

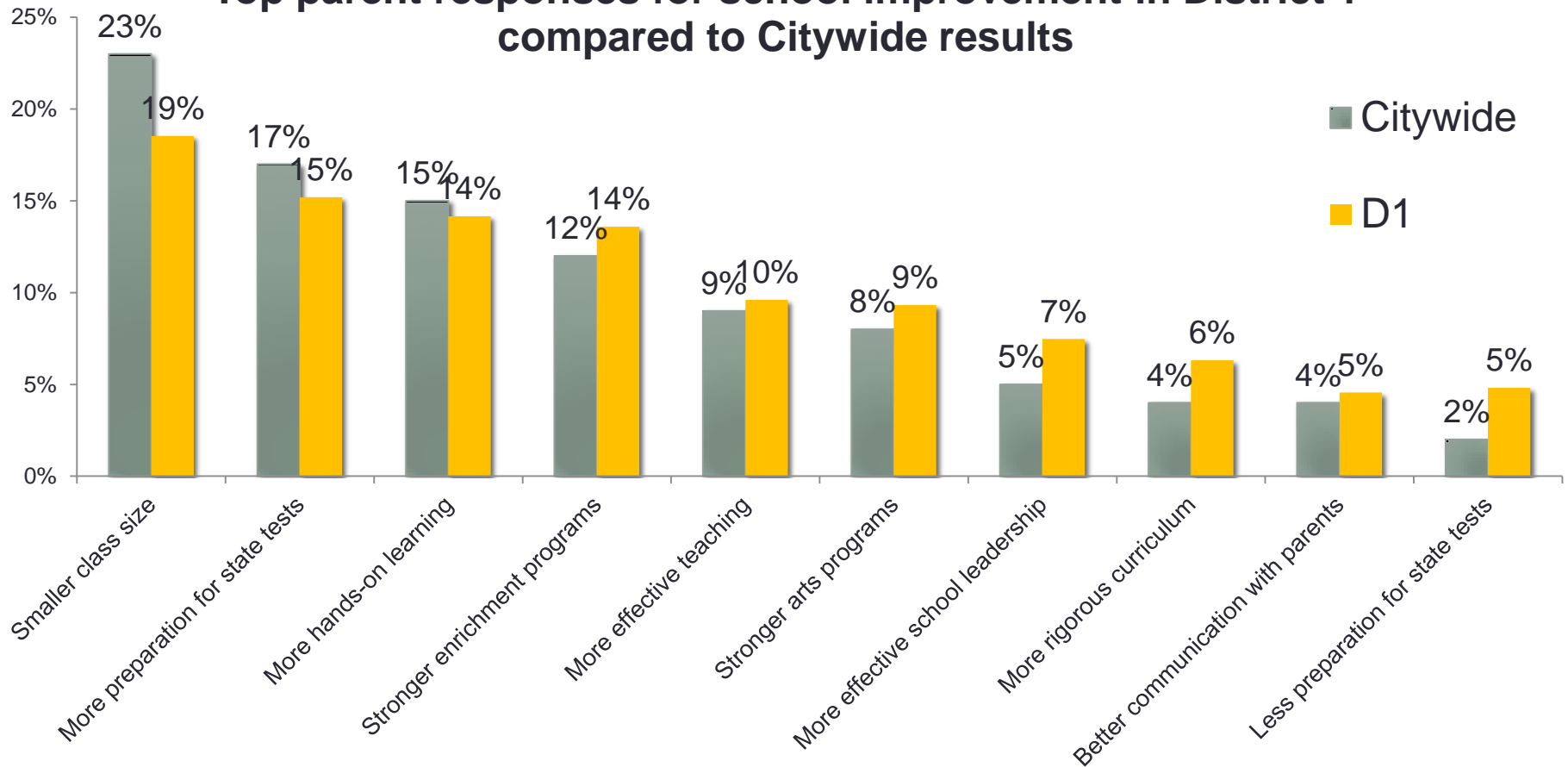
HOW DOE'S C4E PLAN DOES NOTHING TO ADDRESS CLASS SIZE OR OVERCROWDING IN D1 AND CITYWIDE

Miho Watabe for Class Size Matters

November 18, 2015

Reducing class size #1 priority of parents in D1 and citywide

Top parent responses for school improvement in District 1 compared to Citywide results



