

## UNMET NEED FOR SEATS IN NEW 2015-2019 CAPITAL PLAN

*INCLUDING DATA FOR COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICTS 24 & 30*

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Wednesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014

### Summary of capital plan vs. needs for seats citywide

- Current capital plan has (at most) 38,754 seats – and this if Cuomo's bond act is approved.
  - DOE admits real need of 49,245 (though doesn't explain this figure).
  - DOE enrollment projections estimate increase of 60,000-70,000 students by 2021
  - At least 30,000 seats needed to alleviate current overcrowding for districts *averaging* above 100%
  - Above figure does not capture overcrowding at neighborhood level, including schools with Kindergarten waiting lists or expanded preK.
  - Does not capture need to replace trailers with capacity of about 12,000 seats (though DOE admits to only about 7100 students attending class in TCUs, number is much higher).
  - Also, DOE utilization figures *underestimate* actual overcrowding according to most experts and Chancellor, who has appointed a "Blue Book" taskforce to improve them.
  - Revised utilization formula should be aligned to smaller classes, dedicated rooms for art, music, special education services, and more.
- Actual need for new seats probably >100,000.

## School Utilization Rates at critical levels

Citywide, elementary schools avg. building utilization rates are at 96.8%; the median utilization rate is at 102%, high schools are not far behind at 94.8%.

In eleven districts, elementary school average above 100%; 20 districts average above 90%.

High schools in Queens (110.7%) and Staten Island (103.2%) average above 100%.

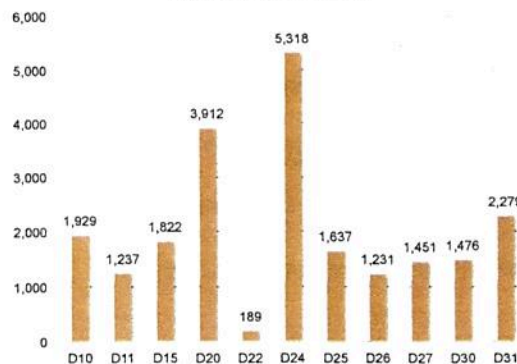
At the MS level, D20 in Brooklyn, D24, and D25 in Queens have building utilization rates over 95%.

There are more than 30,000 seats just to bring those districts to 100% utilization.

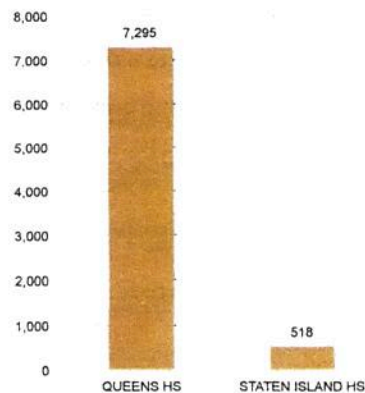
*Data source: Blue Book target utilization rates 2012-2013*

## # of Seats currently needed to bring buildings to 100% or less

**# of Seats Needed in all districts with ES building utilization rates higher than 100%**



**# of Seats Needed in all districts with building utilization rates higher than 100% at HS level**



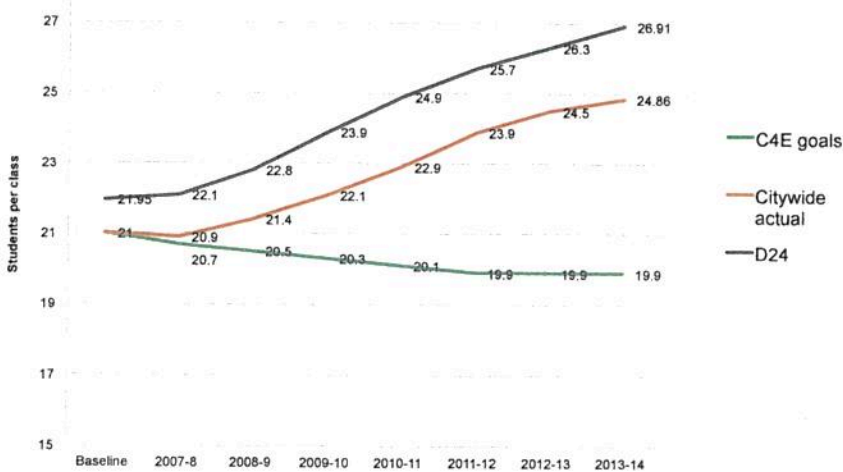
\*These figures are the difference between capacity & enrollment in the organizational target # in 2012-2013 Blue Book

