#### 2016 UPDATE ON CLASS SIZE, OVERCROWDING, AND CAPITAL PLAN DISTRICT 30 AND CITYWIDE

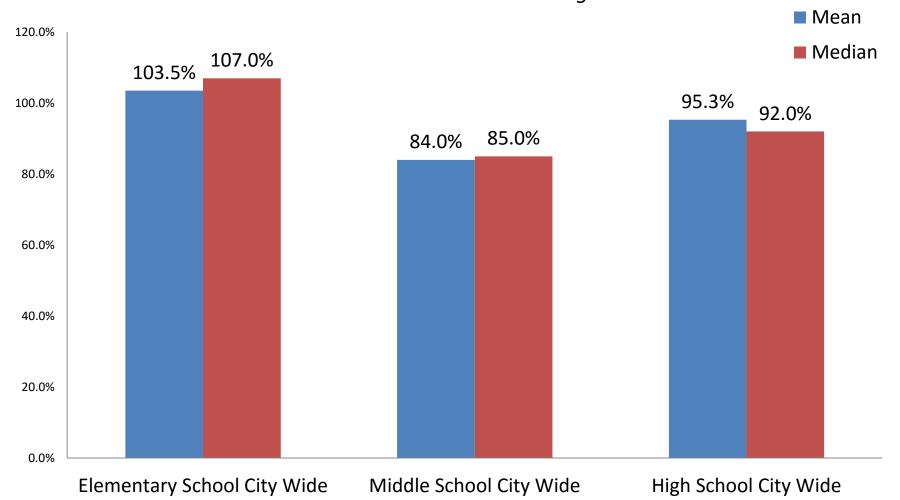
Leonie Haimson, Class Size Matters February 22, 2016

# School Utilization Rates and Class Sizes at critical levels

- Citywide, schools have become more overcrowded over last six years.
   More than 556,000 students citywide (53% of NYC's student population) are in overcrowded buildings.
- Elementary schools city wide average building utilization rate is 103.5%
- Large classes continue to increase, with number of K-3 students in classes of 30 or more doubling in the past five years
- More than 350,000 NYC school kids are in classes of 30 or more
- Class size averages have increased sharply citywide and in D30 since 2007, far above Contracts for Excellence goals of no more than 20 pupils in grades K-3, 23 in grades 4-8, and 25 in grades 9-12.

#### **Citywide School Utilization Averages**

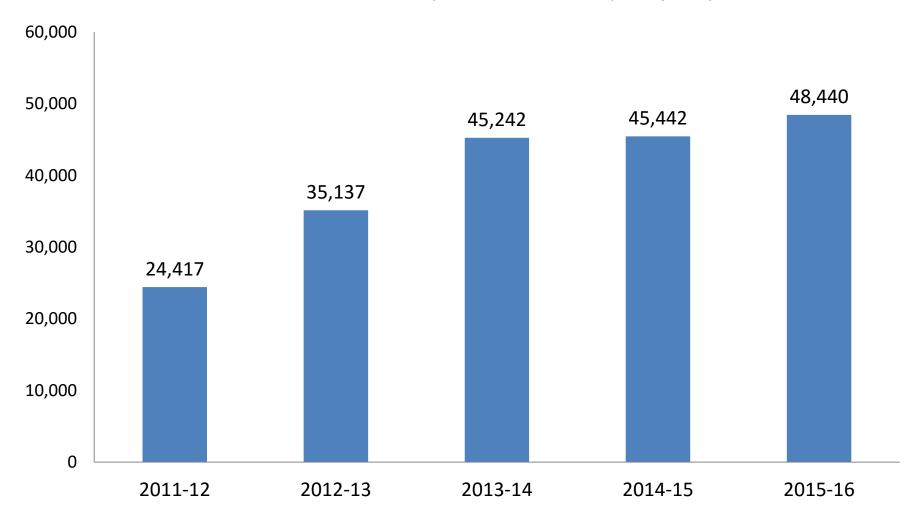
Over 556,000 NYC Students are in overcrowded classes and about 53% are in overcrowded buildings



