

**CEC 5 Special Meeting Minutes**

Pamela Stewart

**President**

Schadell Barnhill

**Vice President**

Gina Williams

**Recording Secretary**

Ayishah Irvin

**Treasurer**

**Members**

Fanta Brown

Anna Minsky

Brian Peters

Denise Randolph

**Borough Appointee**

Pamela Stewart

**Student Member**

Vacant

**Admin. Assistant**

Lisa Kinsey

**Superintendent**

Dr. Sean L. Davenport

**Wednesday, September 14, 2022**

Meeting called to order by Vice President Barnhill at 6:35 PM. Roll call taken by Lisa Kinsey, which resulted in the following:

**Present:** Schadell Barnhill, Ayishah Irvin (late 6:48pm), Anna Minsky, Brian Peters, Denise Randolph, Pamela Stewart

and Gina Williams

**Absent:** Fanta Brown (Unexcused)

**2023-2024 District Planning Process**

Caitlin Whittemore, Eric Herman**,** and Christina Chan, Office of District Planning

**Question:** We are having a decrease in kids what do you foresee doing? Do we start taking away space in schools or do you come up with a different plan because school sizes will be smaller?

**Response:** Highlighting low enrolled schools or underutilized buildings is not saying we need to do anything with these schools. The data here is not saying your schools are small and we need to open charter schools or put a charter school in the space. Really it is we have heard from superintendents, principals, and various people when schools get to a certain size sometimes, they struggle to provide things to students.

**Question:** Can we get last year and this year’s enrollment data for Columbia Secondary broken down by race? Who have they accepted from our schools last year and this year?

**Response:** I would encourage you to put that in an email to me and maybe I can get that to the Office of Student Enrollment. They are the ones who own the data. I am not sure if we are going to have the demographic data from last year. It depends on what you are asking for.

**Question:** How are your thoughts about the impact on the class size bill recently passed? How does the class size bill passed exactly affect what the budgets are going to look like and what our schools get?

***Response:*** Data we have about how the class size bill is going to affect schools. A few important things to keep in mind this bill was just signed we have 5 years to implement it in full. What this means is the UFT max class size, and this is the new capacity. It is really going to be a new process. If we look at the average class size in district five it is already fairly aligned to the blue book size. I do not think it is going to have a substantial effect on the district, but I also know that we have a long period of time to roll this out it will not be right away. The way our office is looking at school space is if the bill was fully implemented. We are looking at it as if what is the space going to look like long-term keeping in mind that is going to take a long period of time until anything really must take effect.

**Question:** What different types of CBO’s or resources can you put or add into schools as we look at other schools/districts afterschool or during school programing that they receive? How can you implement those?

**Response:** We do not work directly with CBO’s. The Office of Community Schools works closely with getting CBO Partners into community schools that will partner with a school. Where we can provide CBO space, lies with the principals and superintendents to identify what specific supports would be best for their schools and if they would like to offer up space in their building to support the school. Our office would work with our colleagues in Space Planning to determine if that’s a good fit and works in the building. There are several buildings in the district that have several CBO’s that operate in space on the campus. Division of Youth Development works closely with CBOs to add afterschool programming.

**Question:** What do the discharge numbers represent in the workbook?

***Response:*** Discharge numbers essentially mean when students are leaving if they are leaving NYC district schools. Students who are living and attending District 5 schools. Students that leave the city. Did students go to home school. Did students go to nonpublic schools as of January 2022. It is essentially showing less students leaving in the city until the past year. Over the past year, the students that were leaving were primarily leaving the city. These are the key data points. Students who went to DOE schools in District 5. Who left at any point in the year, but they were in the school at one point and then they left? It could be between the school year or middle of the school year.

**Question:** Anyone who left a school at any point during the school year does summer count? How is the time element fall in the mid-year discharges? Are mid-year discharges mixed in with over a year discharge? Would 5th graders leaving to go because the school did not go pass 5th grade be included?