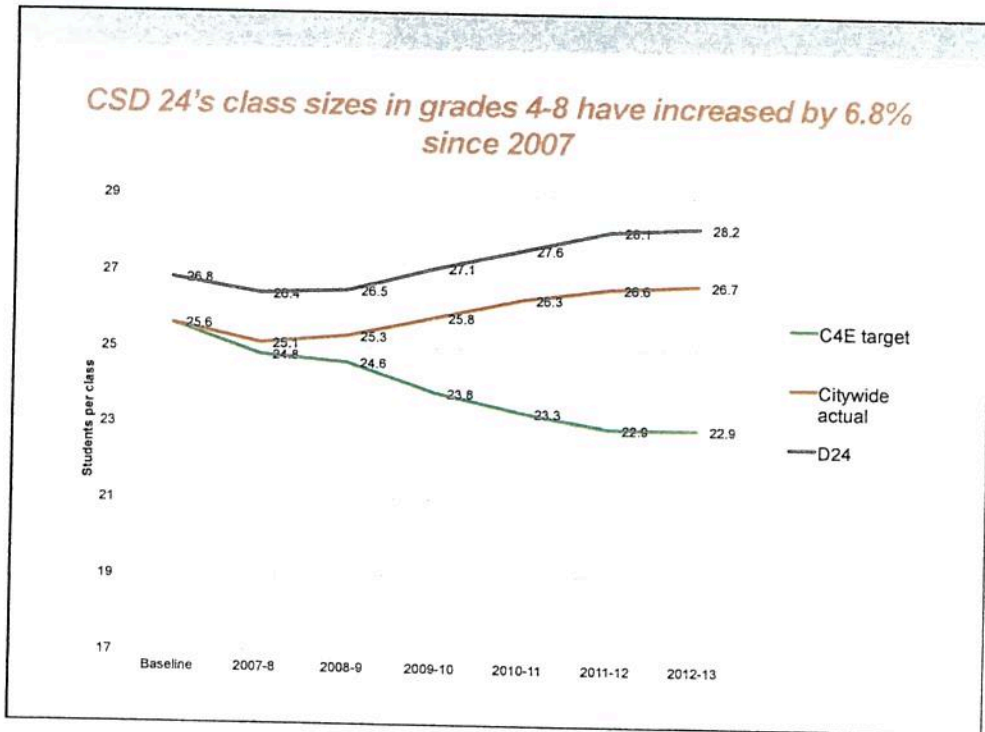
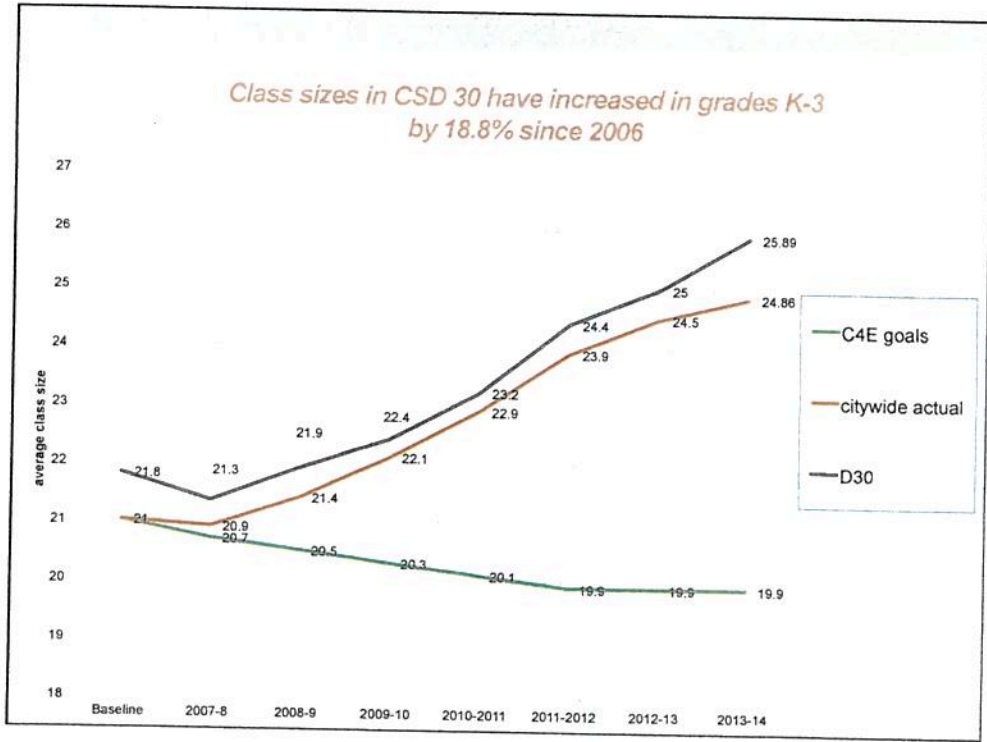
Source: 2012-2013 DOE "Blue Book"