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

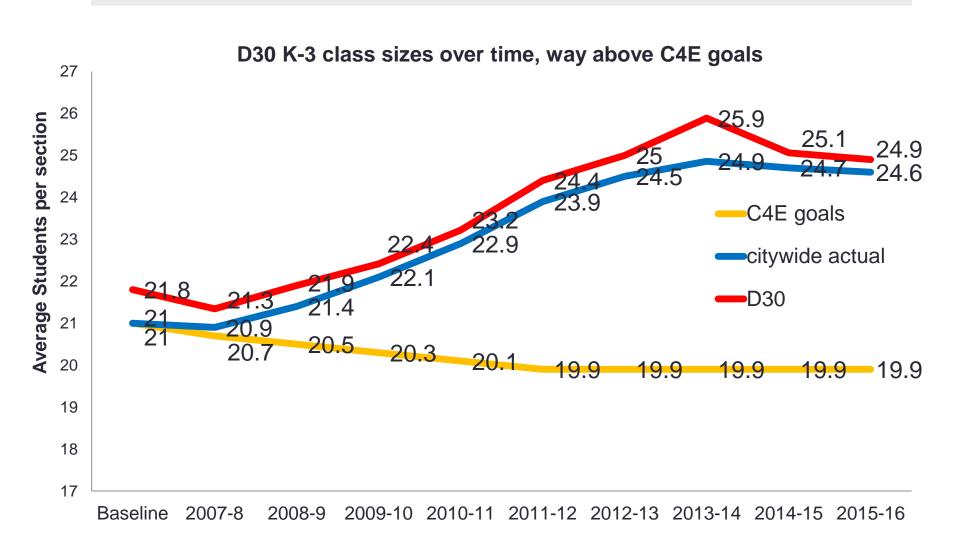
#### Trend of K-3 Students in classes of 30 or more

The number has nearly doubled in the past five years

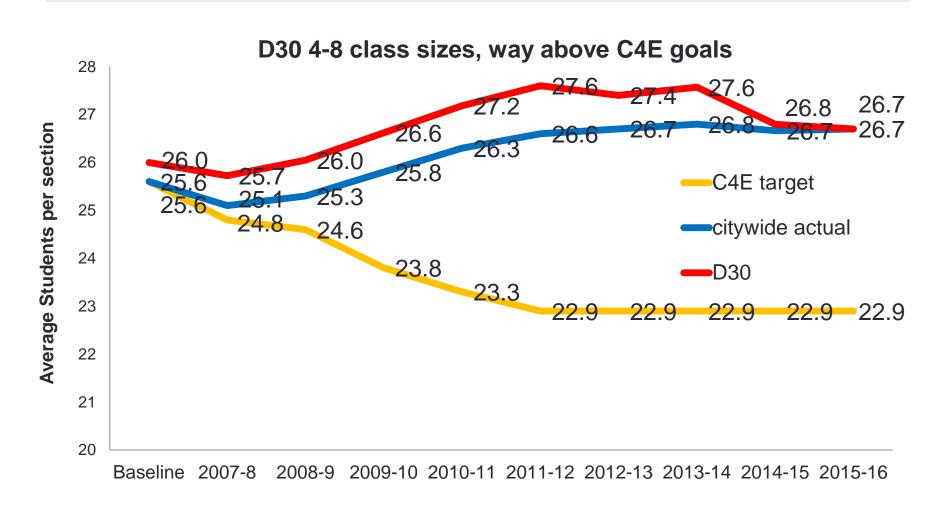


Data Source: DOE Citywide Class Size Distribution data, 2011-15

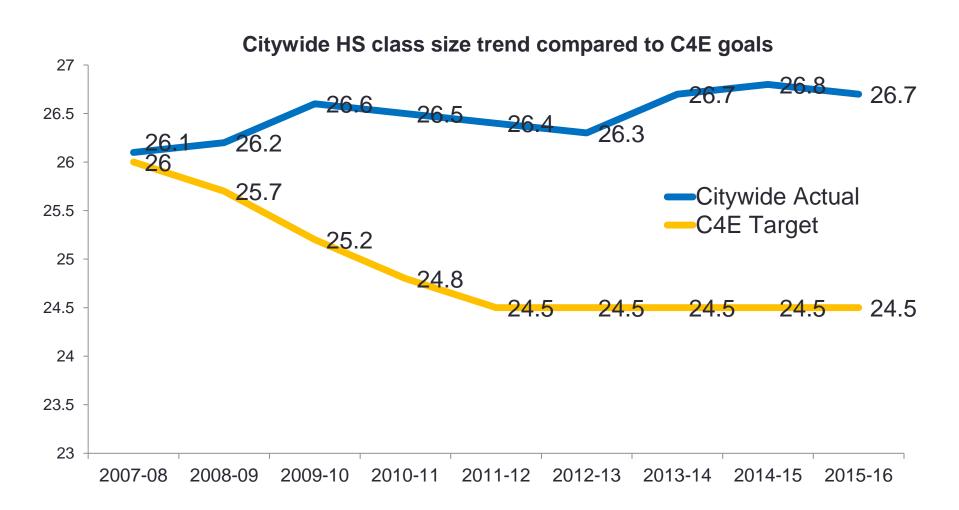
## Class sizes in D30 have increased in grades K-3 by 16.9% since 2007 and are now far above C4E goals