***Response:*** Not if they stayed in a DOE school. If they were in PS 129 and went to Future Leaders that would not count as a discharge.

***Question:*** If they were at SEED for sixth grade and went to Future Leaders for 7th grade would count as a discharge?

***Response:*** Sorry for any confusion if you start in a DOE school and go to another DOE school whether it is in this district or another district that is not considered a discharge by this account. This is just for leaving the city going to another school outside of the DOE whether it is a private or parochial school that would be an example of a discharge.

***Question:*** That includes charters as well?

***Response:*** Exactly

**Question:** Can you just break it down a little bit for members of the community who may possibly not understand what the numbers and things mean?

**Response:** Maximum number of students in a pre-k class is 18, kindergarten class is 25, grades 1-5 (32), middle school grades 6-8 (30), Title 1 schools (30), non-Title 1 schools (33), and high school (34). The class size bill that was just pass would lower the maximum size these grades could serve. 3K/Pre-K remain the same right now Pre-K is 15 a little lower, but in grades K-3 the maximum number in a class would be (20), grades 4-8 (23) that is down a significant number of students, and grades 9-12 (25) also down about 9 students. We need to make sure schools were able to accommodate all their students with these class sizes. Schools serving potentially 50 students on a grade they might need to program in three sections instead of two, which they currently are. That is one way this bill could impact schools. They would potentially hire an additional teacher. Program additionally sections or they would have to reduce the number of families or students that they could take in.

***Question:*** If schools expand to another classroom how would you deal with that class size especially if there is a co-location?

***Response:*** We would absolutely need to assess if the school can do that. Is there excess space in the school allocation. Do they have more rooms to grow enrollment? Is there room in the building to be reallocated to a school so that it can grow? Those are some of the questions we would need to investigate and figure out.

***Question:*** If school budgets are based on enrollment and enrollment could possibly be reduced because of the new bill are there any thoughts on how that would be addressed besides cutting more money from the budgets?

**Response:** I think that is a piece that is being worked on and needs to be thought out.

***Question:*** New buildings in District5

**Response:** SCA typically builds buildings when they see a seat need. We flagged SCA in the past for Thurgood Marshall’s Building.

**Question:** As the building goes up in the McDonald’s site can you clarify whether that is totally a lost cause?

**Response:** My understanding is that it has been ruled out for quite some time.

**Question:** Do you think there is something in writing about that? Why DOE rejected that site?

**Response:** I can ask SCA again. My understanding is that the site was not useable for a school.

**Question:** Have you looked at the Dempsey Center or the Salvation Army which is underused?

**Response:** We can provide these sites to SCA the next time we speak to them and ask them if they have explored those.

**Question:** Whatabout closed catholic schools and talk to Archdiocese for space?

**Response:** That has been explored for other new buildings being acquired as well. SCA is constantly looking for new buildings. We can put all of these in a list and make sure to get these to them.

**Question:** How many Texas children are entering D5? How much funding will go to D5?

**Response:** While I know that there is an influx of immigrants that are potentially coming to different districts. We work closely with Welcome Centers, and I do not have any good answers right now for that. We are aware there might be an enrollment increase in different districts, and we have been asking them about this as well.

**Question:** When is the ventilation going to be fix across the board?

**Response:** If there are any buildings or anything you have in mind, we can connect with DSF (Division of School Facilities) or Operations who works with these concerns. I know that you said there are a lot of different places, but if you know of any that would be great.

***Question:*** Do we have other entities coming in trying to take space or being considered for space right now?

***Response:*** There are no charters with active request asking for space in District 5.

**Question:** Can you assure information shared is accurate?

**Response:** Wehave scanned this for accuracy. Obviously, if you find something that you have a question about or is not accurate, we are more than happy to investigate it.

Vice President Barnhill adjourned calendar meeting at 7:33PM

Submitted by: Lisa Kinsey, Administrative Assistant