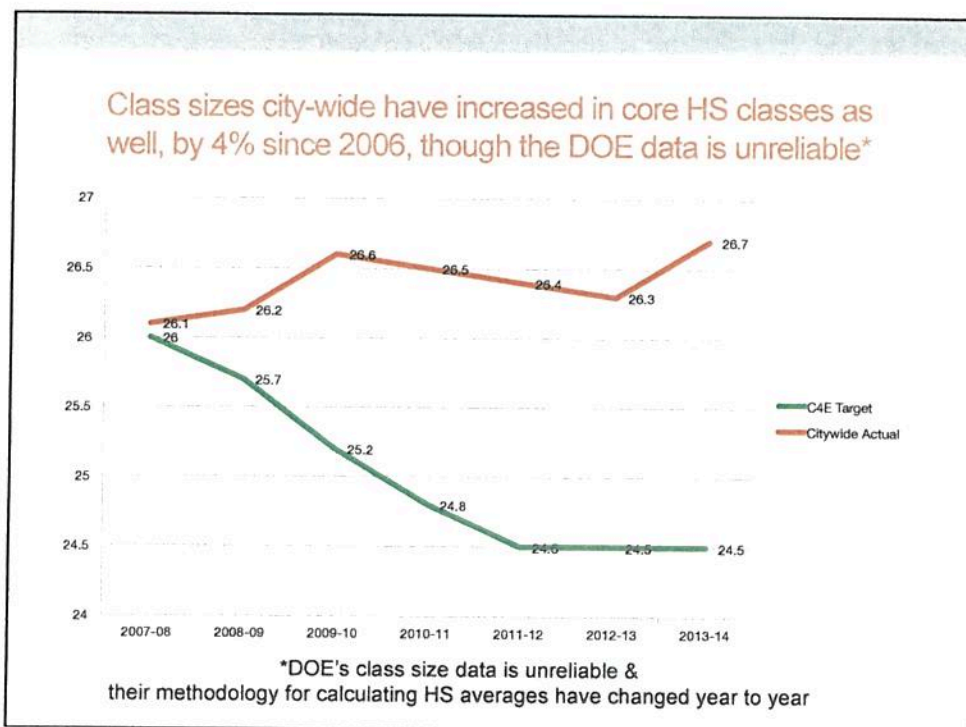
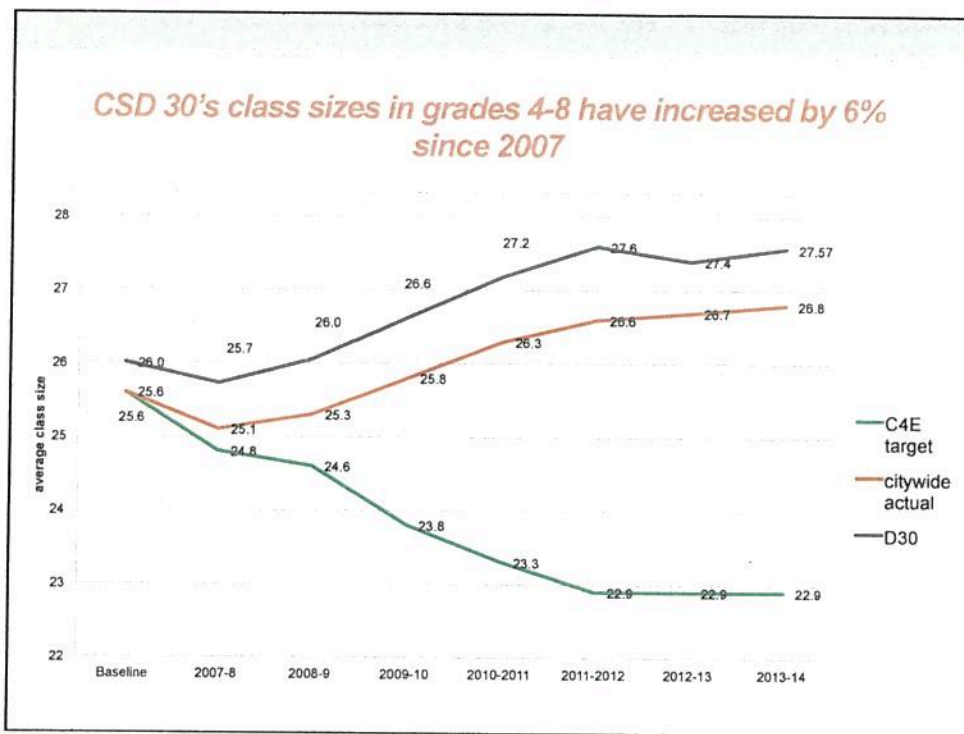
## Class sizes have increased for six years in a row

- Despite provisions in 2007 state law requiring NYC reduce class size in all grades, grades K-3 class size now largest since 1998; in grades 4-8 largest since 2002.
- In K-3 average class size is 24.9 (including general education, inclusion and gifted classes) compared to 20.9 in 2007, increase of 19% since 2006.
- In grades 4-8, the average class size is now 26.8, compared to 25.1 in 2007 – an increase of 7%.
- In HS "core" academic classes, DOE reports class size average 26.7, compared to 26.1 in 2007. Yet DOE's way of measuring HS class sizes is inaccurate and their methodology changes nearly every year, so these estimates cannot be relied upon.
- Class sizes in K-8 have risen as the number of general education, CTT and gifted classes in these grades have dropped sharply, by about 2500 classes since 2007.
- The number of teachers decreased by about 4000 between 2007-2010, according to the Mayor's Management Report, despite rising enrollment.

