



COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 15

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RESOLUTION ON COLOCATIONS

The Community and Citywide Education Councils (CCECs) are composed of parents who have been elected or appointed to serve as stakeholders of NYC School Community Districts, and specific cohorts of students, representing NYC public school students and their families.

Approved on May 9, 2023, the following resolution offers CEC15's position regarding co-locations.

WHEREAS, a school or a program is referred to as “co-located” when it is housed in a shared building with another school or schools, run by different school leader(s);

WHEREAS, more than half of all schools in New York City share campuses with other schools and programs¹;

WHEREAS, Chancellor’s Regulations A-190² dictate SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN SCHOOL UTILIZATION AND PROCEDURES FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS HOUSING MORE THAN ONE SCHOOL but do not limit the number of schools that can be colocated within one building;

WHEREAS, effective governing within a multi-school building requires strong leadership, shared vision and goals, consensus decision-making, collaborative partnerships, coordinated financial and space planning decisions, and flexible and creative usage of shared spaces;

WHEREAS, all co-located campus principals collaboratively and annually complete the following required documents to be uploaded into the Principal Annual Space Survey (PASS):

Building Space Plan: *Includes space footprint, with designated room allocations by school, including the documentation of any room swaps.*

Distributed Leadership: *Each principal/leader will accept responsibility for a key campus-wide coordination task, such as safety, custodial, or extended use of the facility.*

Shared Space Schedules: *Includes daily scheduling of shared spaces (library, cafeteria, auditorium, gym, play yard, etc.) access and use of the building after hours, on weekends, and in the summer.*

¹ <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/school-life/space-and-facilities/campus-governance>

² Chancellor's Regulations A-190:

<https://cdn-blob-prd.azureedge.net/prd-pws/docs/default-source/default-document-library/a-190.pdf>

*Shared Staffing/Funding: Includes any shared staff and their shared funding and supervisory agreements, i.e., campus plan for deployment of safety/security staff as well as documentation of any other initiatives that are split-funded.*³

WHEREAS, CEC15 prefers co-locations that would include no more than 3 schools where: (1) a D75 inclusion program would be coupled with a district elementary, middle or high school, or (2) where a D79 program would be coupled with a D75 inclusion program and a high school;

WHEREAS, CEC15 prefers co-locations that would only serve the same age groups, such that elementary age students were not in the same building with older students;

WHEREAS, co-locating D75 and D79 programs with appropriate age district schools can offer students a more inclusive environment by affording access to general education programs that in isolation, they might not be able to access;

WHEREAS, co-locating D75 and D79 programs with appropriate age district schools also provides greater (multi-district) oversight and the opportunity to collaborate with parent leadership bodies such as the PTA and SLT to share resources and advocacy;

WHEREAS, D75 inclusion and D79 programs are needed and wanted in all NYC district schools;

WHEREAS, for example, there are multiple shared campuses in CSD15 that co-locate 3 or more schools;

- Building **15K280** houses 3 schools: two middle schools coupled with a PreK, and does not include a D75 nor a D79 program; and
- Building **15K437** houses 3 schools: an elementary school, a middle school, and a D75 inclusion program; and
- Building **15K293** houses 4 schools: an elementary school, a secondary school, a high school and a D75 inclusion program; and
- Building **15K460** houses 4 schools: three high schools and one secondary school, and does not include a D75 program nor a D79 program;

WHEREAS, CEC15 has received many complaints about co-locations including that shared cafeteria space leads to students having to eat lunch hurriedly or at unreasonable times of day, that the bathrooms are overcrowded, that there are safety concerns with schools using multiple entrances and exits, that pull out services often must be provided in hallways that lack privacy, that libraries and other resources are not shared with all schools, that there is inequity in renovations from one school to the other, and that one nurse is not enough for three or four schools;

WHEREAS, the NYCDOE has classified 419 buildings as under-utilized including 231 buildings under-utilized by at least 300 seats and 188 buildings under-utilized by at least 150 seats but no more than 299 seats⁴;

³ DOE Campus Policy Memorandum and Procedures 2019: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1lwBCiCLt_uJEiJO8oIVe9eepCX49TFM/edit?usp=share_link&oid=115200071890845347437&rtpof=true&sd=true

⁴ DOE Under-Utilized Space Memorandum As of April 28, 2022:

WHEREAS, as a result of the recent Class Size Law⁵, all schools will need to evaluate current class size and conform with class size mandates within the next five years;

WHEREAS, schools that have co-locations of three or more will require extra support from the Office of Space Planning and the Office of District Planning to reconfigure building utilization; and

WHEREAS, DOE must prioritize review of school buildings that house 3 or more schools or are overutilized in order to ensure that class size mandates will be met per the law.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Department of Education Office of Space Planning review the space planning requirements at all school buildings with 3 or more co-locations;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Office of District Planning review available seats within the 32 districts with the intent to relocate some of the co-located schools;

BE IT RESOLVED, that D75 programs co-located in existing public school buildings will not be moved, nor receive less space in any redesign projects;

BE IT RESOLVED, that changes to zoning lines would not be impacted; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that Chancellor's Regulations A-190 will be amended to limit the number of schools that can be co-located to a maximum of three schools per co-location, where one of the three would be either D75 and/or D79.

This Resolution was approved at a CEC15 Business Meeting held on May 9, 2023 by a vote of members present including: Camille Casaretti, Antonia Ferraro, Tia Schellstede, Nana-Poku Agyekum, Alfred De Ingeniis, Nancy Randall, Ivan Banda, Vincent Lu, Vanessa Gonzalez Ueoka and Nakia Muhasa Brown.

*Of the ten members present, ten voted YES.
Joseph Alexander was absent.*

<https://cdn-blob-prd.azureedge.net/prd-pws/docs/default-source/default-document-library/underutilized-space-memorandum-2021-2022.pdf>
⁵ <https://ny.chalkbeat.org/2022/9/8/23343774/nyc-class-size-bill-hochul-adams-budget-union>