

From the desk of your Parent Teacher Association –

Attention: PS/MS 71 families and community

On **Tuesday, November 14th**, beginning at 6:00pm, at PS 72, 2951 Dewey Avenue, Bronx, the proposed rezoning maps of Throgs Neck area schools (which include PS 71) will be presented at the Community Education Council's monthly meeting. The new zone lines will be presented AT THIS MEETING. The public session will begin at 7:15pm. Attendance at this meeting would be beneficial to gain a better understanding of how the rezoning will affect your family and neighborhood. You will be able to express your concerns and or questions to the Council. However, you must sign in upon arrival if you would like to address the Council. You will be given two (2) minutes to speak once your name is called.

On **Monday, November 20th** at the Bronx Delta School, 650 Hollywood Ave, at **6:00pm** there will be a ***Town Hall meeting*** to discuss the plans for rezoning that will be presented on 11/14/17. The CEC needs to hear from you regarding your thoughts, and the Office of District Planning can answer questions about the rezoning.

The CEC will vote on passing the proposed rezoning on December 20th, 2017 at PS 72 at 2951 Dewey Avenue, Bronx.

The new zones will go into effect for the 2018-2019 school year. The CEC has the final vote, but your voice will make a difference!

If you are unable to attend these public meetings, you may also email your questions, thoughts and concerns to:

The District 8 CEC: cec8@schools.nyc.gov

CEC President, Farah Despeignes: farahsmdcec8@gmail.com

CEC Board member, Gary Wheeler: wheelergaryr@outlook.com

Office of District Planning, Max Applebaum or Nathifa Charles: bronxzoning@schools.nyc.gov

Community Superintendent, Dr. Karen Ames: KAmes@schools.nyc.gov

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Some information we gathered at our October PTA meeting from the Office of District Planning's representatives:

- ⇒ If a student has a sibling who isn't yet in the school and the rezoning puts the younger child in another school, there possibly will be a sibling grandfathering as a zoned sibling rule. However, for middle school that would not apply because middle schools are not zoned.
- ⇒ They have to get back to us on whether current students will be permitted to transfer to the new zoned school, with their younger sibling or otherwise.
- ⇒ Current students will have the right to remain in the school until the terminal grade (the grade at which the school ends).
- ⇒ A draft map will be presented at the November 14th meeting. The CEC business meeting time is at 6, the regular meeting is at 7:15 pm for November 14th and December 20th. They are not sure what time the town hall meeting will be.
- ⇒ It's going to take some time for enrollment to go down before they can remove trailers. They may be able to remove them as they become vacant.
- ⇒ For students who live in Country Club, they are looking at reducing the amount of bussing to not create hardships, but they will work with the Office of Pupil Transportation. Qualifying for bussing changes after 2nd grade (1/2 mile to 1 1/2 miles) for the older grades, 3rd to 6th, the distance becomes greater (1 mile to 1 1/2 miles) to qualify for the school bus.
- ⇒ When asked about the amount of new buildings that have gone up in the neighborhood, school zoning and student population, they are now beginning to take into consideration the permits granted for projected housing units and how the new buildings will affect future kindergarten students.
- ⇒ Regarding new families moving into the area with multiple children (not "anticipated kindergarteners"), they said they will also take into consideration the census block for each area.