

COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 28
Calendar/Business Meeting Minutes
December 5, 2024

ATTENDANCE

Member	Position	Attendance
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	Absent
G.K Kalyanaram	Member	Present
Nurun Swapna	Member	Remote Present
Lu Zhao	Member	Present
Simone Dornbach	Member	Remote Present
Lauren Clavin	Member	Present

NON-MEMBER ATTENDANCE

Dr. Eric Blake	Superintendent	Present
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Calendar Meeting Minutes

Meeting was called to order by President Ramjattan at 6:35pm
 Roll call by Recording Secretary Nathifa Lewis and Quorum was met.

- President Vijah Ramjattan opened the meeting and gave greetings. He asked Spanish interpreters to give instructions in Spanish. He acknowledged stakeholders and Principals in attendance. President Ramjattan announced that he will be resigning. He mentioned December will be his last meeting.
- Superintendent Dr. Eric Blake started off by thanking President Ramjattan for his service as President for the past 6 years. He gave his report and presented various topics/data. He presented topics such as the C-30 process, D28 Special Education Highlights, Related Services Mandates, Professional development and trainings and chronic absenteeism.
- CEC28 bylaws committee chair, Yutao Cheng presented the CEC28 revised bylaws to be voted on.
 President Ramjattan made a motion to approve the revised bylaws
 Seconded by Recording Secretary Nathifa Lewis
 Roll call by Recording Secretary Nathifa Lewis
 11 in favor; 0 opposed; 1 absent; abstain – Motion passed.
- New York City Sheriff Anthony Miranda presented on illegal smoke shops
- Chief Officer Mark Rampersant Presented on safety and prevention
- QBP office thanks President Ramjattan for his explementary work that he has been doing for the past 6 years. They also shared upcoming events and provided brief updates

- Council Member Lu Zhao presented Resolution Urging the Panel for Educational Policy to Ensure Continuity in the Administration of the Specialized High Schools Admissions Test by Approving the Pearson Assessment Contract.
President Ramjattan made a motion to vote on the resolution and asked Council Members to give 1-minute feedback regarding the resolution
Seconded by Recording Secretary Nathifa Lewis
Roll call by Recording Secretary Nathifa Lewis
Council Member Lu Zhao gave his feedback and voted yes
1st Vice President Quentin Mezetin voted no and gave his feedback
2nd Vice President Yutao Cheng voted yes
Recording Secretary voted yes and gave her feedback
Treasurer Tanya Wendt voted no
Council Member Julie Suh absent
Council Member Paquita Williams abstain
Council Member Nurun Swampa gave feedback and voted no
Council Member Gurumurthy Kalyanaram voted yes and gave his feedback
Council Member Simone Dornbach gave her feedback and voted no
Council Member Lauren Clavin gave her feedback and voted no
President Ramjattan voted yes
- 5 in favor; 5 opposed; 1 absent; 1 abstain – Resolution did not pass
- President of Presidents Council – Giselle Mendoza introduced herself and provided updates
- Queens PEP Representative, Adriana Alicea introduced herself and presented
- Family Leadership Coordinator Sonia Rueda answered the question regarding mental help and mentioned they are aware and they have been helping families. She mentioned families should contact her for more information.
- Recording Secretary Nathifa Lewis who is also a Certified Technology Professional-Cybersecurity presented on cybersecurity

Member Reports

- Council Members hasn't visited his schools yet but have been attending SLT's and PTA's meetings. He gave feedback on his meetings.
- Council Member announced that Halsey Principal will retire and wished him good luck. He voiced that the majority of parents are recommending that the superintendent hire Miss Lisa as the next Principal.
- He voiced his that cancelling the Pearson contact is a wrong choice as it's taking away from other families and it's not the right way to address the issue. He also voiced that city does have a program to help underprivilege students to prepare for admissions test. He posed the info in the chat.
- Council Member gave feedback on her recent Q8 walkthrough with members from QBP office, NYPD and the DOT in regards the concerns surrounding the one-way street. She announced it will take a while but she's thankful for all that helped put this initiative together. She also commented on her school visits with her fellow council members and parents and schools are still concern about a lack of safety guards. She gave feedback on wrong SCA allocation.

- Council Member gave recapped that she did visit all her schools last month. She provided updates on her school's recent events, meetings and upcoming meetings. She made an announcement about the next class size law committee.
- Council Member gave his feedback on his recent school visit at PS139. He shared how the schools work with elected officials for additional funding. He also briefly commented that FHHS will build a new school building due the overcrowding situation. He also briefly touched on Halsey Principal resigning. He also spoke about the majority of parents recommendation to hire Miss Lisa as the next Principal
- Council Member gave feedback on her recent JHS 190 and PS55 school visits. Council Member voiced that Halsey does not allow all students to take regents exams, only honor students. She voiced that PS55 has multiple sink hole and gate does not close. He school fails inspection due the cafeteria floors being damaged. She voiced this is the second year she's mentioning this as they did not receive funding. She voiced that the school is in need of funding. Council Member retracted what she voiced earlier about Halsey, she voiced that what she researched but she could be wrong.
- Council Members gave feedback on the recent correspondences that he had with his schools regarding events, meetings, and policies. He gave feedback his recent SLT meetings that he attended.
- Council Member gave greetings and provided feedback regarding her recent school visits with PS196. She voiced that PS196 ranks #6 in the entire state of NY. She voiced that the school has an AC issue. They were approved \$3M for the renovation but it was never received. She voiced that the SLT member is working on getting the funds. They need bathroom and computer lab renovation as well. They also have the space for the small size class and they did put in the grant for the small class. Member also provided update on her visit to PS80. They also put in for the small class grant and they will put in for the SCA as they do need funding.
- Council Member stated she does not have any report this month but plans on visiting her schools in the coming weeks and will report back
- Council Member gave feedback on her recent school visits with her fellow council members. She also gave feedback on an SLT she attended and gave the community an update on an upcoming event.
- Council Member voiced that they are inequities in the south vs the north as they are legitimate reports. She voiced that she's aware of the equities as she does represent schools from the north and south. She gave recapped on her school visits with her fellow council members. She gave feedback on her recent attended SLT meetings and provided an update on upcoming class size law committee meeting. She praised Dr. Blake and team for all the work that they have been doing with the CEC. She encourages the families to attend all meetings and also to run to become a member. She wanted to recap that the CEC is representing the entire D28 not just a handful in the north and this is why she voted no for the resolution.

