

The NJ School Construction Program in Jersey City

A short history of the NJ SCC/SDA
impact on the Jersey City Public Schools

NJSDA in Jersey City

Early Childhood Centers

- Evolution
- Map of planned Early Childhood Centers
- Suspension and impact on District
 - Busing
 - Contaminated site
 - Condemnation and demo of property
 - Trailers
- Next Steps

NJSDA in Jersey City

Early Childhood Centers

- Evolution

- 1990-Jersey City's Early Childhood program was initiated 25 years ago, prior to State mandate.
- 1990 through 2000-Most of the current Early Childhood trailers were in place by 2000, prior to the NJSCC TCU initiative in 2001.
- 2000- NJDOE approved Long Range Facilities Plan indicated the need for 15 new Permanent Early Childhood Centers for 2,145 EC students then housed in TCU's.

NJSDA in Jersey City Early Childhood Centers

- Evolution
 - 2001-NJSCC TCU Initiative leased only 8 trailers for Jersey City Early Childhood program. The NJSCC rejected JCPS request to pick up lease costs for existing trailers.
 - The NJSCC TCU's were provided as temporary space pending the construction of permanent Early Childhood Facilities.
 - 2003- District identifies potential sites/ NJSCC acquisition begins for new ECC's

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Early Childhood Centers

- Evolution
 - 2008- NJSDA acquires land for ECC 13; NJSDA begins preliminary site construction at ECC 14 (owned by NJDOE) behind Regional Day School
 - 2011- the NJSDA's 2011 Capital Plan excludes construction of Early Childhood Centers ECC13 and ECC14- all related planning and construction activities are suspended

NJSDA in Jersey City Early Childhood Centers

- Evolution
 - 2011- NJSDA offers/ the District accepts the option to purchase the 6 TCU's in lieu of removal, since there are no permanent facilities available to replace these PreK seats at that time.
 - 2014- NJDOE approved Long Range Facilities Plan indicates the continuing need for 13 new Permanent Early Childhood Centers for 3,965 (PreK 4) EC students projected for 2018-19.

