



Date: March 22, 2010

Topic: Proposed Chancellor's Regulation D-160

Date of Panel Vote: March 23, 2010

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### **Summary of Proposal**

Chancellor's Regulation D-160 governing the eligibility requirements and the nomination and selection procedures for members of the Citywide Council on High Schools has been updated in accordance with the 2009 amendments to the Education Law. Changes include:

- The Citywide Council on High Schools (CCHS) now consists of thirteen voting members who serve a two-year term, including: ten voting members who shall be parents of students attending high schools (two members from each borough), one voting member appointed by the Citywide Council on Special Education ("CCSE") who shall be a parent of a high school student with an individualized education program, one voting member appointed by the Citywide Council on English Language Learners ("CCELL") who shall be a parent of a student in a bilingual or English as a second language program conducted in a public high school, and one voting member appointed by the Public Advocate of the City of New York who shall be a resident of the city and have extensive business, trade or education experience and knowledge. The CCHS also includes one non-voting student member who serves a one-year term. (See page 1, Abstract and pages 3-4, Section V)
- The eligibility section has been revised to exclude members of the Panel for Educational Policy from eligibility to serve on the CCHS. (See page 1, Section I.A.3.)
- Presidents and officers of parents' associations ("PA") or parent-teachers' associations ("PTA") are no longer ineligible to serve on a CEC; however, PA/PTA presidents and officers who are candidates in the selection process shall not be eligible to cast votes in the selection process. The PA/PTA shall select a member to vote in the place of each such president or officer for the purposes of the selection process. (See page 2, Section III)
- The following changes have been made to the procedures for filling vacancies : (1) parents of high school students shall be given the opportunity to make written

recommendations for filling the vacancy and to consult with the CCHS before the vacancy is filled; (2) when a vacancy occurs in a position appointed by the CCSE or CCELL, the appointing council shall appoint a member to serve the remainder of the unexpired term; and (3) when a vacancy occurs in the position appointed by the Public Advocate, the Public Advocate shall appoint a member to serve the remainder of the unexpired term. (See page 5, Section IX)

### **Summary of Issues Raised in Written and Oral Comments and Significant Alternatives Suggested**

The public comments received are summarized as follows: (1) the composition of the CCHS should include parents of students enrolled in talent/audition, technical, and specialized high schools; (2) the nominees' forums for all citywide councils should be held at the same time; and (3) the selectors of the CCHS should be the same selectors by Chancellor's Regulation D-140 for the Community Education Councils (CECs).

### **Analysis of Issues Raised, Significant Alternatives Proposed and Changes Made to the Proposal**

The DOE did not accept the recommendations proposed and will present the regulation to the Panel for Educational Policy as it is posted for several reasons. First, the regulation states that parents of public high school students are eligible to serve on the council. Parents of students enrolled in talent/audition, technical, and specialized high schools are not prohibited from serving on the council. Second, for the citywide councils that will hold elections this year (CCSE and CCELL), the Office for Family Engagement and Advocacy (OFEA) is planning to hold the nominees' forums to be held in each borough on the same nights and will continue to make every effort to do so in future election years. No such requirement, however, has been incorporated into the regulations. Finally, the DOE did not accept the commenter's suggestion that the selectors of the CCHS be the same as the selectors required by Chancellor's Regulation D-140, which governs the selection process for CECs. Chancellor's Regulation D-140 states that CEC members shall be selected by the PA/PTA officers from every school in the community school district. High schools are not under the jurisdiction of the community school districts and, therefore, members of the CCHS cannot be selected by the PA/PTA officers of community district schools. Moreover, because the CCHS is a council designed to represent the interests of parents of high school students, its members must be selected by the parents that they will represent.

A copy of the regulation can be obtained at  
<http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/publicnotice/Regulations>