Data Source: 2014* NYC School Survey Results

**this question was eliminated from the 2015 NYC School Survey*

CFE and C4E

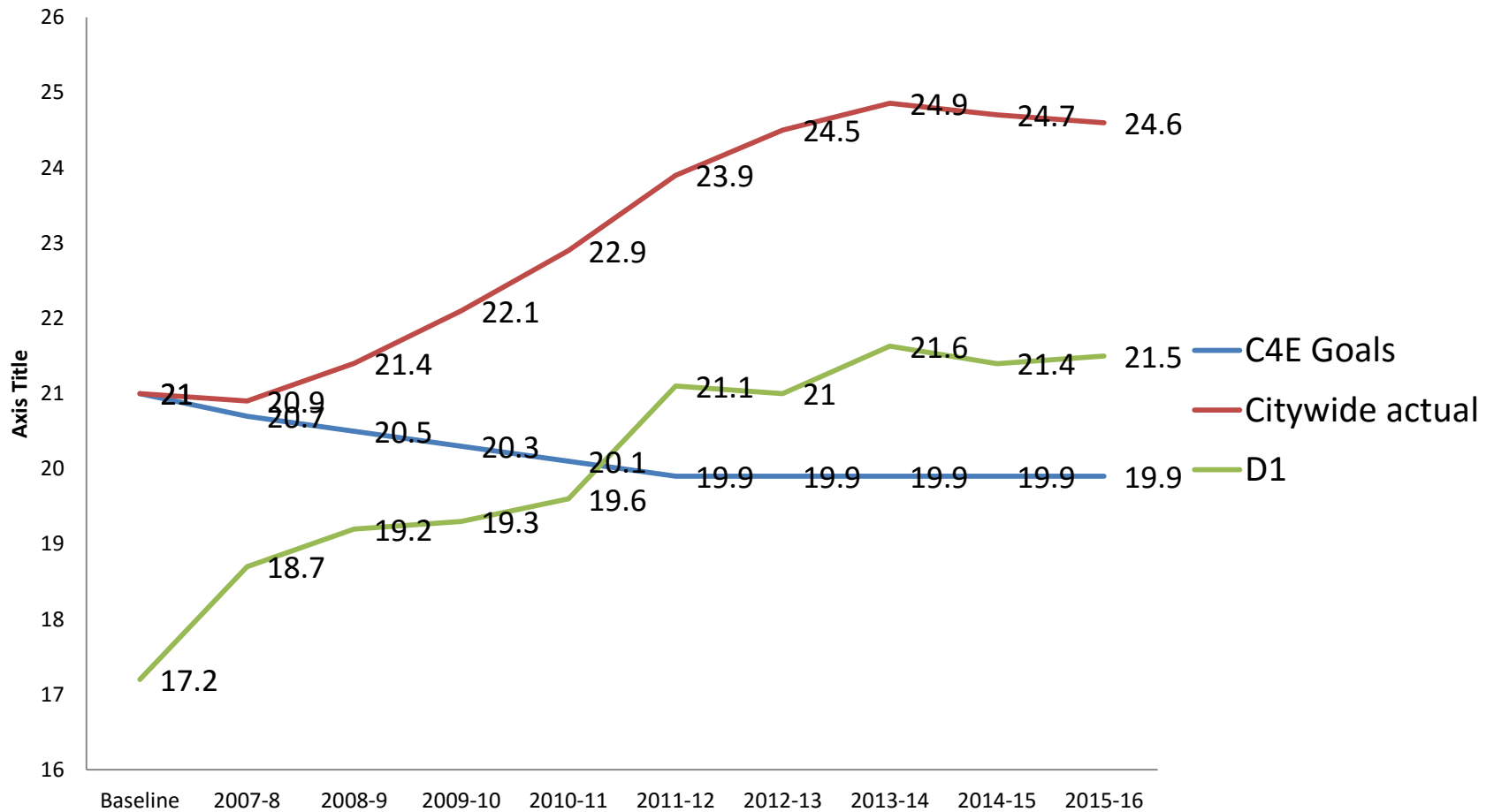
- In 2003, NYS Court of Appeals concluded (in the Campaign for Fiscal Equity (CFE) case) that NYC kids were denied their fundamental constitutional right to an adequate education. A key issue in the case was class size.
- “[T]ens of thousands of students are placed in overcrowded classrooms, taught by unqualified teachers, and provided with inadequate facilities and equipment. The number of children in these straits is large enough to represent a systemic failure.” - (Campaign for Fiscal Equity, Inc., et al. v. State of New York, et al., 100 N.Y.2d 893, 911-12 (2003) (“CFE II”).
- In 2007, a new state law was passed: the Contracts for Excellence (C4E) that provided NYC with extra funds on condition that the city also submit a plan to reduce class size in all grades.

DOE's class size reduction plan

- In Nov. 2007, the DOE submitted a plan to gradually reduce average class size over five years at three different grade ranges.
- In K-3, class sizes to be reduced to no more than 20 students per class, in grades 4-8 no more than 23 and HS core classes would be no more than 25 on average
- Yet each year since 2008, class sizes have ***increased*** rather than decreased and are remain at very high levels especially in early grades.

K-3 class sizes in CSD 1 dropped slightly this fall but increased since 2006 by 17.1% from below C4E goals to above

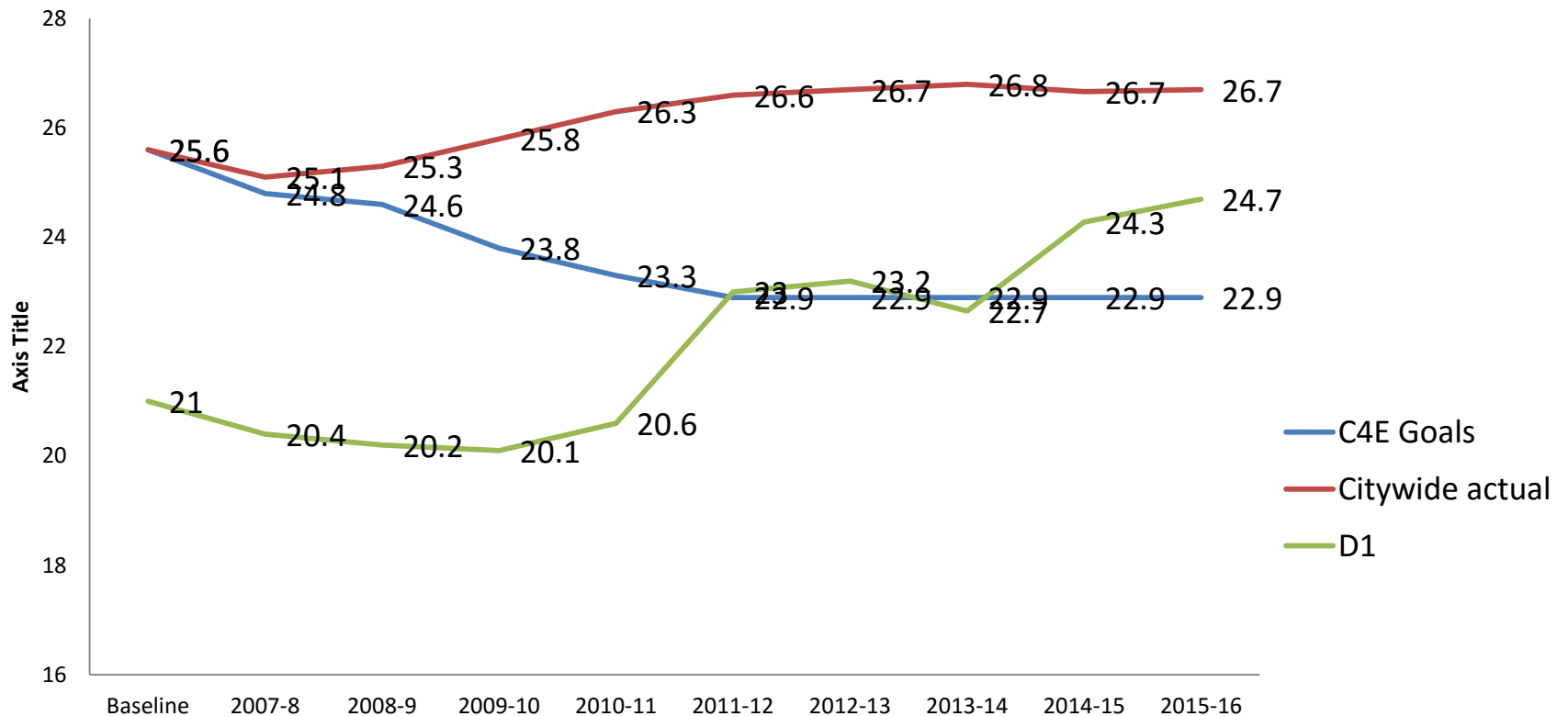
D1 K-3 Class Size Averages used to be way below C4E goals, now on the rise