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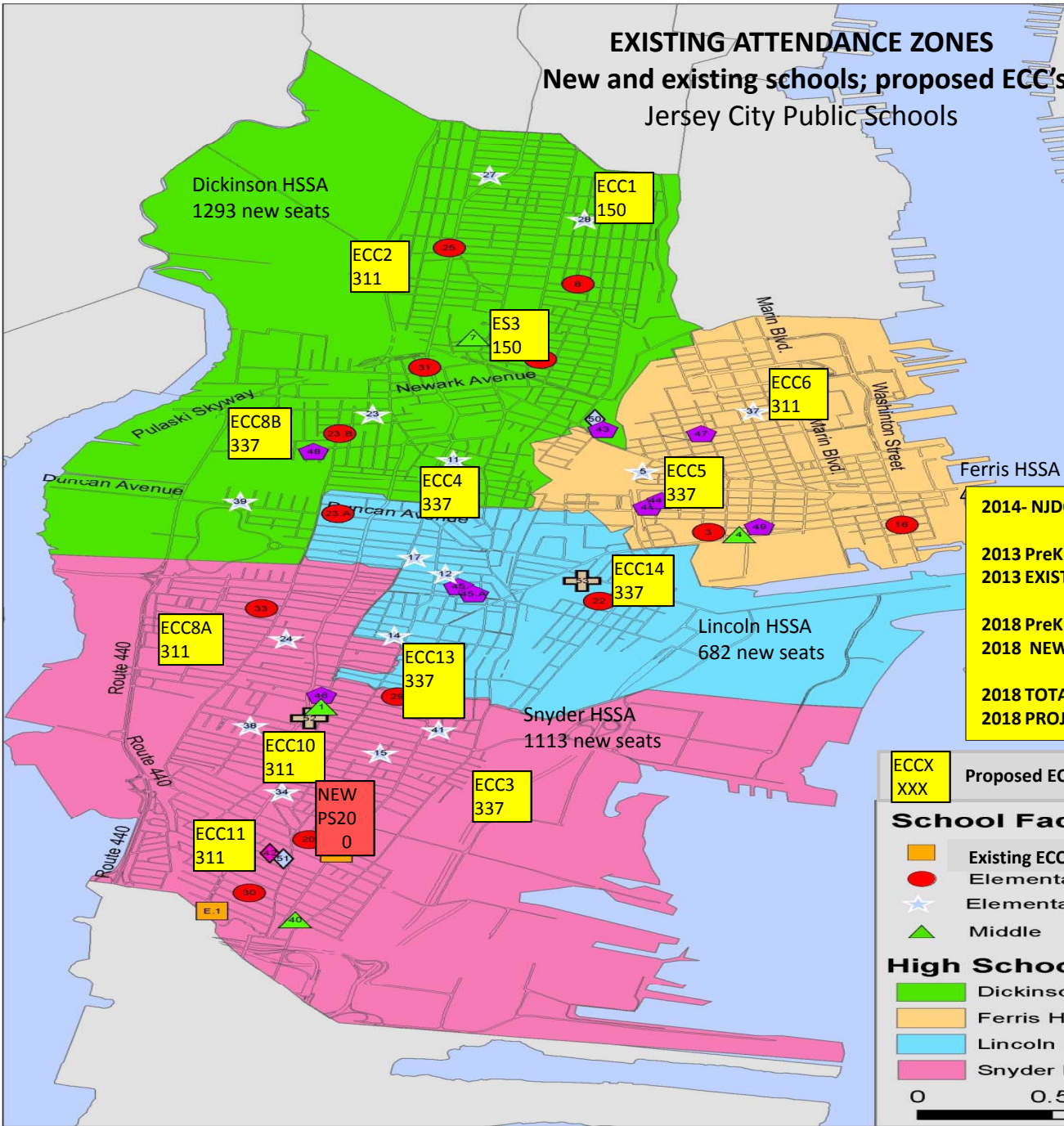
Early Childhood Centers

- Evolution- Early Childhood Facilities built and/or renovated in Jersey City under the NJ School Construction program:
 - 2005 – 75 seat Cunningham EC Center completed, the only ECC built by NJ SCC/SDA to date.

EXISTING ATTENDANCE ZONES
New and existing schools; proposed ECC's
Jersey City Public Schools

Facility Number

- 1 The Academy I
- 3 Frank R. Conwell School
- 4 Middle School # 4
- 5 Dr. Michael Coniti School
- 6 Jotham W. Wakeman School
- 7 Franklin L. Williams School
- 8 Charles E. Trefurt School
- 11 Martin Luther King, Jr. School
- 12 Julia A. Barnes School
- 14 Ollie Culbreth, Jr. School
- 15 Whitney M. Young, Jr. School
- 16 Cornelia F. Bradford School
- 17 Joseph H. Brensinger School
- 20 PS # 20
- 22 Rev. Dr. Erceel F. Webb School
- 23 Mahatma K. Gandhi School
- 23 A PS #23 Duncan Annex
- 23 B PS 23 West Side Annex
- 24 Chaplain Charles Watters School
- 25 Nicolaus Copernicus School
- 27 Alfred Zampella School
- 28 Christa McAuliffe School
- 29 Gladys Nunery School
- 30 Alexander D. Sullivan School
- 31 Anthony J. Infante School
- 33 PS # 33
- 34 PS # 34
- 37 Rafael de J. Cordero School
- 38 James F. Murray School
- 39 Dr. Charles P. DeFuccio School
- 40 Ezra L. Nolan School
- 41 Center for the Arts
- 42 Infinity Institute
- 43 William L. Dickinson High School
- 44 James J. Ferris High School
- 44 A Ferris High School Junior Academy
- 45 Lincoln High School
- 45 A Dr. Charles Epps Freshman Academy
- 46 Henry Snyder High School
- 47 Dr. Ronald McNair High School
- 48 Liberty High School
- 49 Bright Street Academy
- 50 Adult Evening High School
- 51 Adult Day School
- 52 A. Harry Moore School