- Council Member gave feedback on her recent school visit to PS349. She urges the schools to apply for the small class size grant. She also wants to echo her fellow council members in regards to the attending the meetings, thanking the district office for their partnership and the inequities. She also voiced the parents should go to the PEP since that's where the real vote will take place.

Public Comments

- D28 parent gave greetings and voiced that she's concerned with some equity issues surrounding the access to IEP resources for small children. She didn't know what else to do so she transferred her daughter from public school to private school. She voiced that her daughter has been without services that she was approved for but never received. She voiced that she has even taken the DOE to court. She's pleading with the district the CEC for help, she is shocked at the data Dr. Blake shared.
- D28 parent voiced her support for Miss Lisa who is the assistant Principal at Halsey to be the next Principal. She voiced questions surrounding the C-30 process to Dr. Blake.
- Dr. Blake answered the parent and voiced that he has interview Miss Lisa and he does not want to disrupt the process. He is following protocols and the information is at Central DOE. Dr. Blake voiced that Miss Lisa is being considered but he needs to follow up protocol, the process needs to be fair and open.
- D28 Parent gave greetings and asked if district can have someone present on black studies curriculum. She wants to know how does the district support black students in D28. She also wants to hear about D75 programs. She is requesting that CEC28 join CEC25 meeting via zoom and see how the present their data. She's requesting the same type of data for PS.80, 312 and 354.
- D28 Parent who's on SLT board voiced that parents are frustrated about the C-30 process. She's happy about the presentation at the CEC meeting but had to push to get the presentation. She also voiced that she and many other parents are in support of Miss Lisa.
- D28 Parent is requesting information regarding a past C-30 process.
- FLC Sonia Rueda answered the parent and said she needs to do foil request and will get back to her and send her the information
- D28 parents voiced support for Miss Lisa to be the next Principal of Halsey
- Office of Sen. Leroy Comrie gave greetings thanked CEC President for all that he has done over the past 6 years and provided updates.
- UFT Rep gave greetings thanked CEC President for all his work and contribution and provided updates regarding class size reduction. He also thanked all the parents and staff that showed up to the December meeting and request that they always show up for other meetings.
- Deputy Superintendent Dr. Hall gave greetings and thanked CEC President for his hard work, service, collaboration and his impactful partnership. She voiced that the work he has accomplished for the past 6 years will continue.

- President Ramjattan asked the interpreters to ask if anyone had any questions. He dismissed the interpreters for the night.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:50pm

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
ATTENDANCE

Member	Position	Attendance
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	Absent
G.K Kalyanaram	Member	Present
Nurun Swapna	Member	Remote Present
Lu Zhao	Member	Present
Simone Dornbach	Member	Remote Present
Lauren Clavin	Member	Present

Meeting was called to order by President Ramjattan at 9:59pm
Roll call by Recording Secretary Nathifa Lewis and Quorum was met

Motion was made by President Ramjattan to adopt November Calendar and Business Meeting Minutes
Seconded by 1st VP Quentin Mezetin

1st Vice President Quentin Mezetin went over Council Member Lauren Clavin October absence form.

1st Vice President Quentin Mezetin made a motion to approve Council Member Lauren absence form for November Calendar and Business Meeting.

Seconded by President Ramjattan

11 in favor; 0 opposed; 1 absent; abstain 0 – Motion passed.

President Ramjattan provided guidance as to how the council should move forward without him. He recapped on the upcoming events and meetings. He thanked members and A.A for the work and partnership and gave his closing remarks.

Council Member and A.A discussed SCA process. President Ramjattan delegated Treasurer Tanya Wendt and Recording Secretary to take lead on the process from

starting to end. He suggested creating a form like the previous years and having the two leads bucket the submissions as they come in.

President Ramjattan closed off his remarks by stating that A.A does not have 12 bosses. A.A work has to be delegated through the president as he is the one that communicates the most with the A.A behind scenes and he is the one that approves their timesheet. A.A does not get paid a lot, and he has been advocating for pay raise for A. A's. He stated that he does not micro manage as he wouldn't want that for himself, it has worked in the past and is working currently. He urges the next president to treat their A.A well as the council will struggle without an A.A should they leave. He voiced that he has allowed A.A to work remotely and go into the office as well.

A.A thanked President Ramjattan for his leadership, guidance and mentorship for the past couple years.

Each Council Member provided a brief remark about President Ramjattan and thanked him for his partnership and leadership.

President Ramjattan closed off by stating that the next President should not take sides. The president should be a leader and not a follower, believe in what you believe and stand up for it. He voiced that members and the next president should not be swayed by people's opinion and personal beliefs. The Council should be one and should be a functioning council. The job is to represent the entire district and to represent each and every child in the D28.

President Ramjattan made a motion to adjourn meeting.
Seconded by Recording Secretary Nathifa Lewis

Business Meeting Adjourned at [10:29pm]

Respectfully Submitted by

Dorinda Seemangal
CEC 28 Administrative Assistant