and want to keep hearing from us. They also want to hear our opinions/ideas about the specialized high school debate, and we will work on finding a date for them to attend a committee meeting.

3. Review changes this year.

1. If a student is not matched to a school on their application in Round 1 this year, they will be given an offer to another school not listed. In past year, this was not done until Round 2. Students have the choice to accept that offer, or participate in Round 2 and choose from the list of schools that still have seats. There were approximately 3500 students citywide who were not matched to a school on their application in Round 1 last year, or 4%.
2. Beacon will not conduct interviews this year. There was discussion about how there is a lot of “gaming” of the Beacon application process, or that is the perception of parents. The school is not supposed to consider extra submission items, such as references, but parents are not convinced this is the case.
3. Diversity pilots have changed this year, 16 are listed. Be sure to check the website, so you know how these may affect your choices. Most are focused on prioritizing a certain percentage of seats to families eligible for Free or Reduced Price Lunch. Some also prioritize ELL students.

4. Action Items

1. Follow up on additional match data from DOE.
2. Working with HS Admissions team to set next meeting date (possibly 10/25) so that they can attend.