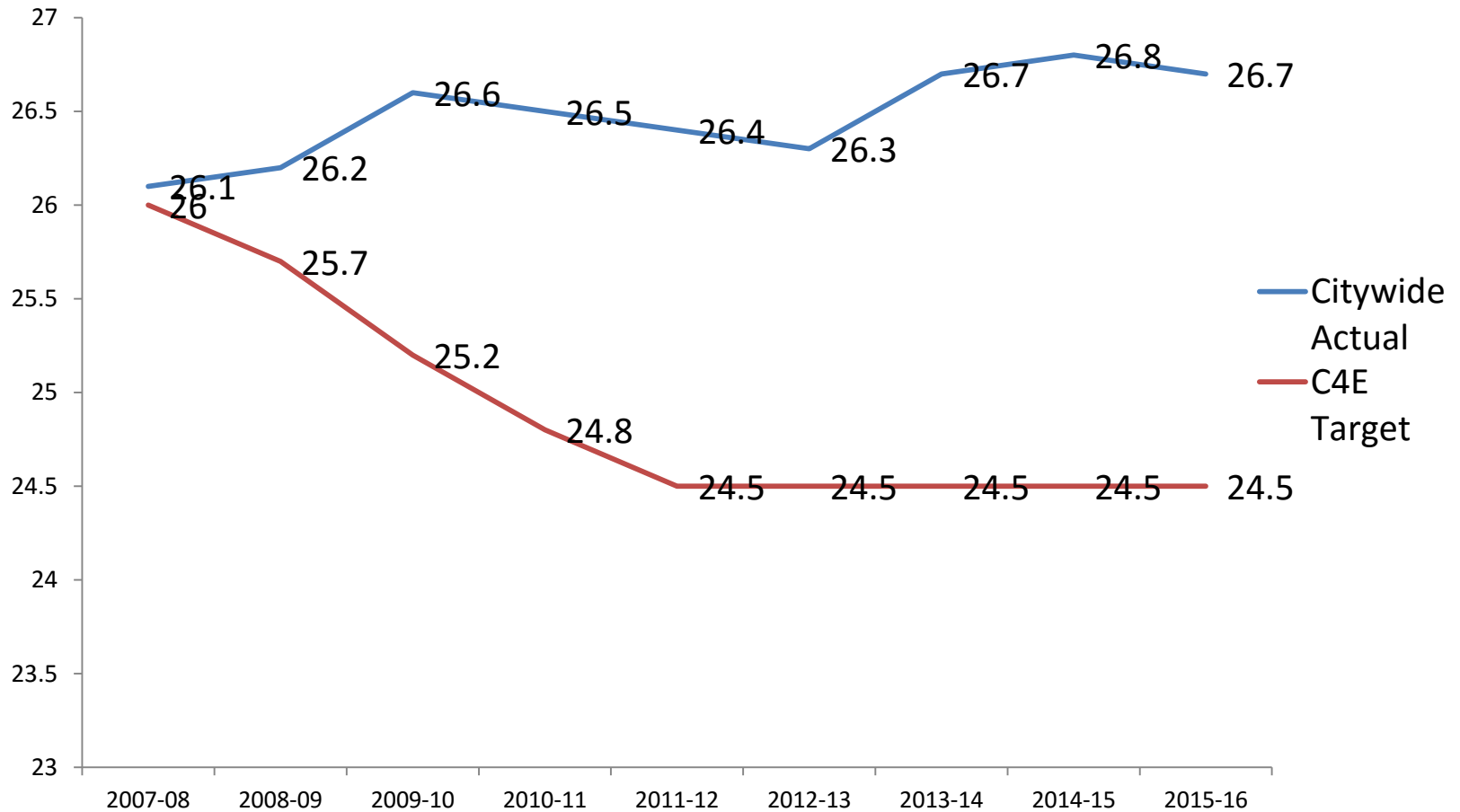
Data sources: DOE Class Size Reports 2006-2015, 2008 DOE Contracts for Excellence Approved Plan

CSD 1's class sizes in grades 4-8 up this year & increased by 17.6% since 2009 from below to above C4E goals

D1 4-8 Class Size Avergaes used to be below C4E goals, now on the rise



HS Class sizes city-wide have increased in core HS classes as well, by 2.3% since 2007, though the DOE data is unreliable*

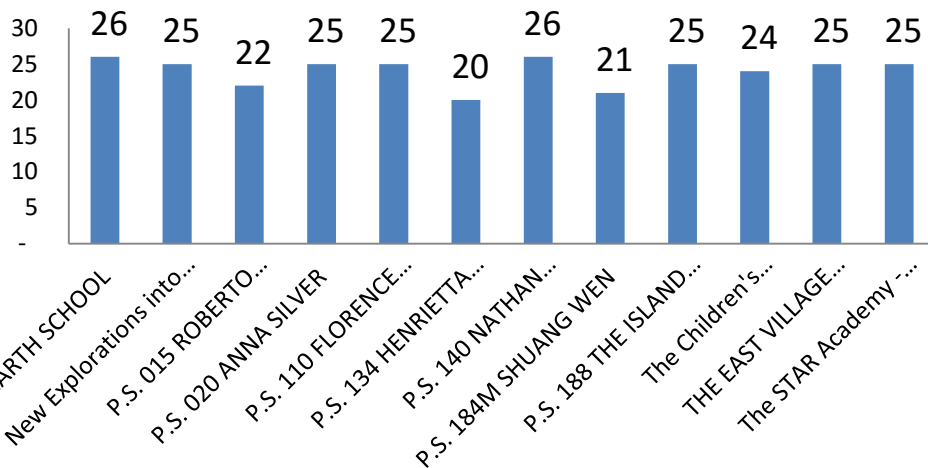


*DOE's class size data is unreliable & their methodology for calculating HS averages have changed year to year