### Class sizes in CSD 24 have increased in grades K-3 by 22.6% since 2006







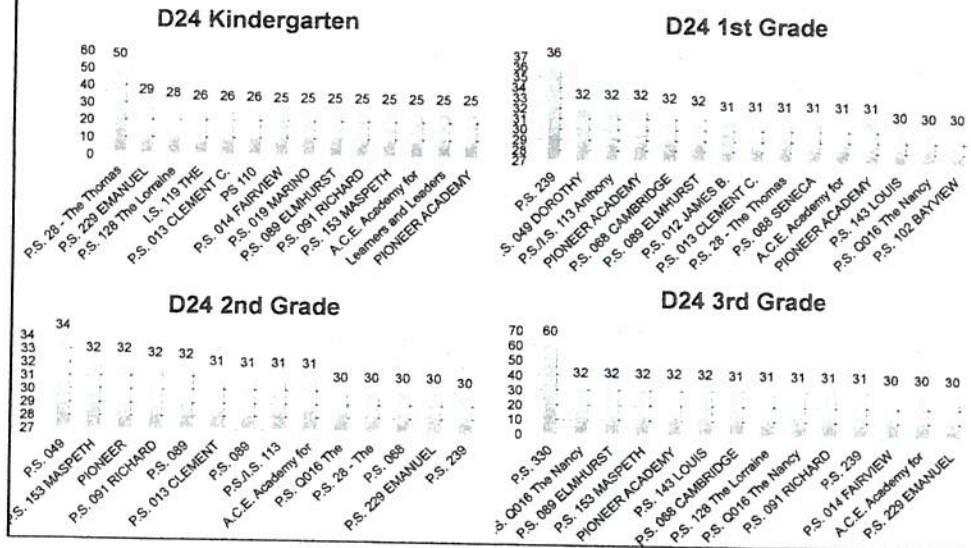
## CSD 24 Schools with large class sizes

At the Kindergarten level, there are 14 schools in CSD 24 with with an average class size of 25 or more, according to DOE's November 2013 report.

In grades 1-3, there are 15 schools in CSD 24 with at least one grade level averaging 30 students per class or more.

In grades 4-8, 16 schools have at least one grade level with an average class size of 30 or more.

## Examples of schools in CSD 24 with large class sizes, K-3



## CSD 30 Schools with large class sizes

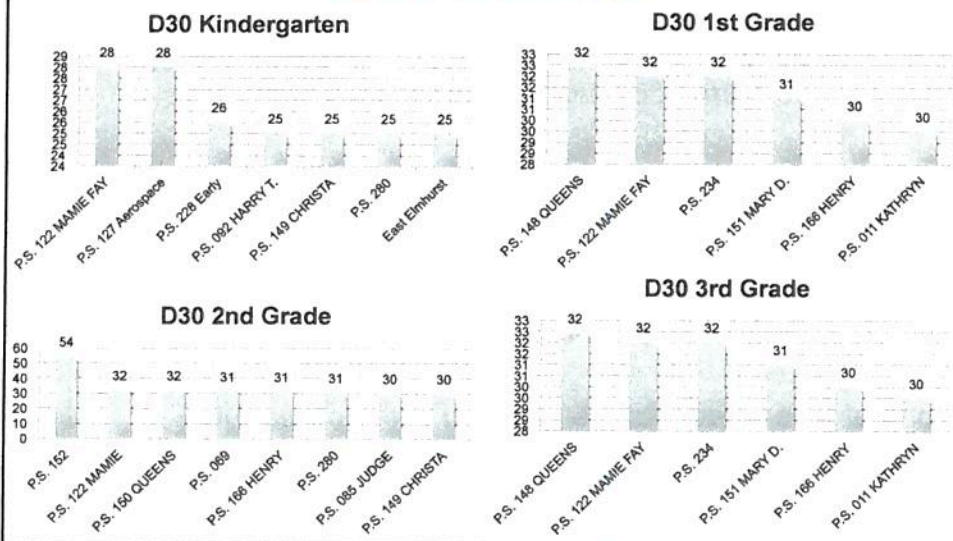
At the Kindergarten level, there are 7 schools in CSD 30 with with an average class size of 25 or more, according to DOE's November 2013 report.

Plus PS 11 which reports class size as 20 in K, but is actually 40.

In grades 1-3, there are 12 schools in CSD 30 with at least one grade level averaging 30 students per class or more.

In grades 4-8, 18 schools have at least one grade level with an average class size of 30 or more.

## Examples of schools in CSD 30 with large class sizes, K-3



### Number of students in CSD 24 trailers

In CSD 24, according to the 2012-2013 TCU Report, there are 17 TCUs at five elementary & middle schools: PS 19, PS 81, PS 143, PS 199, and IS 125.

There are 645 students enrolled in these TCUs.

There are 29 classrooms in these TCUs with a total capacity of 646.

### Number of students in CSD 30 trailers

In CSD 30, according to the 2012-2013 TCU Report, there are 23 TCUs at five schools: PS 11, PS 70, PS 85, PS 92, PS 151. There are 655 students enrolled in these TCUs.

