



## COMMUNITY DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL 30

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February 1, 2021

TO: CDEC 30 Members  
Principals  
PA/PTA Presidents  
Parent Coordinators  
Union Representatives

FROM: Community District Education Council 30

RE: February Calendar and Business Meetings, February 9, 2021

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The February Calendar Meeting of Community District Education Council 30 is scheduled for **Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.**, followed by the Business Meeting. Due to the impact of COVID-19, the Calendar and Business meetings of Community District Education Council 30 will not be held in-person and will instead be held via teleconference. Instructions to access the meeting follows the agenda.

### AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. **Contracts for Excellence Presentation**
- IV. **Naming P.S. 384Q: Hunters Point Elementary School**
- V. Dr. Philip A. Composto, Community Superintendent's Report
- VI. **Resolution #150 Calling for Fully Funding Our Public Schools**
- VII. **Resolution #151 Calling for Amnesty for Budget Deficit**
- VIII. Public Agenda and Speaking Time
- IX. Adjournment

### BUSINESS MEETING

1. Reading and Approval of Minutes
2. CDEC Budget
3. April Meeting Date
4. NEW BUSINESS

Next Meeting: March 9, 2021

The next **Calendar Meeting** is scheduled for **Tuesday, March 9, 2021**, at 6:30 p.m., immediately followed by the **Business Meeting**. Due to the impact of COVID-19, the Calendar and Business meetings of Community District Education Council 30 will not be held in-person and will instead be held via teleconference. Guidance on how to access the meeting follows.

*Never doubt that a small group of committed citizens can change the world.  
Indeed it is the only thing that ever has. ~Margaret Mead*

**Community Education Council 30 invites you to a Zoom webinar.**

When: Feb 9, 2021 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://zoom.us/j/99686138915?pwd=bHZEZ1Z3S3dXMHh5UE9CZm5PTjVXQT09>

Passcode: 586983

Telephone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 408 638 0968 or +1 646 876 9923 or +1 669 900 6833 or +1 253 215 8782

Webinar ID: 996 8613 8915

Passcode: 586983

International numbers available: <https://zoom.us/u/adVgHYUAIS>

**RESOLUTION #150  
CALLING FOR FULLY FUNDING OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

WHEREAS fifteen years after the Campaign for Fiscal Equity case was settled, New York City schools are still owed \$1.1B<sup>1</sup>; and

WHEREAS the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act provided New York State with \$1.037B specifically for education for the current State fiscal year<sup>2</sup>; and

WHEREAS instead of increasing overall education funding with federal dollars, the Governor supplanted education funding by reducing the State contribution by \$1B statewide<sup>3</sup>, just when schools needed more resources to meet the greater needs arising from the pandemic; and

WHEREAS in December 2020 the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSA Act) was signed into law, which will provide \$4B to New York State for education purposes<sup>4</sup>; and

WHEREAS there is no clause in the CRRSA Act that prohibits supplantation, thus, making it possible for the Governor to again reduce the State share of the education funding; and

WHEREAS the pandemic has greatly increased resource needs in our public schools:

- Reliable internet connectivity and digital devices for students and classrooms will continue to require resources.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.aqeny.org/school-district-owed/>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.nysed.gov/news/2020/state-education-department-announces-process-local-educational-agencies-apply-12-billion#:~:text=The%20CARES%20Act%20provides%20%2430.75.and%20respond%20to%20the%20coronavirus.&text=%E2%80%99CThis%20federal%20funding%20is%20imperative.recovering%20and%20moving%20forward%20safely.%E2%80%9D>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.cityandstateny.com/articles/policy/education/new-york-state-budget-deal-may-cause-nyc-other-districts-tighten-their>

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.nysed.gov/memo/coronavirus/federal-coronavirus-response-and-relief-supplemental-appropriations-act-2021-crrsa>

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- More teachers are needed for socially distanced in-person teaching and for managing multiple cohorts of students in blended and fully remote learning without unacceptable class sizes.
- School personnel will continue to require Personal Protective Equipment at least until the herd immunity is achieved.
- There is a significant and immediate need for counselors and social workers in every school to address the trauma experienced by students as well as school staff.

WHEREAS now more than ever our students need more resources to begin healing and recovering from the pandemic, let alone make up the learning losses; and

WHEREAS there were several bills to increase revenues passed by the Senate but vetoed by the Governor during the last session; and

WHEREAS while many New Yorkers face eviction, job loss, food insecurity and no health care as a result of the pandemic, billionaire New Yorkers have increased their wealth by tens of billions of dollars<sup>5</sup>; and

WHEREAS a coalition of organizations has introduced a comprehensive set of revenue bills, which, if enacted, will raise enough revenue to fill the State's fiscal gap.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Community District Education Council 30 (CDEC30) urges the Governor and the State Legislature not to supplant State education funding with federal stimulus money;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the CDEC30 urges the State legislature and the Governor to fully fund the Foundation Aid with State funding;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the CDEC30 urges the State legislature and the Governor to pass revenue bills that will make our tax code more progressive and equitable.

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<sup>5</sup><https://public-accountability.org/report/the-great-pandemic-wealth-divide-billionaires-thrive-in-new-york-state-as-working-people-suffer/>

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**RESOLUTION #151  
CALLING FOR AMNESTY FOR BUDGET DEFICIT**

WHEREAS in 2021, many public schools are burdened with significant budget deficits because actual enrollment is well below what schools could have reasonably projected during the pandemic; and

WHEREAS through last fall, many families made difficult and personal decisions to leave the public school system to enroll in education programs that provide more in-person learning and/or safety when faced with the ongoing pandemic. Lack of clarity from the city about how and when schools would reopen, last minute reopening delays, health and safety concerns, blended learning options that typically provided only one to two in-person school days per week and changing rules for opting back into blended learning all contributed to families making alternative arrangements; and

WHEREAS New York City public schools are primarily funded on a per student basis through the Fair Student Funding;

- a. In late May, each school submits an estimated budget to the Department of Education for the next school year based on enrollment projections;
- b. Each school is subject to **midyear adjustment** of funding based on how actual enrollment compares to enrollment projections from late May; if a school's student register exceeds its projection, the school will receive additional funds to support its operations; however, if a school's student register is below projections, the school must pay back funding for lost student enrollment;
- c. More than 90% of the Fair Student Funding is used to pay salaries for teachers and support staff, making midyear adjustment extremely difficult for most schools;
- d. Many schools are still not funded at 100% of the Fair Student Funding formula, in essence starting the school year with a deficit;

WHEREAS under the DOE's Deficit Repayment Plan, schools with deficits greater than \$100,000 typically "repay" funds over a several year installment plan, saddling schools

with debt during the time they need more resources not less to invest in staffing and technology and address learning loss and social emotional trauma suffered during the pandemic; and

WHEREAS In 2013, the DOE instituted an amnesty program in recognition of successive years of budget reductions following the great recession that made it difficult for schools to repay their deficits; and

WHEREAS, the expenses associated with unforeseen events, such as the pandemic, should not be borne by individual schools.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** Community District Education Council 30 calls on the City of New York, Mayor Bill de Blasio, and New York City School Chancellor Richard Carranza to institute amnesty for school deficits so that our schools can emerge from this pandemic financially sound and best positioned to meet the learning needs of our city's students.

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