# D30's class sizes in grades 4-8 have increased by 3.9% since 2007 and are now far above C4E goals



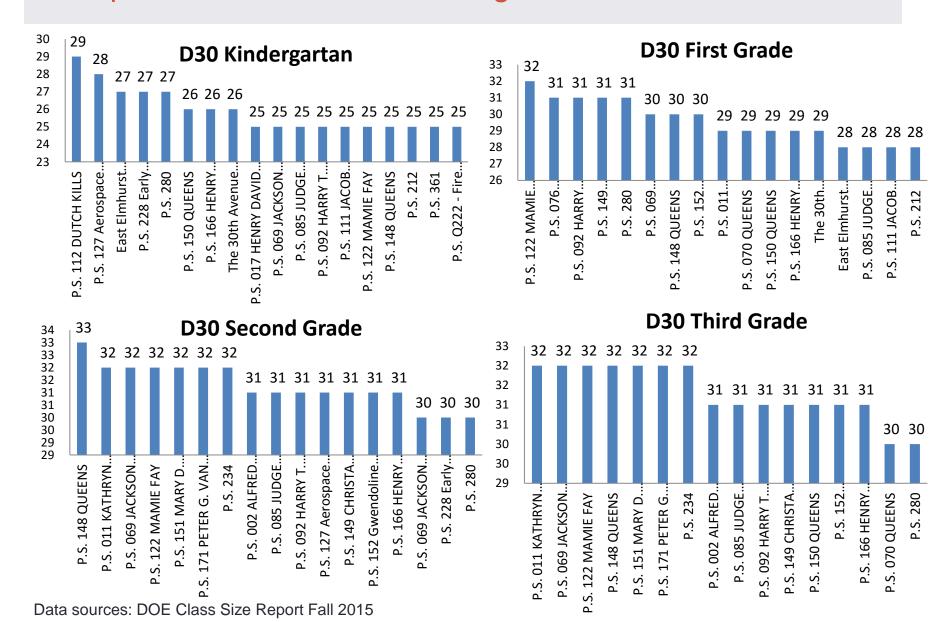
## Class sizes citywide have increased in High School since 2007 and are now far above C4E goals



<sup>\*</sup>DOE's methodology for calculating HS averages has changed year to year

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

#### Examples of schools in D30 with large class sizes, K-3 in 2015-16



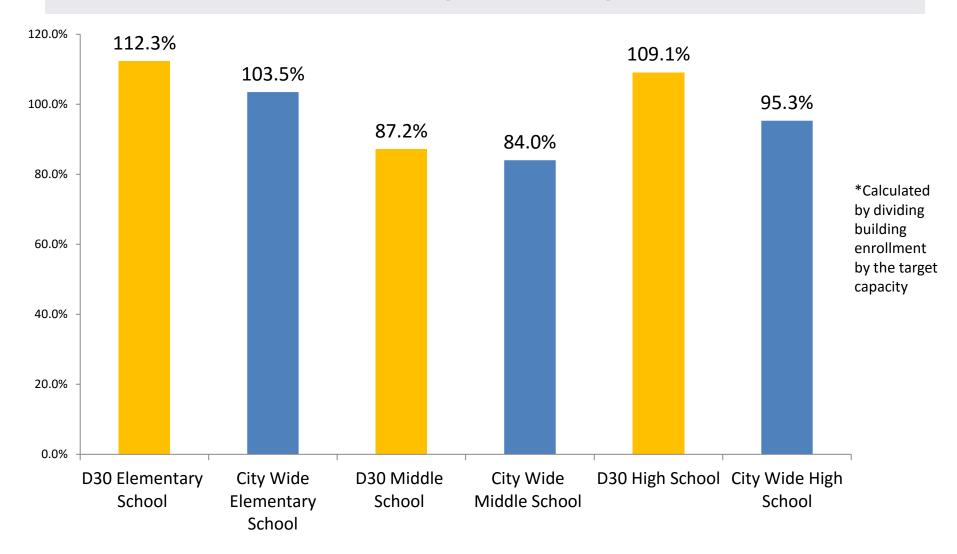
## Proposed new capital plan vs. needs for seats