There are 25 rooms across the 23 TCUs and a total capacity of 646

Additionally, PS 255, a D75 school, has 18 classrooms listed in in the TCU report, with no enrollment.

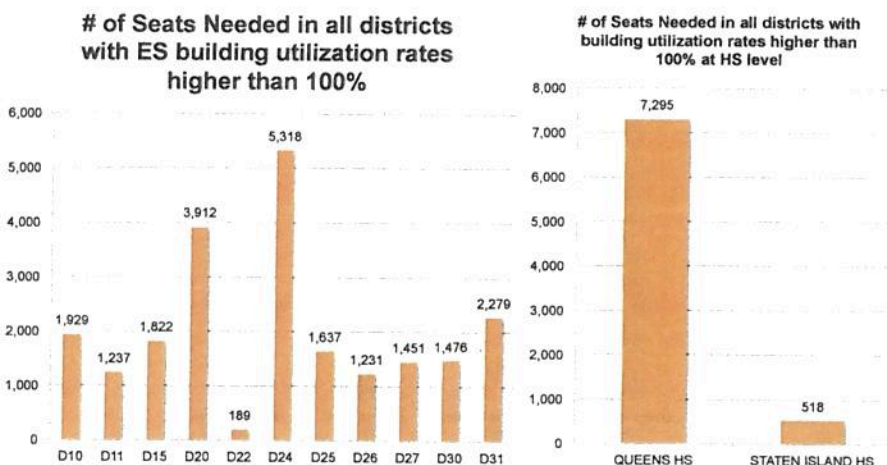
None of these students are included in the official DOE count of 7,158 total students attending classes in trailers.



## Number of students in Queens HS trailers

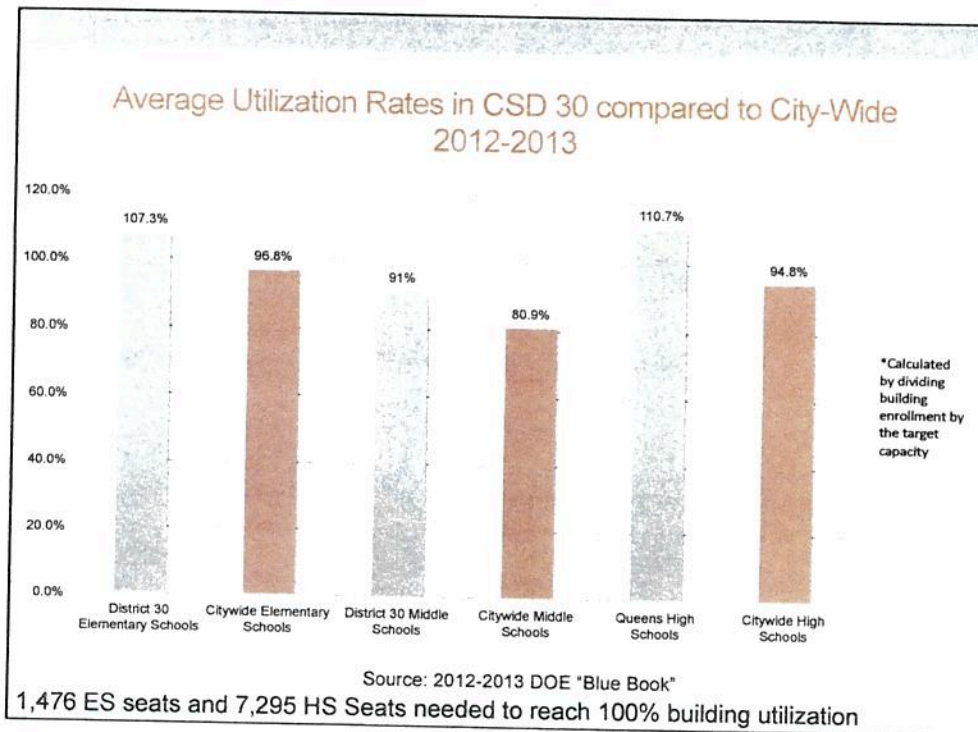
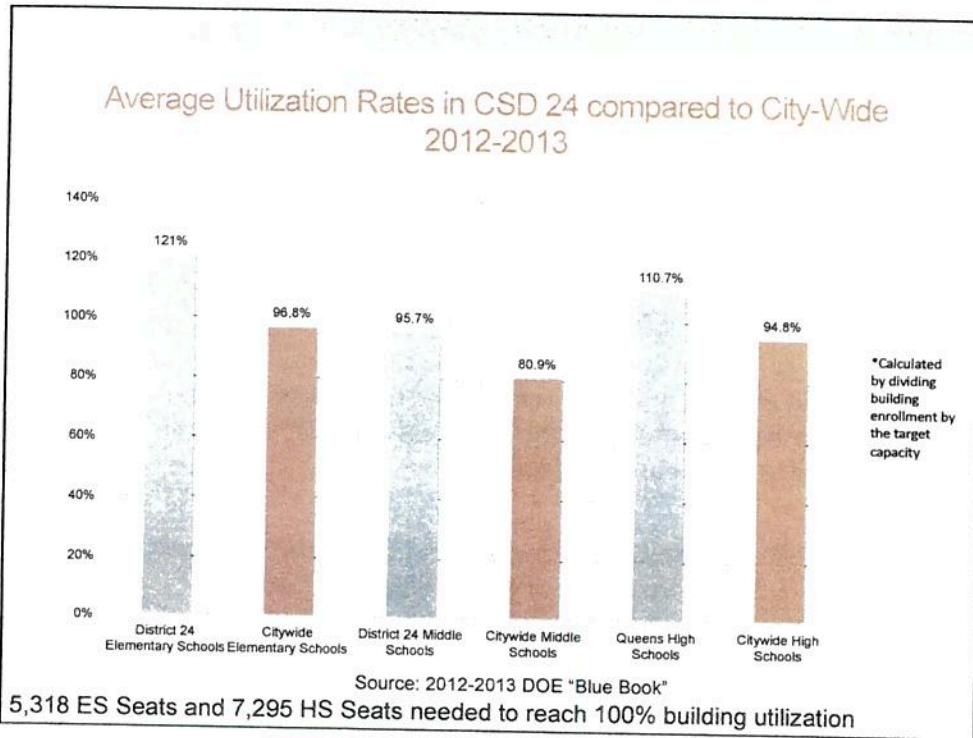
- At the high school level, there are at least 38 TCUs at eight Queens high schools: John Adams, Bayside, Cardozo, Richmond Hill, William Bryant, John Bowne, Francis Lewis, and Jamaica Learning Center.
- All but John Adams HS did not have enrollment figures listed in the report and are not counted in DOE stats on students attending class in trailers.
- There are 68 classrooms in these 38 TCUs and the total capacity is 1,984 across the 8 HS. None of these students are included in the 7,158 total that DOE reports attend classes in TCUs.