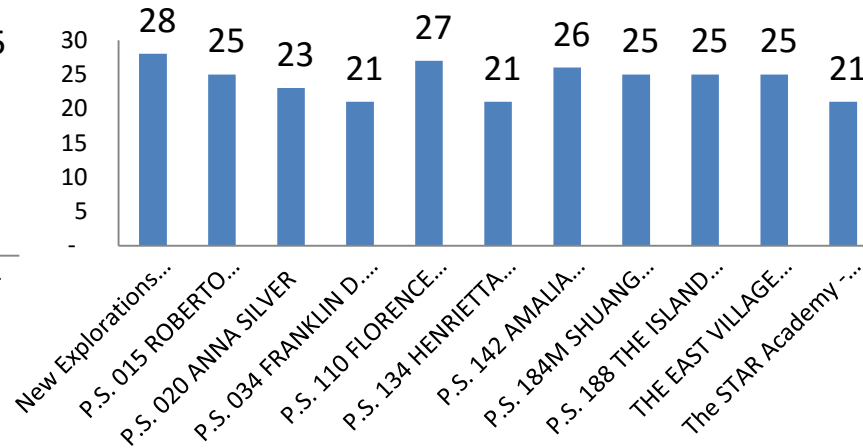
Data sources: DOE Class Size Reports 2007-2015, 2008 DOE Contracts for Excellence Approved Plan

Examples of schools in D1 with large class sizes, K-3

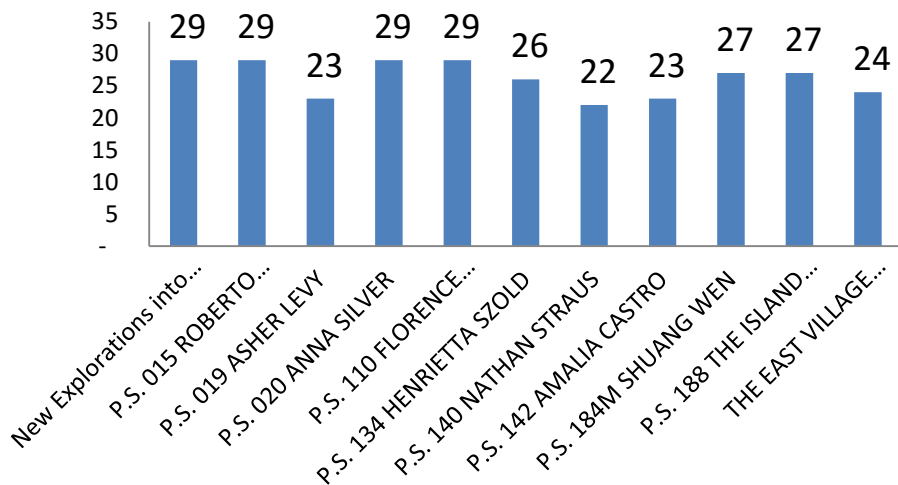
D1 Kindergarten



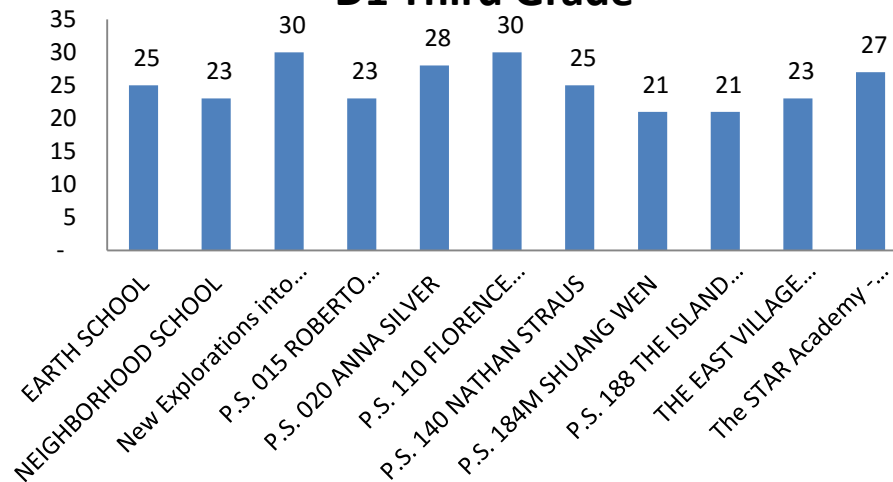
D1 First Grade



Second Grade



D1 Third Grade



Source: 2014-16 DOE Class Size Report

DOE claims Focusing Class Size Reduction on Renewal Schools but Fails

- In the DOE PowerPoint presented to CECs last month: ***“For the 2015-26 school year, NYCDOE will focus class Size Reduction planning efforts on the school renewal program.”*** *

AND YET:

- Our analysis of this year’s class data shows most Renewal Schools still have classes with 30 or more students
- Very few met the C4E goals of 20 in K-3, 23 in 4th-8th and 25 in core High School classes.
- In D1, there are two renewal schools that did reduce class size slightly, but neither PS 15 nor Henry St. School for International Studies capped class sizes at C4E levels.
- Henry Street has a ICT Algebra class of 30, and PS 15 2nd grade ICT class of 29.