- New proposed capital plan has about 49,000 K12 seats (compared to 33,000 in May plan) – at an additional total cost of nearly \$1 billion.
- DOE now admits real need of approximately 83,000 seats (compared to DOE estimate in May of 49,245).
- Thus DOE is only funding 59% of need for seats according to its own projected need.
- Many of those seats remain unsited even as to borough and district.
- CSM estimates real need is over 100,000 seats, based on enrollment projections and existing overcrowding – with about 40,000 seats needed in districts with utilization averages over 100%, plus 60K-70K more for projected enrollment growth.
- DOE should fund at least their own estimated need of 83,000 seats at an additional cost of \$130 million per year in city funds.

# Over-utilization in ES and MS buildings in District 30, and Queens HS

- D30's Elementary School building utilization average is 112.3%, much higher than the citywide utilization average of 103.5%
- D30's High School building utilization average is 109.1%,- much higher than the citywide utilization average of 95.3%.
- 25 ES and MS school buildings in CSD 30 are over-utilized. About 4,048 seats are needed for these buildings to reach 100% utilization.
- In Queens, 26 high school buildings are at or over 100% building utilization - with 13,295 additional seats needed.

# Average Utilization Rates in D30 compared to City-Wide 2014-15, 1,756 seats needed to bring D30 average utilization to 100%

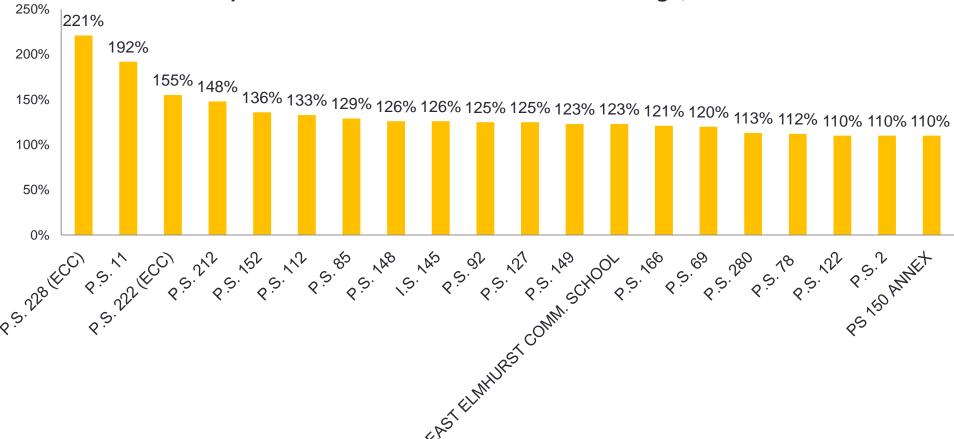


Source: 2014-2015 DOE Blue Book

### 25 ES and MS Buildings in D30 are over-utilized

about 4,048 seats needed to reduce all over utilized buildings to 100% - but only 4,536 in cap plan - does not account for projected new enrollment

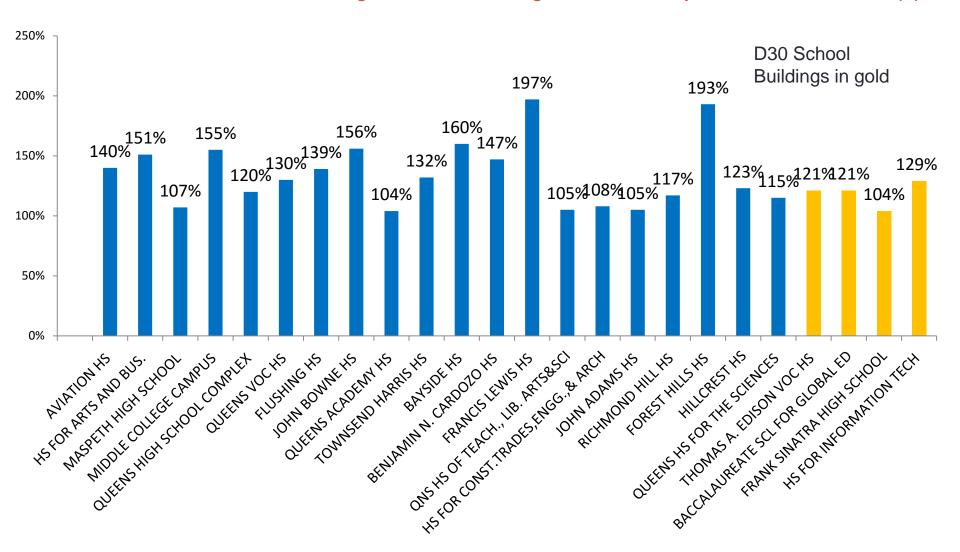
20 examples of D30's over crowded school buildings, there are 25 in total



