

**Community Education Council 24
Mosaic Pre-K Center #777
50-15 44 Street, Room 109**

Woodside, New York 11377

CEC24@schools.nyc.gov

October 10th CEC24 (Community Education Council 24)

Feedback Minutes from Public School 153 - Elimination of 6th Grade

Attendance:

Connie Altamirano; Matthew Crescio, Fatima Shamoan, Guo Zhou, Anna Karwowska, Mati Gonzalez, Veronica Piedra Leon, Manisha Jain, Johanna Pineda, Leticia Vasquez, Theresa Caccavale, Eleanor McNamee, Rachelle Lewis, James Leahy, Principal David Berkowitz from PS 153; Principal Mike Casale from IS 73; and several other Assistant principals from other schools, Reba Lichtenstein and Rhea Cumberbatch from District Planning.

The day of the meeting, the CEC (Community Education Council) members sent out a form with a QV Code for parents to fill out Why the 6th Grade is leaving. We had copies of this form, Removal of 6th Grade in the auditorium in all languages.

Welcome to the Ps 153 Feedback Session.

Thank you to Principal David Berkowitz and Superintendent Teresa Caccavale.

SLT (SCHOOL LEADERSHIP TEAM) has been engaged since May and due to the reduction of classes for 6th grade of 51 students. We do not have the drive to keep the children. The G&T program stopped in 5th grade and does not benefit our students. This is our primary concern. Changing the ability with experience offering language may be fully dedicated to art, music, science; all this benefits the students.

Reba Lichtenstein of Office of Planning does have issue proposals of PS 153 interest smaller classroom. We did hear the SLT and interest from the Principal, the PEP (Panel for Educational Policy) and several SLT meetings to potential secure the change of 6th grade at PS 153. When we reach that point in the next week, the PEP will vote on this process at Public School 153.

Several teachers, Assistant Principals and others expressed their concerns about 6th grade students should leave and move on to 6th grade – 8th grade program. Some of the teachers mentioned that they would have more independence if they moved on to middle schools.

Some parents were concerned that they did not hear anything from the school's administration. The parents were upset that the PTA (Parent Teacher Association) and SLT did not discuss the elimination of 6th grade with them. The SLT back in the spring and the principal administration discussed with the District Planning Department.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Janet Kregler

Administrative Assistant