*

<http://schools.nyc.gov/NR/rdonlyres/26881653-C4C8-4ACC-AD13-537D6B93B486/187463/2016C4ECECPresentation.pptx>

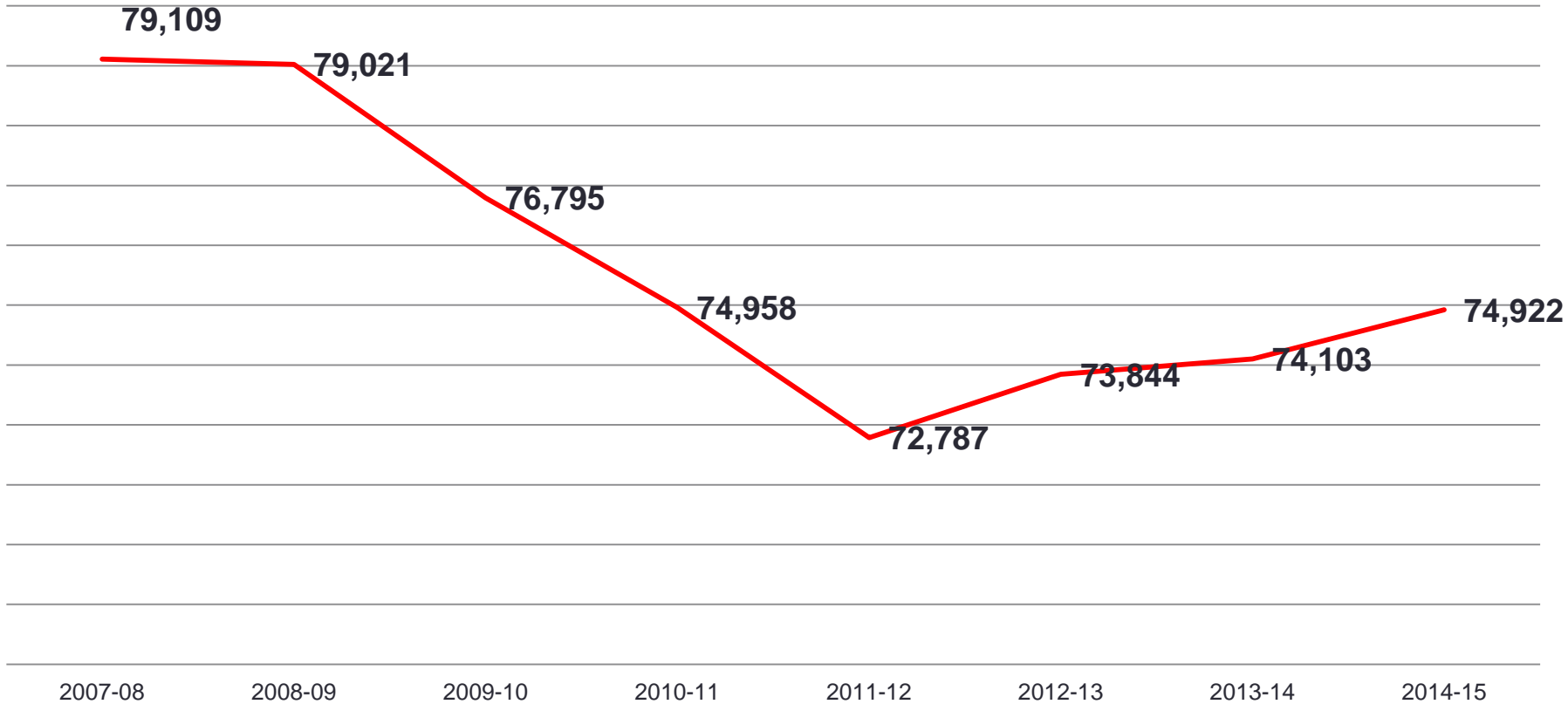
Why have class sizes increased? DOE cut school budgets by 14% since 2007

- In the C4E law, says these state funds must “**supplement not supplant**” city funds, meaning DOE could not cut back its own funding for staffing in schools when the state increased its funding.
- INSTEAD, starting in 2007, budgets were cut and schools began using C4E funds to fill holes in their Fair Student Funding allocations.
- This year, in its C4E plan, for the first time DOE admits allowing supplanting – but also claims that they have permission for this to occur:

“Expenditures made using C4E funds must ‘supplement, not supplant’” funding provided by the school district; however, SED has provided guidance explaining that certain expenditures may be paid for with C4E funds even though these programs or expenditures were originally or have been typically paid for by the district or by other grants.”

Loss of more than 4,000 Teachers since 2007

Total no. of teachers
(data source: Mayor's Management report)



Four other ways city has encouraged class size increases

- In 2010, the DOE eliminated the early grade class size reduction funding for K-3, despite promising to keep it as part of its C4E plan.
- In 2011, the DOE refused to comply with a side agreement with the UFT to cap class sizes at 28 in grades 1-3, leading to sharp increases in these grades to 30 or more.
- Co-locations have made overcrowding worse, and taken space that instead could have been used to reduce class size.
- When principals try to lower class size, particularly in middle or high schools, DOE often sends them more students.