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

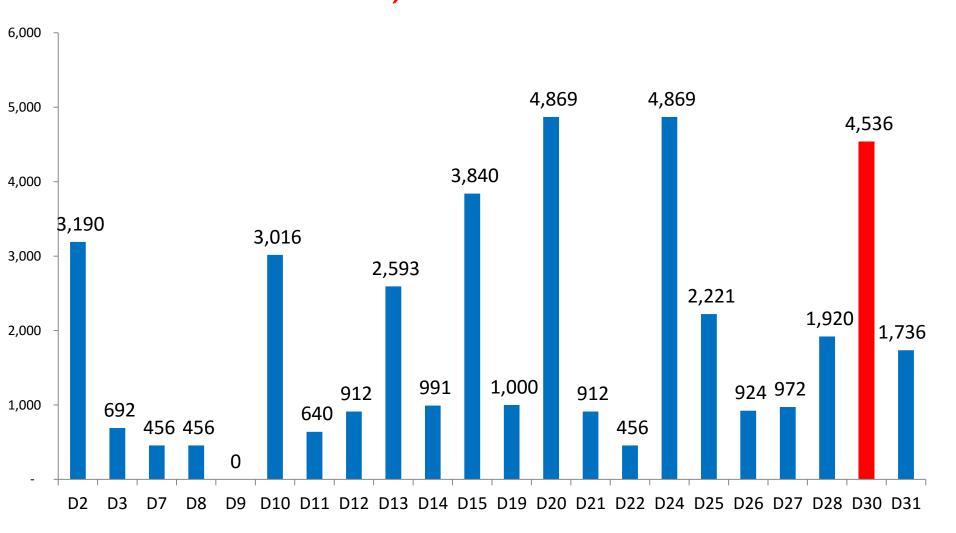
## 26 Queens HS buildings are over-utilized

About \*13,295 new seats needed to bring these school buildings to 100% but only 2,802 seats funded in cap plan



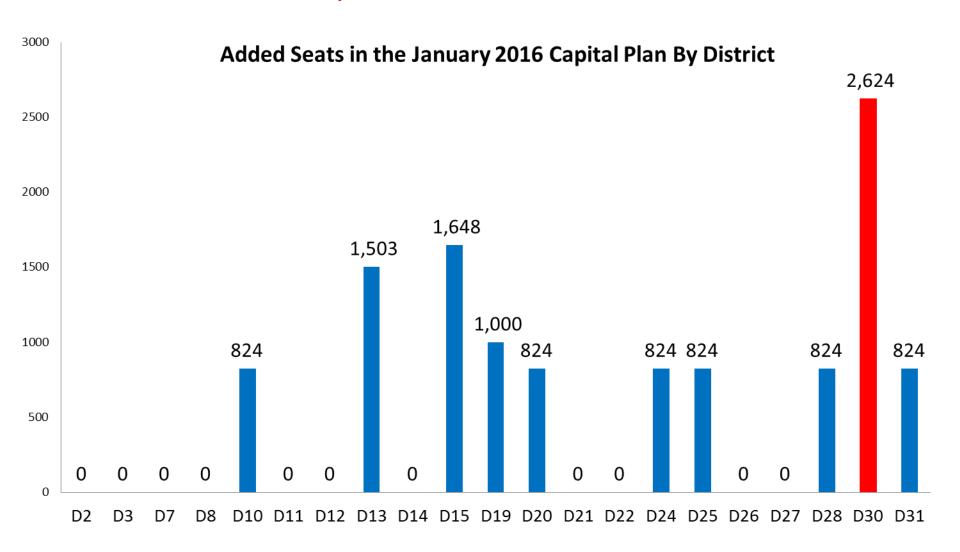
\*IS/PS Schools are counted as Elementary Schools, and Secondary Schools are counted as Middle Schools Source: 2014-2015 DOE Blue Book

