



# THE CITY OF NEW YORK MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 3

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Gigi Li, Board Chair

Susan Stetzer, District Manager

## **Community Education Council 2 Town Hall with Chancellor Carmen Fariña**

*Monday, May 19, 2014*

### **Testimony of Justin Carroll**

Good evening Chancellor. Thank you for being here tonight. My name is Justin Carroll, and I am a member of Community Board 3 and the co-chair of the Health, Human Services, Youth & Education Committee. Community Board 3 covers the East Village, Lower East Side and Chinatown.

I am here tonight to talk about the Essex Crossing development, which is a new development near the border of District 1 and District 2. This development will create 1,000 units of new housing, and Community Board 3 was proud to lead the effort to ensure that 500 of those units would be set aside for affordable housing and to get space set aside for the construction of a new school.

Unfortunately, there is no money in the current budget to build that school. We have been told that the need for a new school is not there right now. We think the need is there, right now.

Community Board 3 has been working for over a year and half to advocate for a new school. We have worked on parent engagement labs and principal surveys, hired a demographer, and wrote a position paper demonstrating the need for a new school at Essex Crossing. We are pleased to announce that the position paper will be voted on by the full Community Board 3 next Tuesday, May 27th. We look forward to sharing that with you and we hope to have your support what we think could be a model school for the 21st century that implements this administration's vision relating to STEM, STEAM and technology curricula.

You were speaking earlier about walking around with a clipboard and looking for space for rent that could house new schools. Well I've got a brand new building for you on the Lower East Side, and we'd be happy to have you come in and put a school there. We look forward to working with you. Thank you.