More ways DOE has worked to increase class size in its C4E plan

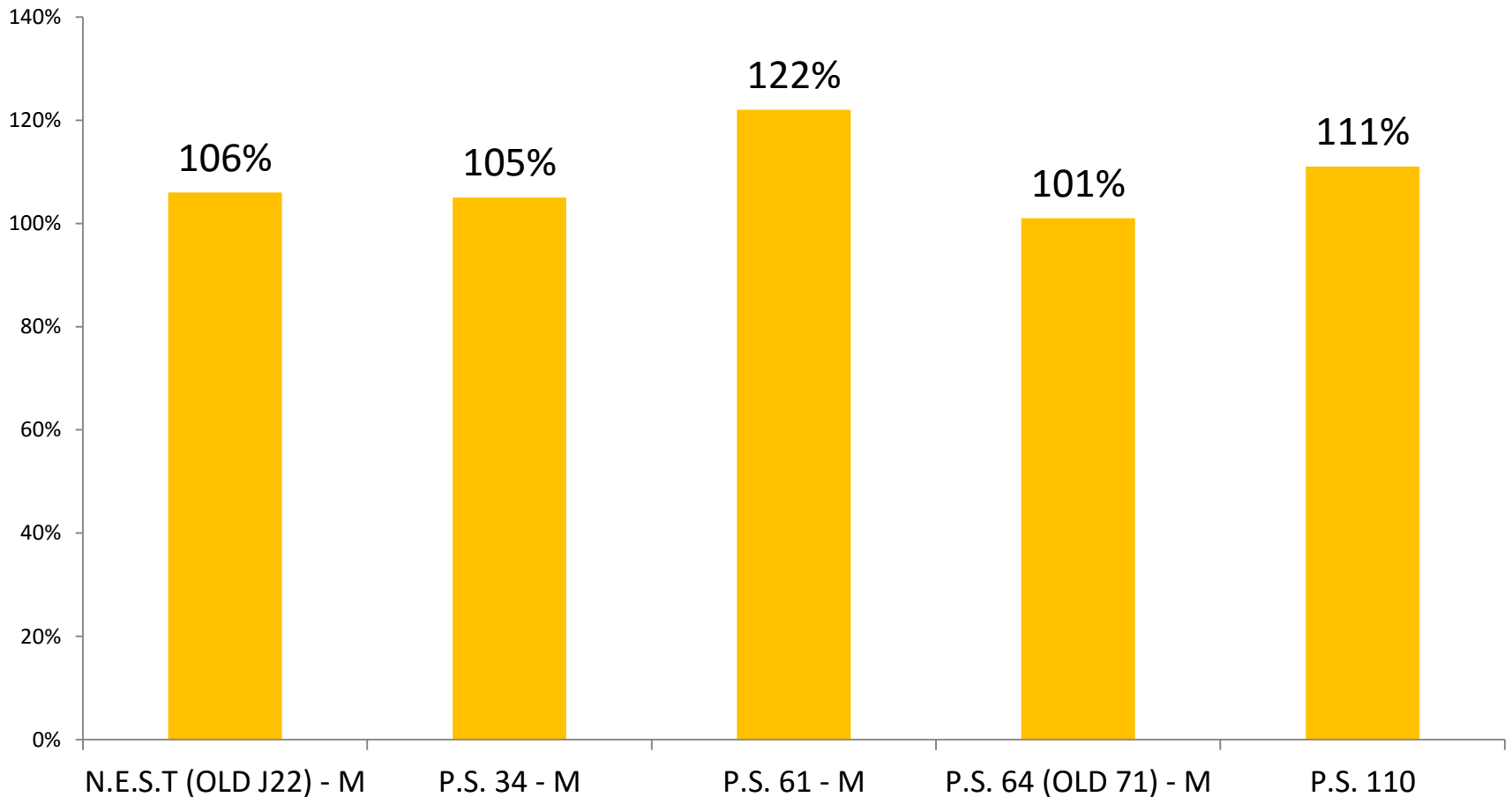
- DOE has refused to allocate ANY funds specifically towards class size reduction in its targeted or citywide C4E allocations.
- DOE allows principals to use C4E funds to “*Minimize growth of class size,*” which is not class size reduction.
- DOE has never aligned its capital plan to smaller classes, as required by C4E regs.
- The current “Blue Book” formula would tend to force class sizes higher in grades 4-12.

Overcrowding in D1 and Manhattan

- Last year there were 4 District 1 ES buildings that were over 100% utilization.
- 19 Manhattan high school buildings were over-utilized with a shortage of 3,539 seats.
- Most experts believe that these figures *underestimate* the actual level of overcrowding in our schools;
- The Blue Book working group appointed by the Chancellor recommended that its capacity formula be aligned with C4E standards, but the city rejected this.
- *There are NO District 1 elementary or middle school seats in 5 year plan, and NO Manhattan HS seats.*

5 ES Buildings are over-utilized in D1

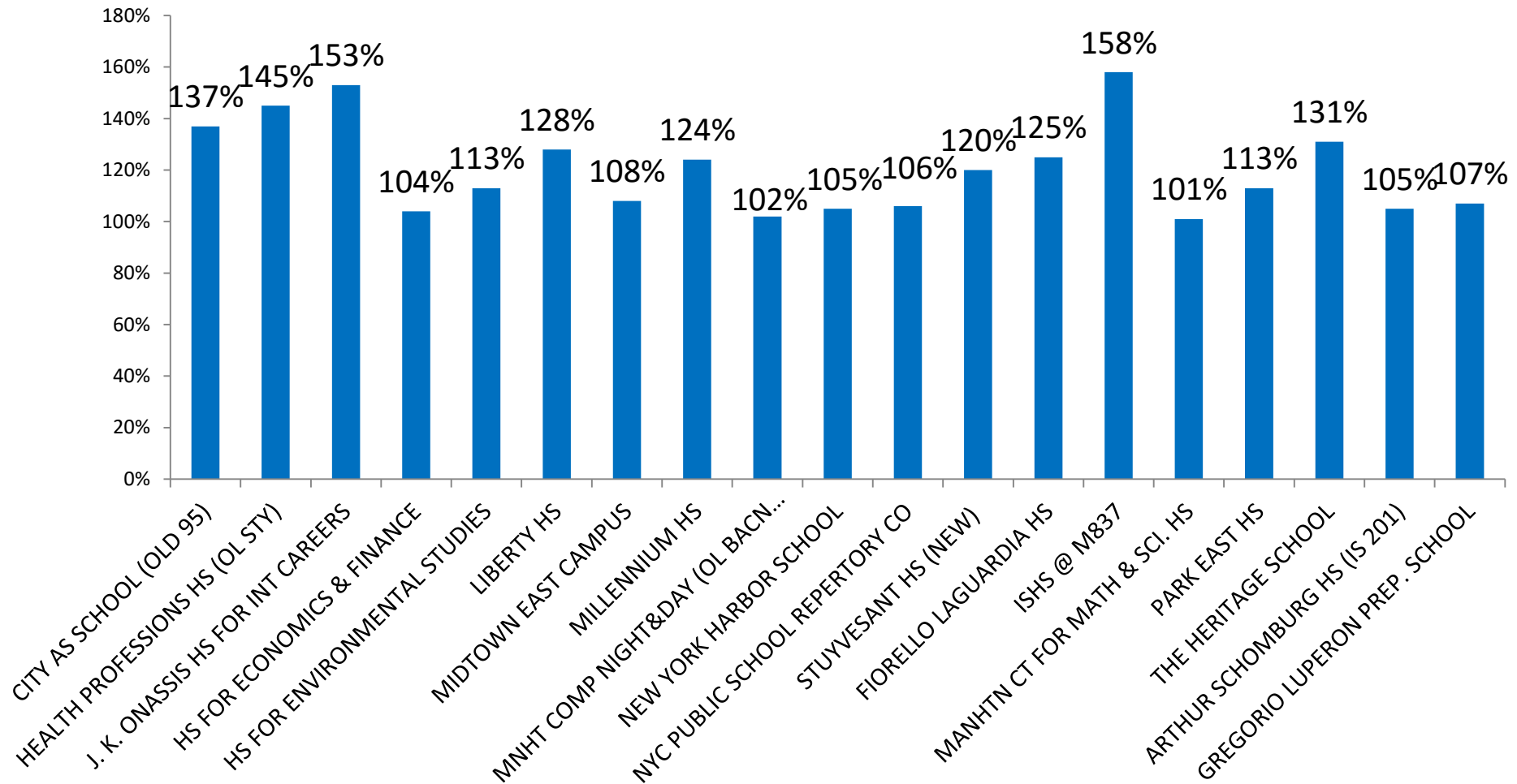
273 seats needed to reach 100% building utilization but no seats in the capital plan



