

**COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 28**  
**Calendar/Business Meeting Minutes**  
**August 1, 2024**

**ATTENDANCE**

<b>Member</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
Vijah Ramjattan	President	Present
Quentin Mezetin	1st Vice President	Present
Yutao Cheng	2nd Vice President	Present
Nathifa Lewis	Recording Secretary	Present
Tanya Wendt	Treasurer	Present
Paquita Williams	Member	Present
Julie Suh	Member	Remote Present
G.K Kalyanaram	Member	Remote Present
Nurun Swapna	Member	Present
Lu Zhao	Member	Present
Simone Dornbach	Member	Remote Present
Lauren Clavin	Member	Remote Present

**NON-MEMBER ATTENDANCE**

Dr. Eric Blake	Superintendent	Absent
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**Calendar Meeting Minutes**

Meeting was called to order by President Ramjattan at 6:41pm  
 Roll call by Recording Secretary Nathifa Lewis and Quorum was met.

- President Vijah Ramjattan opened the meeting and gave greetings. He asked Spanish interpretation to give instructions. He asked Paquita Williams and Lauren Clavin who are the two newest members to introduce themselves to the public. He also announced that Adriana Alicea has resigned as she is now the Queens PEP Rep. Vijah asked Adriana Alicea to introduce herself and bring greetings. He also voiced that summer rising is still an on-going issue. He voiced that the chancellor's office team is discussing the use of cell phone in schools and asked Dr. Benoit to brief the public on the newly discussed cell phone policies.
- Dr. Benoit from the District office gave greetings presented on behalf of Superintendent Blake.

**Member Reports**

- Quentin Mezetin was announced as 1<sup>st</sup> VP. He gave greetings and wished everyone a happy summer

- Yutao Cheng was announced as 2<sup>nd</sup> VP. He gave greetings and also wished everyone a happy summer. He also commented that he will continue to come up with ideas for a better audio system.
- Nathifa Lewis was announced as returning recording secretary. She wished everyone a Happy Caribbean Emancipation Day. She also voiced concerns surrounding the new cell phone in school policies. She is hopeful that the new school brings better transportation for students.
- Tanya Wendt was announced as Treasurer. She gave greetings.
- Council Members gave greetings and voiced concerns about the lack of after school programs.
- Council Member gave greetings and voiced that his focus for this year will be surrounding a better High School admission process. He said the process is very difficult and complicate to navigate around as it's been this way for years.
- Council Member gave greetings and voiced concerns regarding summer rising placement. She also voiced concerns regarding the protest and violence with students in Bangladesh.
- Council Member gave greetings and announced the new student metro card rules which is more beneficial for students.
- Council Member posted the link to metro card eligibility. She also voiced that she hopes the transportation system is rolled out in a thoughtful equitable manner for all families.
  
- **Public Comments**
- D28 parent, DOE employee, social worker and instructional coordinator with training as an early childhood educator gave greetings and voiced that she's concerned with some equity issues surrounding the access to resources for community based 3K and PreK organizations. She voiced that the teachers and not receiving the same pay and benefits causing a very high turnover. She is hopeful that the new Deputy Chancellor for Division of Early Childhood can address these issues.
- D28 parent and activist voiced concerns surrounding summer rising. She's requesting data for attendance as some children withdrew all together, some parent pulled their kids out after one day and some that actually received a spot and attended. She voiced that some middle school trips may not even take place as the funding was given late. Some students never received an MTA card. She's happy to hear about the new card as it would benefit all children.
- Council Member voiced that he is worried about that some families may not afford uniforms. He also voiced that many kids have drown this summer so please be careful and don't go past the danger zones.

**Meeting Adjourned at 7:48pm**

**BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**  
**ATTENDANCE**

<b>Member</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
Vijah Ramjattan	President	Present
Quentin Mezetin	1st Vice President	Present
Yutao Cheng	2nd Vice President	Present
Nathifa Lewis	Recording Secretary	Present
Tanya Wendt	Treasurer	Present
Paquita Williams	Member	Present
Julie Suh	Member	Remote Present
G.K Kalyanaram	Member	Remote Present
Nurun Swapna	Member	Present
Lu Zhao	Member	Present
Simone Dornbach	Member	Remote Present
Lauren Clavin	Member	Remote Present

Meeting was called to order by President Ramjattan at 7:50pm  
 Roll call by Recording Secretary Nathifa Lewis and Quorum was met

Motion was made by President Ramjattan to adopt July's Meeting Minutes  
 Seconded by Member Quentin Mezetin

Council Members discussed and revised the CEC D28 Liaison list

Council Members briefly discussed CEC28 bylaws and the committee. G.K Kalyanaram voiced that he would like to Co-chair with Yutao. President Ramjattan asked the chairs and committee members start to look and dissect the bylaws so that they can present the changes to the rest of the members as soon as possible. He voiced this needs to be voted on October meeting.

Council Members discussed, updated and created committees.

Council Members discussed reimbursement forms and protocols amongst themselves

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Quentin Mezetin went over Member Julie Suh August in-person absence

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Quentin Mezetin made a motion to approve Member Julie Suh virtual attendance for August Calendar and Business Meeting

Seconded by Recording Secretary Nathifa Lewis

12 in favor; **0** opposed; 0 absent – Motion passed

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Quentin Mezetin went over Member G.K Kalyanaram August in-person absence

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Quentin Mezetin made a motion to approve Member G.K Kalyanaram virtual attendance for August Calendar and Business Meeting

Seconded by Recording Secretary Nathifa Lewis

12 in favor; **0** opposed; 0 absent – Motion passed

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Quentin Mezetin went over Council Member Simone Dornbach August in-person absence form

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Quentin Mezetin made a motion to approve Council Member Simone Dornbach virtual attendance for August Calendar and Business Meeting

Seconded by President Ramjattan

12 in favor; **0** opposed; 0 absent – Motion passed

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Quentin Mezetin went over Council Member Lauren Clavin August in-person absence form

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Quentin Mezetin made a motion to approve Council Member Lauren Clavin virtual attendance for August Calendar and Business Meeting

Seconded by President Ramjattan

12 in favor; **0** opposed; 0 absent – Motion passed

**Business Meeting Adjourned at [ 9:04pm]**

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**Respectfully Submitted by**

Nathifa Lewis  
Recording Secretary