Total Funded K-8 Seats In January 2016 Capital Plan by District 4,536 seats in D30



#### Number of seats added in the January Capital Plan

2,624 seats were added in D30

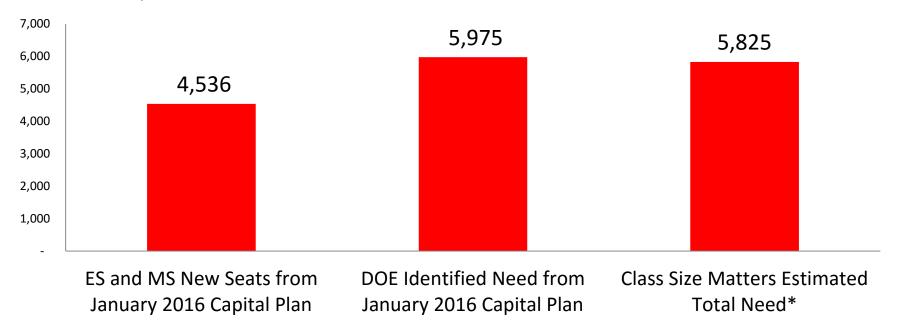


Data sources: Capital Plan updated January 2016

# New Capital Plan Seats and DOE Seat Need vs Class Size Matters Estimated Need

#### **District 30, Grades K-8**

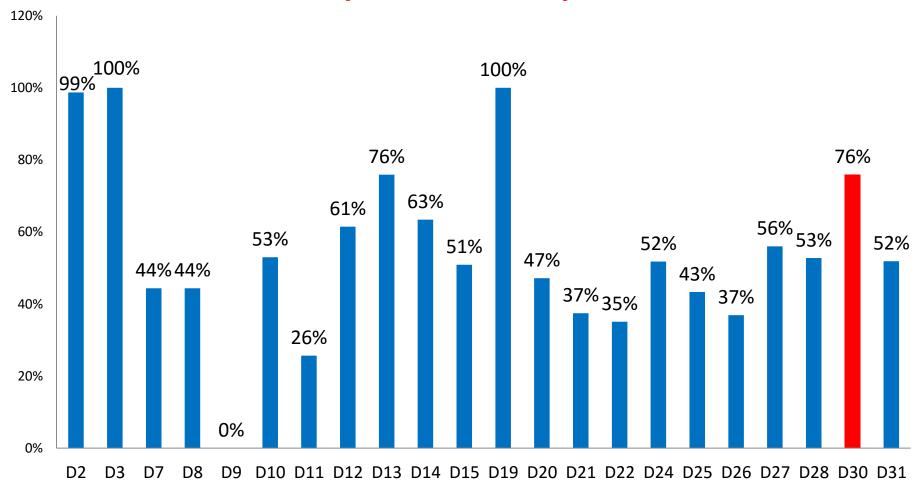
District 30 includes sub-district Astoria/Steinway, which has some seats funded for design but not construction. The neighborhood Long Island City is being rezoned to increase residential development.



<sup>\*</sup>Class Size Matters Estimated Total Need derived from seats needed to bring district average down to 100% utilization plus Estimated Enrollment based on Housing Starts 2012-2021 and the average of consultant projections (Grier Partnership 2011-2021 and Statistical Forecasting 2011-2021.) Additional data sources: Capital Plan updated January 2016, Blue Book 2014-2015.

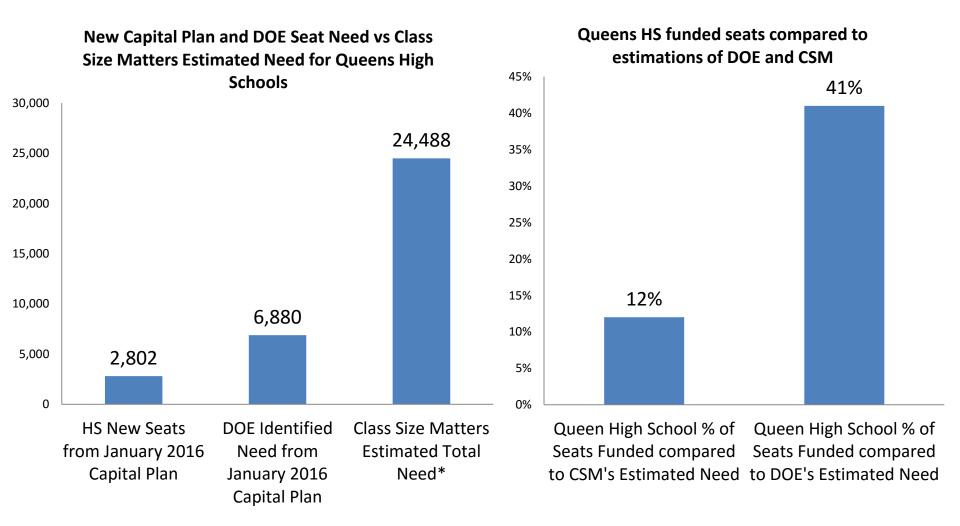
## Funded Seats in Jan. 2016 Capital Plan compared to DOE's Identified Need by District (K-8 Only) –