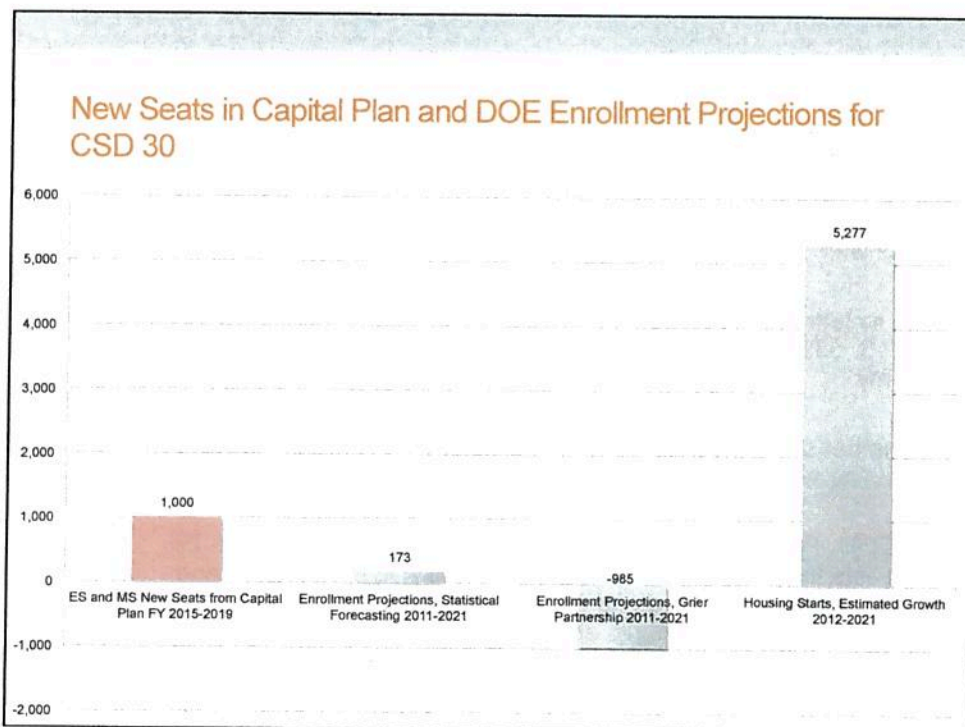
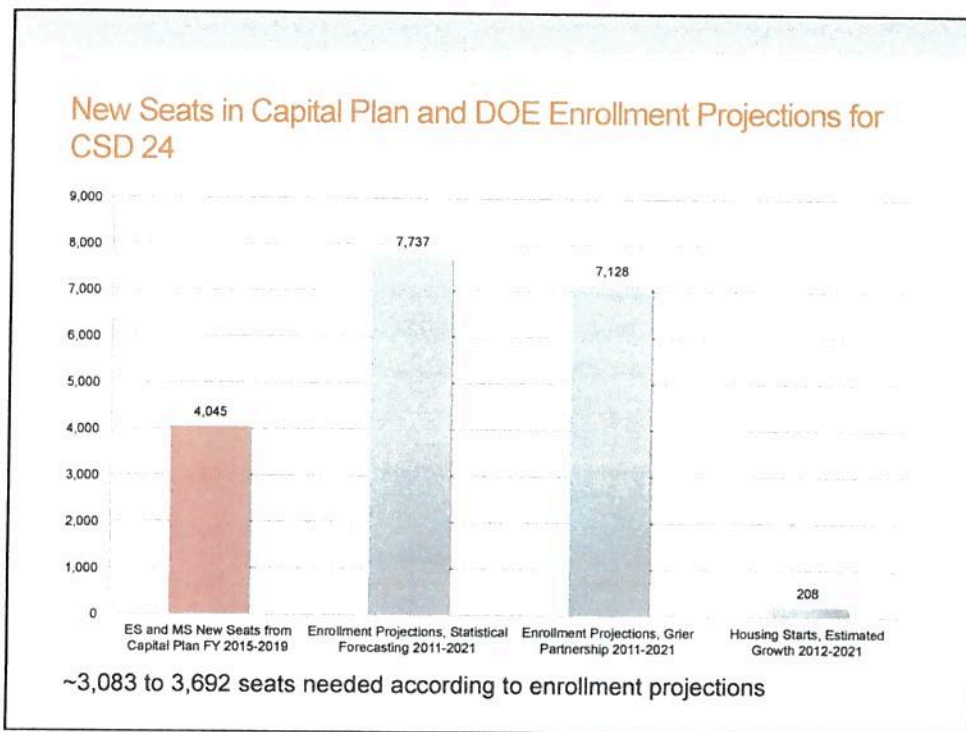
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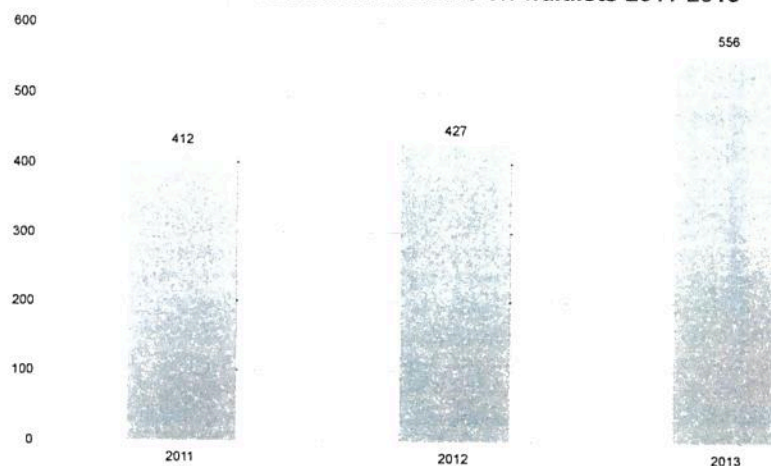
Source: 2012-2013 DOE "Blue Book"