2014- NJDOE APPROVED LRFP:

2013 PreK 4 enrollment= 2063
 2013 EXISTING ECC SEATS (not TCU's)= 135

2018 PreK 4 projected enrollment= 3965
 2018 NEW ECC SEATS PROPOSED= 3727

2018 TOTAL APPD. ECC SEATS (FES)= 4120
 2018 PROJECTED SURPLUS= 155 SEATS(3.8%)

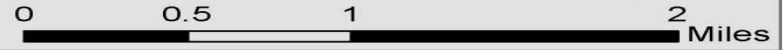
ECCX
XXX
 Proposed ECC

School Facilities by Type

- Existing ECC
- Elementary
- Elementary/Middle
- Middle
- Middle/High
- Adult
- High
- SCSE

High School Attendance Areas

- Dickinson HSSA
- Ferris HSSA
- Lincoln HSSA
- Snyder HSSA



NJSDA in Jersey City Early Childhood Centers

Suspension and impact on District

- Busing
 - ECC trailers are located outside of attendance areas in need of ECC seats and require continued busing. The need for busing limits enrollments of eligible children in the Early Education Program as many parents decline busing of 3 and 4 year old children.
- Abandonment of construction of new Early Childhood Centers
 - Forces District to continue housing EC students in 25+ year old trailers that are intended for temporary use.
 - Increases overcrowding in elementary schools where classrooms must be used for EC students.

NJSDA in Jersey City Early Childhood Centers

Suspension and impact on District

- Abandonment of construction of new Early Childhood Centers (continued)
 - Abandonment of ECC13 project left vacant site, after homeowners displaced through preceding condemnation.
 - Abandonment of ECC 14 project left a partially excavated, but unremediated, site that has not been restored to a condition that is useable by students after 4 years.

NJSDA in Jersey City

Early Childhood Centers

Suspension and impact on District (continued)

- Continued use of Trailer classrooms for EC program
 - Additional District funding -The District funded a comprehensive trailer evaluation to determine renovation/replacement needed to maintain existing trailers until permanent ECC facilities are built.
 - Trailers continue to occupy open space at school facilities, depriving these schools of desirable outdoor play and outdoor classroom space.
 - EC classrooms in elementary schools contribute to overcrowding in some schools.

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Early Childhood Centers

- Next Steps
 - Trailer renovation/replacement requires additional local funding
 - Pursue previously initiated Education Law Center litigation efforts
 - Engage public officials to lobby for Jersey City construction of Early Childhood Centers

NJSDA in Jersey City

New and Replacement Schools

- Evolution
- Issues
 - Poor workmanship
 - Unresolved punchlist issues
 - Oldest buildings not replaced
- Suspension and Impact on District
 - Intensive maintenance on oldest buildings
 - Vacant, unremediated sites
 - Students remain in educationally inadequate buildings
- Next Steps

NJSDA in Jersey City

New and Replacement Schools

- Evolution

- **July 2002**- NJ School Construction Corporation created under the NJ Economic Dev. Authority

- New facilities at PS3, MS4, MS7, Cunningham ECC and LHS Freshman Academy, and built between 2005- 2007 under NJSCC.
 - Designs for new facilities – PS35, new A. Harry Moore, new Visual Performing Arts HS – commenced, but suspended in 2005 pending investigation of NJSCC by Inspector General.
 - Renovations/Addition designs for PS12, PS14, PS24 are advanced, but suspended in 2005 pending investigation of NJSCC by Inspector General.

NJSDA in Jersey City

New and Replacement Schools

- Evolution (continued)
 - **July 2005**- NJSCC 2005 Capital Plan includes 5 Jersey City projects-PS34, ECC13, ECC14, ECC3, PS24
 - April 2007**- NJSCC Capital Deferral Plan -only PS34 renovations are constructed. Other projects suspended pending further funding
 - Aug 2007-July 2008**- NJ Schools Development Authority created to replace NJSCC ; NJSDA 2008 Capital Plan includes PS20, ECC3,ECC13, ECC14 and ES3 (in lieu of PS24).