*IS/PS Schools are counted as Elementary Schools, and Secondary Schools are counted as Middle Schools
Source: 2014-2015 DOE Blue Book

19 Manhattan HS buildings are over-utilized. 3,539 new seats needed to bring these school buildings to 100% Utilization.

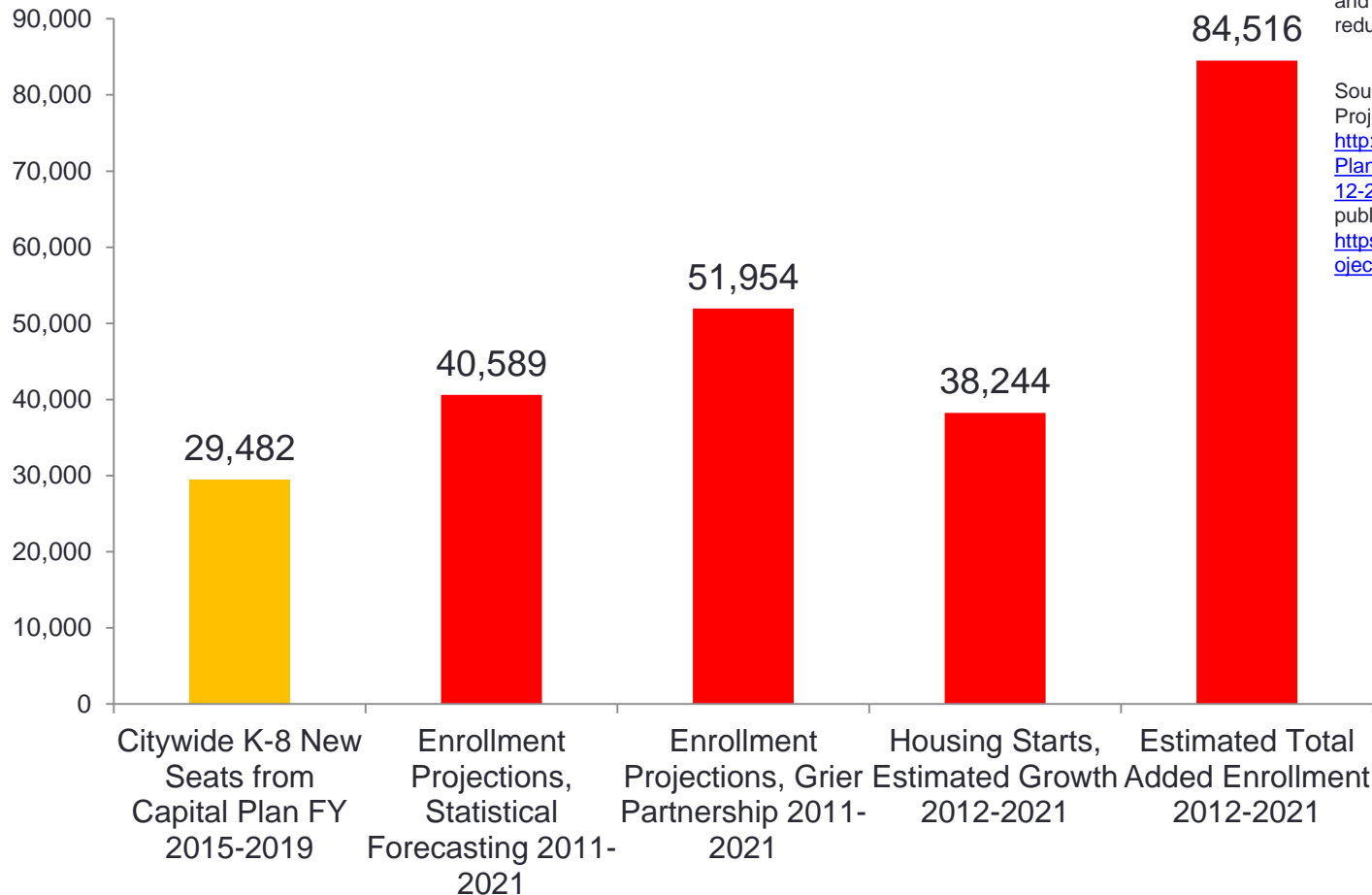
**And Yet No Seats in Cap. Plan for Manhattan High Schools*



*IS/PS Schools are counted as Elementary Schools, and Secondary Schools are counted as Middle Schools