## Kindergarten waitlists in CSD 24 are some of the largest in the city

District 24 Zoned K students on waitlists 2011-2013



## 2014 Kindergarten Waitlists in CSD 24

According to a DNA Info article published April 21, 2014, the waitlist for 2014 is much smaller than 2013. However, District 24 still has five schools with families on waiting lists.

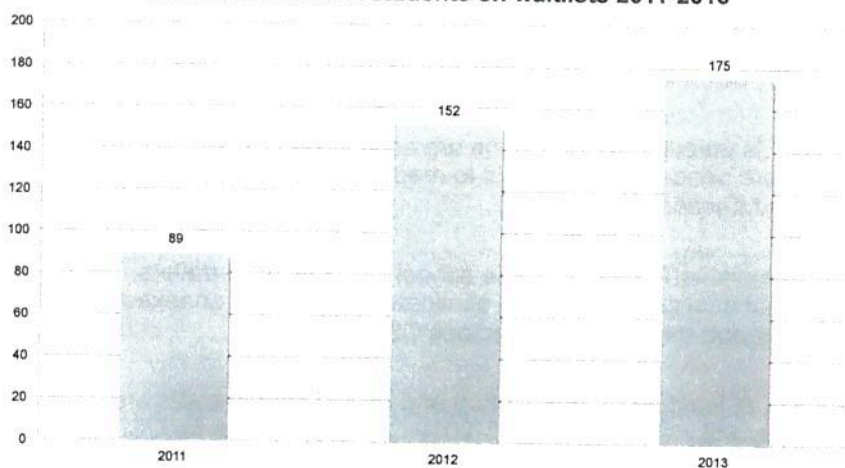
These include: P.S. 012 James B. Colgate, P.S. 049 Dorothy Bonawit Kole, P.S. 089 Elmhurst, P.S. 091 Richard Arkwright, and Pioneer Academy

The number of students on these waitlists and the methodology for determining waitlists has yet to be revealed.

Since 2011, PS 049 and Pioneer Academy have had families on its waiting lists for Kindergarten. In 2011, PS 049 had 63 students and Pioneer Academy had 79 on its waiting lists, by 2013, the number for PS 049 was up by 10 students at 73, and at Pioneer Academy the number was more than double at 167 students.

