

COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 28

Calendar/Business Meeting Minutes

March 6, 2025

ATTENDANCE

Member	Position	Attendance
Quentin Mezetin	President	Present
Lauren Clavin	1st Vice President	Remote Present
Yutao Cheng	2nd Vice President	Present
Nathifa Lewis	Recording Secretary	Present
Tanya Wendt	Treasurer	Absent
Paquita Williams	Member	Present
Julie Suh	Member	Present
G.K Kalyanaram	Member	Present
Lu Zhao	Member	Present
Simone Dornbach	Member	Present
Jennifer Sobers	Member	Present
Arezoo Termechi	Member	Remote Present
Jada Crawford	Student Member	Remote Present

NON-MEMBER ATTENDANCE

Dr. Eric Blake	Superintendent	Remote Present
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Calendar Meeting Minutes

Meeting was called to order by President Quentin Mezetin at 6:39pm

Roll call by 2nd Vice President Yutao Cheng and Quorum was met.

- President Quentin Mezetin opened the meeting and gave greetings. He wished A.A and Council Member Simone Dornbach and Happy Birthday. He asked Spanish interpreters to give instructions in Spanish. He thanked all members and AA for their work behind scenes. He provided his report briefly.
- Superintendent Dr. Eric Blake presented on Fair Student Funding & was assisted with questions from Budget Director, Annie Peralta
- Dr. Shango Blake presented on Black Studies Curriculum and showed an impactful video of Chancellor Ramos and Speaker Adams.
- Principal Duvernay also presented on Black Studies Curriculum
- Office of State Senator Leroy Comrie gave greetings and provided the community with updates
- Dr. Hall gave greetings and briefly spoke on Black Studies implementation
- Dr. Benoit gave greetings and gave feedback on school crawl event and provided an update on the launching of UFT teacher centers
- Family Leadership Coordinator Sonia Rueda gave greetings and provided upcoming workshop announcements and forums.
- President Mezetin asked Principals that are present to give greetings
- President Mezetin introduced the newest CEC Members and asked to bring greetings

Member Reports

- Council Member gave her feedback on Black Studies Curriculum. She applauded the speakers and voiced that it's even more important now and it's worth fighting for. She also voiced that public education is political and everyone needs to demand their elected elections to put a stop to the dismantling of the department of education as \$2 billion dollars might go away which means a stoppage for many programs.
- Council Member congratulated the elected members and voiced that high schools offer came out. He gave feedback on the first special education meeting, he also commented that he will work on a survey regarding special education.

- Council Member congratulated the new elected members. She applauded Black Studies Curriculum speakers for a wonderful presentation and voiced that there needs to more advocacy on this topic as certain normal words, such as black, are being demonized. She voiced that everyone needs to make sure that, at least New York City public schools continue to have diverse views, support students of all backgrounds. She hasn't been able to attend SLT's but hope to do so soon. She also gave feedback on the middle school application process.
- Council Member voiced that the black studies curriculum is very important, and everyone should push the schools to implement as soon as possible. He also spoke about chronic absenteeism.
- Council Member congratulated the new elected members. She applauded Black Studies Curriculum speakers for a wonderful presentation. She gave feedback on one of her schools, PS80 and relayed a message from the principal stating that they are very thankful to now have a free afterschool program.
- Council Member thank her fellow council member for her speech and voiced that everyone needs to reflect on history right now, everyone is still at a point where they can still protest, where they can still voice our opinion where they can still do something, so this is the time to do something. She also voiced that everyone should follow up with their representative to make sure that the kids get to be educated. She gave feedback on her recent meeting with the QBP. She also gave feedback on her recent SLT meetings. She thanked Dr. Blake and Principal Duvernay and the teachers for implementing this important curriculum here in District 28 and hope that many other schools are going to follow their footsteps and implement it as well.
- Council Member voiced that she's looking forward visiting her schools. She thanked her fellow council members for always speaking up.
- Council Member gave greetings and voiced she's looking forward to visiting her schools and wants to advocate for after school programs.
- Student Member gave greetings and introduced herself. She also voiced her point of view of news of budget cutting and dismantling of the department of education.

Public Comments

- D28 grandparent and former teacher thanked the CEC members for their work. She attended in person to voice her concerns surround the test take of small children on

computers vs paper and pencil. She wants to point out that not every student will be savvy enough to take tests on computers. She's asking the CEC and district to make a change to accommodate all students.

- NYC Independent Budget Office gave greetings and spoke about overview of the what the NYC Independent Budget Office does. She also attended to speak about the new module that they launched for high schoolers.
- Dr. Hall responded to the grandparent that voiced her concerns surrounding computer-based testing.
- D28 parent voiced her concerns surrounding summer rising
- D28 parent requested the CEC members to start public comment earlier as it's a school and work night. She wants PS80 to elaborate on how they got the afterschool program. She wants council member to attend their schools and come back with a respective report to include curriculum, black studies program specifically, and what grades they are servicing specifically. She also wants to know what school plans on implementing it in district 28.
- D28 parent leader applauded Principal Grego for a wonderful job he's been doing. She voiced concerns surround school food. Meat was served on Ash Wednesday. She voiced that during certain holidays, meat should not be served. She also voiced that during Ramadan students should be allowed to not participate in lunch and do other extra activity of their choice as they should not be around people eating.
- CB 12 gave greetings and thanked the members for all the work that they do. She voiced that she would like to see more Principals at their meetings
- D28 parent voiced his concerns about summer rising
- UFT Rep gave greetings congratulated the newly elected CEC Members. He provided updates to the community. He also voiced that the UFT shares the same concerns that the CEC raised in the meeting.
- President Mezetin dismissed Spanish interpreters

Meeting Adjourned at 9:26pm

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Member	Position	Attendance
Quentin Mezetin	President	Present
Lauren Clavin	1st Vice President	Remote Present
Yutao Cheng	2nd Vice President	Present
Nathifa Lewis	Recording Secretary	Present
Tanya Wendt	Treasurer	Absent
Paquita Williams	Member	Present
Julie Suh	Member	Present
G.K Kalyanaram	Member	Present
Lu Zhao	Member	Present
Simone Dornbach	Member	Present
Jennifer Sobers	Member	Present
Arezoo Termechi	Member	Absent
Jada Crawford	Student Member	Remote Present

Meeting was called to order by President Mezetin at 9:35pm

Roll call by Recording Secretary Nathifa Lewis and Quorum was met

1st Vice President Lauren Clavin voiced that they are no absence form to present

Motion was made by Recording Secretary Nathifa Lewis to adopt February Calendar and Business Meeting Minutes

Seconded by Member 2nd Vice President Yutao Cheng

President Mezetin and Recording Secretary Nathifa Lewis went through the school and committee list for the newest Council Members to choose from. Schools and Committee were allocated accordingly.

Council Members and AA discussed the End of Year Celebration amongst themselves. A committee was formed to help with the event.

President Mezetin made a motion to table the discussion of the next class size Committee meeting

Seconded by Member Simone Dornbach

Business Meeting Adjourned at [10:20pm]

Respectfully Submitted by

Nathifa Lewis

Recording Secretary

APPROVED