76% of D30's seat need is funded



Data sources: Capital Plan updated January 2016

## Queens High Schools and the Capital Plan

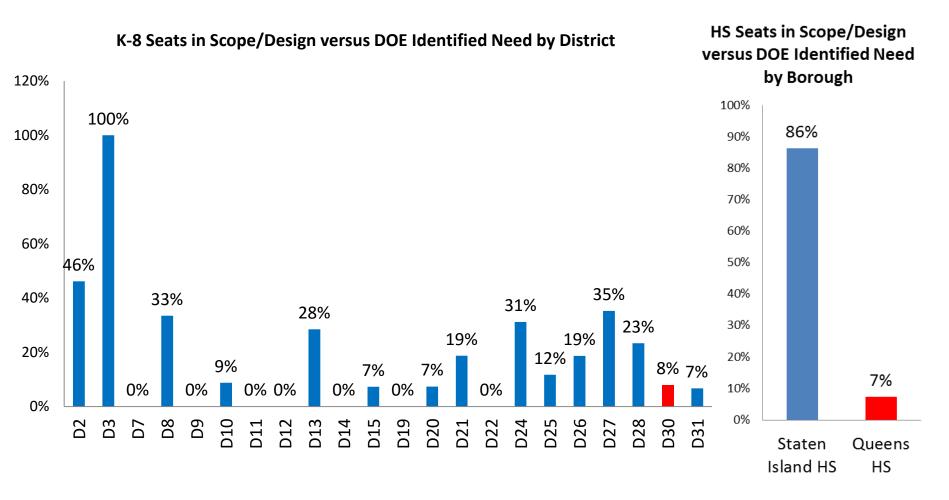


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#### Percent of Seats in Scope/Design\* compared to DOE Identified Need

Only 15% of DOE's Identified need are in Scope and Design

Only 8% of ES and MS seats in D30 and 7% of HS seats in Queens



<sup>\*</sup>Scope/Design means that the seats are in the process of getting sited and constructed, as opposed to only being budgeted for Data sources: Capital Plan updated January 2016

# Problems with DOE & SCA capacity to site and build schools

- Only 8% of D 30 seats needed are sited & in scope & design; only 7% Queens
   HS.
- After 2 years DOE still has not determined in which borough or district most of 4900 seats in "class size reduction" category will built.
- Several overcrowded neighborhoods have had schools funded in the capital plan for over a decade without DOE siting or building a single school
- SCA/DOE has real capacity problems in terms of efficient and accurate school siting and planning
- Overcrowding will grow worse if Mayor's rezoning plan to accelerate residential development is adopted
- NYC needs to come up with a better process to ensure schools are built along with new housing – instead of always playing catch up

# NYC Council should create a Commission to improve efficiency and accuracy of school planning and siting

- Among issues Commission could consider: do we need reforms to the zoning and/or ULURP process?
- Should the formula used to estimate impact of new housing on schools should be updated?
- Should enrollment projections be improved and carried out on a more regular basis?
- Should NYC require impact fees from developers and/or use eminent domain to site schools more frequently?
- Without reforms to the planning process, overcrowding is likely to worsen, with school construction lagging years behind other development

## How you can help

- Sign our petition at www.classsizematters.org urging Mayor & City Council to expand the capital plan & form a Commission to improve school planning
- Pass a resolution about need for same
- Come to the capital plan hearings at City Hall on Tuesday March 8, at 1 PM to testify about overcrowding in your district; public testimony starts at 3 PM.
- Sign up for our newsletter for updates on this and other issues.