## Kindergarten waitlists are growing in CS District 30

District 30 zoned K students on waitlists 2011-2013



## 2014 Kindergarten Waitlists in CSD 30

- According to a DNA Info article published April 21, 2014, the waitlist for 2014 is smaller than 2013. However, District 30 still has eight schools with families on waiting lists. The number of students on these waitlists has yet to be published.
- These include: P.S. 017 Henry David Thoreau, P.S. 069 Jackson Heights, P.S./I.S. 78Q, P.S. 149 Christa McAuliffe, P.S. 152 Gwendoline N. Alleyne School, P.S. Q222 - Fire Fighter Christopher A. Santora School, P.S. 228 Early Childhood Magnet School of the Arts, and P.S. 280
- Two schools have had waiting lists since 2011: PS/IS 78 Q and PS 228. Since 2011, the waiting lists have increased from 26 families in 2011 to 31 families in 2013 at PS/IS 78 and from 35 to 38 families at PS 228.

## New seats need for CSD 24

Capital Plan allocates just 4,048 seats for FY 2015-2019 for CSD 24.

To reduce overcrowding, and bring building utilization to 100% at the elementary school level, more than 5,000 seats are needed.

If the DOE's enrollment projections are accurate, more than 3,000 students are needed in the district to meet the enrollment projections for the next decade (2011-2021).

To remove elementary and middle school students from trailers, another 645 seats are needed to eliminate the need for annexes in elementary and middle schools across CSD 24.

Therefore, at least 8,000 elementary and middle school seats are needed beyond what the FY 2015-2019 Capital Plan has for CSD 24.

## New seats need for CSD 30

There are 1,476 seats needed at the elementary school level in CSD 30 to reduce present overcrowding and bring building utilization to 100%.

There are 655 seats needed to remove the students enrolled in schools with TCUs in CSD 30.

The capital plan for FY 2015-2019 currently indicates that 1,000 elementary and middle school seats will be allocated for the district, however there is an unmet need of at least 1,100 additional in CSD 30 elementary and middle schools.

## Unmet need critical in Queens high schools

- More than 7,200 seats in Queens HS are needed to reduce present overcrowding and bring building utilization to 100%.
- These figures underestimate actual level of overcrowding, according to most principals.
- About 2,000 seats are needed to remove Queens high school students from schools with trailers (from capacity figures).
- DOE consultants project an increase in Queens high school enrollment of 12,567- 12,980 by 2021.
- *Yet only 2,802 Queens HS seats proposed in five-year plan, a shortage of more than 17,000 seats.*

## New charter provisions passed in state budget

- Any charter co-located in a NYC school building cannot be evicted and has veto powers before they leave the building – even if they are expanding and squeezing out NYC public school students.
  - This includes any charter co-location agreed to before 2014 – including the three Success charter schools approved right before Bloomberg left office.
  - Any new or charter school in NYC adding grade levels must be "provided access to facilities" w/in five months of asking for it.
  - If they don't like the space offered by the city, they can appeal to the Commissioner King, who is a former charter school director and has never ruled against a charter school.
  - If the DOE doesn't offer them space, the city must pay for a school's rent in private space or give them an extra 20 percent over their operating aid for facilities every year going forward.
  - After the city spends \$40 million per year on charter rent, the state will begin chipping in– though how much is unclear.
- NO FISCAL IMPACT statement or analysis accompanying this bill.
- In addition, the state will provide all charter schools with per-pupil funding increases, amounting to \$500 over the next 3 years and provide them funding for pre-K.

## Charter space provisions ONLY apply to NYC

Upstate legislators fought off making charters eligible for state facilities funds – which would have been better for NYC.

Yet legislators did not block these onerous provisions that were in the budget for NYC, where we have the most expensive real estate & the most overcrowded schools in the state.

Citywide, elementary schools avg. building utilization at 96.8%; high schools at 94.8% according to “target” figures in the Blue Book.

At same time, experts (including Chancellor) agree that the Blue Book underestimates actual level of overcrowding in our schools.

## How many charters will there be entitled to free space?

We have 183 charters in NYC, 119 in co-located space.

22 new charters are approved to open next year or the year after, all entitled to free space.

52 additional charter schools left to approve until we reach the cap raised in 2010 – with legislative approval – all entitled to free space.

Any new or existing co-located charter can also be authorized to expand grade levels through HS and will be entitled to free space.



## Some Recommendations

- 34,000 seats in capital plan is far too low, esp. given existing overcrowding, projected enrollment, preK expansion, class size reduction, new mandates to provide charter schools with space, & in comparison to de Blasio's plan to create 200,000 affordable housing units.
- Expand the five year capital plan to at least 49,000 seats (DOE's admitted need).
- Require DOE to release its needs assessment and commission an independent analysis by City Comptroller, IBO or other agency.
- Consider reforms to planning process so that schools are built along with housing in future through inclusionary zoning, impact fees etc.