NJSDA in Jersey City

New and Replacement Schools

- Evolution (continued)
 - **April 2011** –NJSDA 2011 Capital Plan includes only 1 JC project from 2008 Capital plan –ES3
PS20 Parents engage Senator Cunningham, who has PS20 added to the 2011 Capital Plan (this will be the third time this project is designed).
 - **April 2015**- NJSDA Capital Planning includes no additional Jersey City projects at this time.
 - **2016** -construction completion anticipated for both ES3 and the new PS20

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New and Replacement Schools

- Evolution- facilities built and/or renovated
 - 2005 Lincoln HS – Freshman Academy
 - 2005 Glenn Cunningham Early Childhood Center
 - 2006 Frank R. Conwell MS4
 - 2006 Frank R. Conwell PS 3 Replacement School
 - 2007 Franklin L. Williams Middle School – MS7
 - 2016 PS20 Replacement School
 - 2016 New Elementary School in Heights –ES3

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New and Replacement Schools

- Issues
 - Resources wasted in repeated cycles of funding/ suspension of projects as with PS20 –designed three times
 - Workmanship issues at new PS3/MS4 led to 2007 JCPS litigation with NJSCC. In 2014, NJSDA corrected select items.
 - “Punchlist” issues at MS7 were dismissed from the 2007 litigation.
 - NJSDA will correct only select items. Local funds allocated to correct major issues including pervasive deterioration of exterior planter walls, chiller replacement.
 - Oldest buildings require additional funds to address continuing conditions of the failing infrastructure.

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New and Replacement Schools

- Suspension and impact on District
 - Abandonment of PS12, 14 and 24 additions after land acquisition left a vacant sites after displacing homeowners through preceding condemnation. Vacant lots are currently leased by District for staff parking. NJSDA has no plan to resume these projects at present.
 - NJ SDA and local funding required on a continuing basis to address failing infrastructure that would have been replaced as part of the suspended renovations.
 - Students remain in educationally inadequate facilities

NJSDA in Jersey City

New and Replacement Schools

- Next Steps
 - Pursue NJSDA funding for abandoned projects for remaining replacement schools
 - Pursue NJSDA funding for abandoned projects for which land has been acquired

NJSDA in Jersey City

Emergent Health & Safety

- Evolution
- Issues
 - Lack of predictable NJSDA funding schedule or timeline
 - Insufficient funding for large districts with old buildings
 - Emergent vs. Emergency
- Suspension and Impact on District
 - Examples
- Next Steps

NJSDA in Jersey City

Emergent Health & Safety

- Evolution

- **2000**- Education Facilities Construction and Financing Act enacted.

- **2002- 2004** Health and Safety projects advanced by NJ SCC at all schools

- **2008**- NJ Department of Education issues letter authorizing NJ SDA to proceed with construction of 4 emergent projects from list of 22 potential emergent projects submitted by JCPS in Nov 2007.

NJSDA in Jersey City

Emergent Health & Safety

- Evolution

- **2012**- NJ DOE/ NJ SDA approves 6 emergent projects from list of 39 potential projects submitted by JCPS in June 2011

- **2014** – JCPS submits list of 41 potential emergent projects to NJDOE for emergent funding approval – no response to date

NJSDA in Jersey City

Emergent Health & Safety

- Evolution- facilities built and/or renovated
 - 2002-04 Various Health & Safety projects including masonry repairs, roof replacement or repair, window replacement/repair, boiler replacement and other infrastructure repairs at all District owned buildings.
 - 2006 Boiler replacements at various schools; Dickinson HS terracotta masonry repairs
 - 2008 PS34 Exterior Masonry and Window Replacement