Source: 2014-2015 DOE Blue Book

City-wide Enrollment Projections K-8 vs. New Seats in Capital Plan



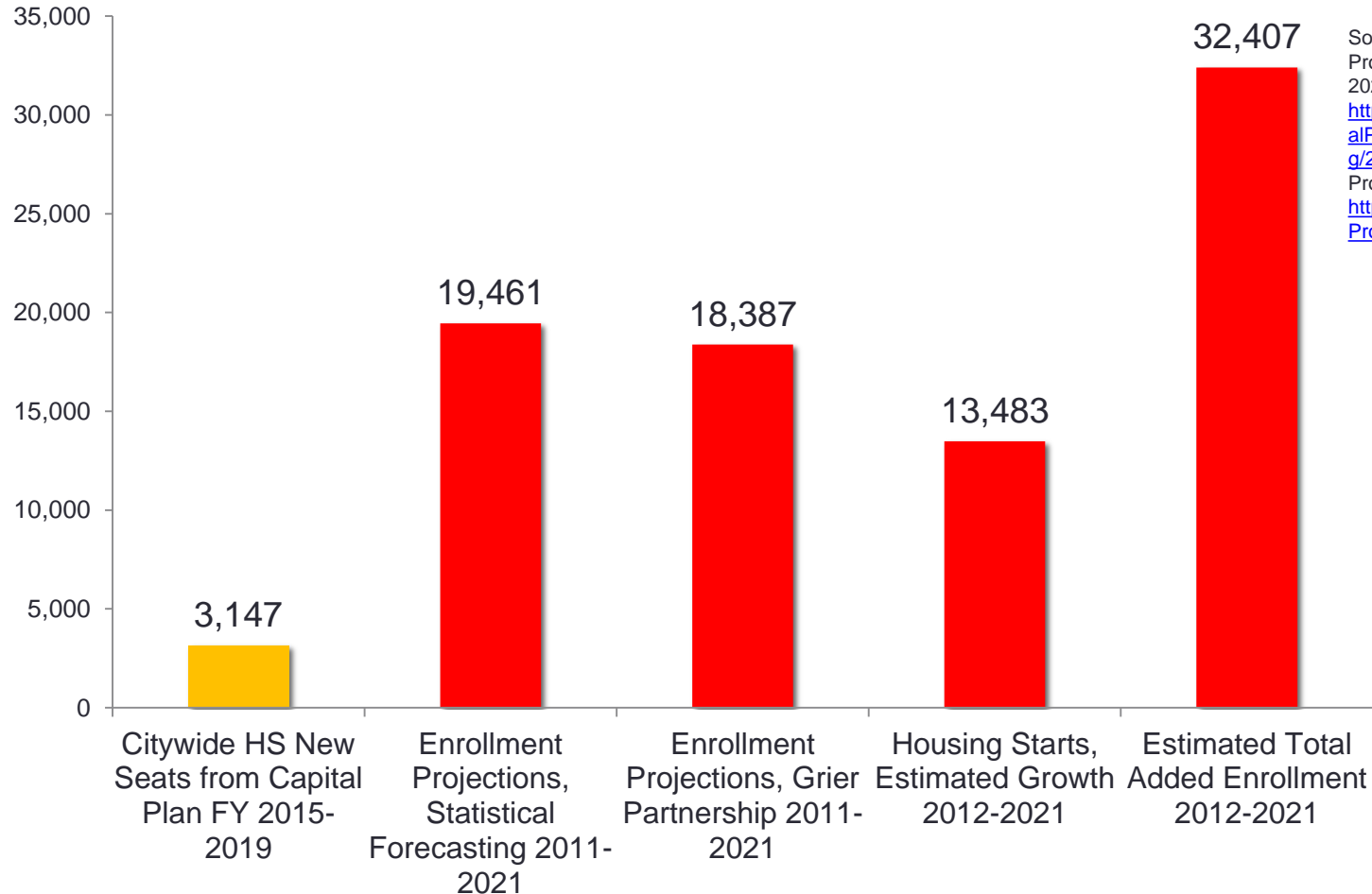
*Statistical Forecasting does not include D75 students; K-8 Seats in Capital Plan are categorized as Small PS and PS/IS and includes 4,900 seats for class size reduction if Bond issue passes.

Source for Housing Starts: NYSCA Projected New Housing Starts 2012-2021, <http://www.nycsca.org/Community/CapitalPlanManagementReportsData/Housing/2012-21HousingWebChart.pdf>; Projected public school ratio, <https://data.cityofnewyork.us/Education/Projected-Public-School-Ratio/n7ta-pz8k>

*Does not include 4,900 seat as yet uncited and undetermined location and/or grade level seats

City-wide Enrollment Projections HS vs. New Seats in Capital Plan

*Statistical Forecasting does not include D75 students; HS Seats in Capital Plan are categorized as IS/HS and does not include seats for class size reduction



Source for Housing Starts: NYSCA Projected New Housing Starts 2012-2021, <http://www.nycsca.org/Community/CapitalPlanManagementReportsData/Housing/2012-21HousingWebChart.pdf>; Projected public school ratio, <https://data.cityofnewyork.us/Education/Projected-Public-School-Ratio/n7ta-pz8k>

*Does not include 4,900 seat as yet uncited and undetermined location and/or grade level seats

What should be done?

- During his campaign, Mayor de Blasio promised if elected to abide by the city's original C4E class size plan approved by the state in 2007 and to expand the capital plan to make this possible.
- He now denies he made these promises.
- We must hold him to these promises and continue advocating for NYC children to receive their constitutional right to a sound basic education.

How You Can Help

- Join our campaign for doubling of the seats in the capital plan and a Commission to improve the efficiency of school planning.
- The Public Advocate and 22 Councilmembers signed onto a letter last spring, urging this as well.
- Sign up for the Class Size Matters newsletter, like our Facebook Page (www.facebook.com/classsizematters), and follow our Tweets (@ClassSizeMatter) to stay informed.
- Visit our Website, <http://www.classsizematters.org> to learn more about the issue.
- Meet with your City Councilmembers (Rosie Mendez and Margaret Chin) to continue advocating on this issue.
- Any questions, concerns, or stories of large class sizes or overcrowded schools? Please email us at info@classsizematters.org

UFT class size caps vs. Blue book vs current averages vs Contract for excellence goals

| Grade levels | UFT Contract class size limits | Target class sizes in "blue book" | Current average class sizes | C4E class Size goals | Square footage per student required in classroom according to the NYC building code |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|---|
| Kindergarten | 25 | 20 | 23 | 19.9 | 35 |
| 1st-3rd | 32 | 20 | 25.4 | 19.9 | 20 |
| 4th-5th | 32 | 28 | 26.1 | 22.9 | 20 |
| 6th-8th | 30 (Title I) 33 (non-Title I) | 28 | 27.1 | 22.9 | 20 |
| HS (core classes) | 34 | 30 | 26.8 | 24.5 | 20 |