NJSDA in Jersey City

Emergent Health & Safety

- Evolution- facilities built and/or renovated
 - 2009 – NJSDA Section 13A grants for 4 projects- Boiler Replacement at PS12, PS14; Roof Replacement at Dickinson and Snyder HS
 - 2013- NJSDA provides Section 13A grants for 6 projects- Boiler Replacement at PS23 Duncan Annex, Roof Replacement at Ferris HS, PS25; Masonry Repairs at A. Harry Moore, PS30; Window Replacement at PS25

NJSDA in Jersey City

Emergent Health & Safety

- Issues

- NJ SDA has established no predictable schedule or cycle for review / funding of emergent projects. Past reviews took place in 2002, 2007 and 2011.
- During the NJSDA review process, protracted evaluation of potential emergent projects can take several months.
- District planning for emergent project funding is difficult with no predictable NJSDA funding or timelines. Local funds are more easily planned, but should be reserved for projects that are not eligible for emergent funding.

NJSDA in Jersey City

Emergent Health & Safety

- Issues
 - NJSDA funding for emergent projects does not sufficiently support the necessary capital maintenance in Jersey City. Each year, several projects are added to the long list of emergent projects, but only a very few are addressed by the current NJSDA process.
 - At any time, if the NJSDA deems the project an emergency, the District is fully responsible for costs to mitigate emergency conditions.

NJSDA in Jersey City

Emergent Health & Safety

- Impact on District

- **Example #1- Protracted approval process**

- Jersey City received NJDOE approvals for emergent projects including A. Harry Moore (January 25, 2010) and PS25 (March 25, 2010) roof replacement, PS23 Boiler replacement (May13, 2010). The original project approvals were obtained only after a protracted review, involving several site visits by the NJDOE County Superintendent, the NJSDA and their consultants; and then, only after a consensus was reached by all agencies, was an approval issued by the NJDOE.

Nevertheless, no action was taken by NJSDA to advance the projects.

NJSDA in Jersey City

Emergent Health & Safety

- Impact on District

- **Example #1** (continued)

- District funds finally had to be used to finance the roof replacement at A. Harry Moore School due to the severity of the leaks, which had caused several classrooms to be vacated.

(As a result of the major roof leaks at A. Harry Moore, a school for severely handicapped children, NJCU threatened to move to another facility, which would have meant that more special needs students would have to be sent to out-of- district schools at great cost to the District.)

The District's request for reimbursement was rejected by NJSDA, even though the project had been approved previously. Since that time, the District has sought grants for approved projects, allowing the District more control over project timelines.

NJSDA in Jersey City

Emergent Health & Safety

- Impact on District

- **Example #2- Unpredictable funding hinders planning**

- Ferris HS had major leaking, even with intensive repairs. The District applied, in June 2011, for NJ DOE/SDA approval as an emergent project eligible for funding; received approval 9 months later in March 2012; was offered a grant 6 months later in Sept 2012 (15 months from application).
 - During this time, the District began design work on the Auditorium roof because there was no way to know if we would obtain NJ SDA approvals or funds for this work. Schematic design was approved by the BOE as an “Other Capital Project” (locally funded) and submitted to NJ DOE in Mar 2012.

NJSDA in Jersey City

Emergent Health & Safety

- Impact on District
 - **Example #2 (continued)**
 - When the District was notified Mar 2012 that the FHS roof was determined eligible for NJ SDA funding for the entire roof, the “Other Capital Project” was abandoned.
 - Although the project was eligible for funding in Mar 2012, it was not until 6 months later, in Sept 2012, that a grant offer was issued.
 - Projects previously approved for PS23 Duncan Boiler and PS25 Roof Replacement were again evaluated and approved for emergent funding in 2012. These projects are currently in the construction phase and will be completed in 2015.

NJSDA in Jersey City

Emergent Health & Safety

- Next Steps
 - Lobby NJDOE/NJSDA to permit Districts to apply for emergent capital funding on a regular schedule , tied to the regular budget cycle. This will allow for better capital planning by the District for coordinated use of both NJSDA and local funds.