

MINUTES
Community District Education Council 30
Calendar Meeting
November 13, 2017

The November Calendar Meeting of Community District Education Council 30 was held on Monday, November 13, 2017, in the Auditorium of P.S. 122 located at 21-21 Ditmars Boulevard, Astoria, NY 11105.

Spotlight School

Ms. Lamour introduced Faye Erstejn-Kotzer, Principal of I.S. 204. Ms. Erstejn-Kotzer and teacher Christine Szkambara discussed the school's Comfort Dog Program and introduced, Olivia Holmes, their school's comfort dog.

Michelle Noris, a past member of the City-Wide Council on Special Education and CDEC30 gave a presentation on "Access for All". Currently the DOE funds 17 accessibility projects every 5 years. All schools will not be accessible until 2280. She asked schools to request Reso-A funds for accessibility projects and that the CDEC make this one of their top 5 requested projects for the School Construction Authority.

Ms. Valarie Lamour, Co-President, called the Calendar Meeting to order at 6:52 PM.

Roll Call

Deborah Alexander, Co-President, conducted roll call for the Calendar Meeting.

Present:

Deborah Alexander
Robert Cruz
Ka-Trina Harris
Valarie Lamour
Nuala O'Doherty
Sabina Omerhodzic (7:10pm)
Myrna Palacios
Amie Ravitz
Diane Walcott

Absent and Excused:

Amina Maiza

Dr. Composto's Supervisory Appointment Announcement: Anna Aprea, Principal PS 122

Speakers: Maria Samolis on behalf of the CSA, CDEC30 Co-President Deborah Alexander and staff.

Presentation: Middle School & High School Enrollment, Margaret Rogers, Executive Director Borough Enrollment/Queens

Ms. Rogers explained the middle school and high school enrollment process and reminded everyone that they apply to a program, not a school. Ms. Rogers also explained the role of composite scores and took questions from the audience.

Dr. Philip A. Composto, Community Superintendent's Report:

The Superintendent's report follows the minutes.

Ms. Lamour expressed concern that Baccalaureate has cut back on the number of middle school students it is taking. She believes that this is a disservice to our students. Dr. Composto stated that their SLT made this decision. They cannot eliminate the middle school without community meetings and approval of the Panel for Education Policy. Ms. Alexander will speak with Deb Dillingham, Queens member to the PEP and write a letter to our elected officials. The goal is to keep those middle school seats.

Ms. Lamour told the Council that the DOE will not allow the CDEC to provide building permits for JHPPS even if they vote to co-sponsor. She will research and appeal the decision.

Ms. Alexander asked about Learning Leaders and vetting for parents. Dr. Composto stated that FACE is aware of the problem and currently working to find a solution.

Public Agenda and Speaking Time

Esther Lok, Educators for Excellence, spoke about the DOE's Restorative Justice pilot program and encouraged the Council to support the program.

Adjournment

There being no further business Ms. Harris made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Walcott seconded. All in favor. Motion was passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:37PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Alexander
Co-President

Superintendent's Report
Community District Education Council CDEC30 Meeting
November 13, 2017

In support of the Framework for Great Schools under Supportive Environment

Dr. Philip A. Composto

- **Miss USA, Kara McCullough's visit to P.S. 92 and I.S. 145**

Through the NYCDOE STEM department, two District 30 Magnet schools (IS 145 and PS 92) had the opportunity to host Miss USA, Kára McCullough on **10/31/17**. Formerly a nuclear scientist at the U.S Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Kára hopes to inspire students to pursue STEM related careers.

Kára McCullough has always been fascinated with science and the impact it has on our everyday lives. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry with a concentration in Radiochemistry from South Carolina State University. Kára founded a self-funded community outreach program called "Science Exploration forKids" (SE4K), which creates interactive activities celebrating math and science to cultivate a passion for science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) among children. Kára plans to expand her program throughout the country and continue to advocate for today's youth to enter STEM career fields. We were excited to have her visit our two district magnet schools.

- P.S./I.S. 78 participating in the **NYC Junior Ambassadors: Announcing 2017-2018 Cohort**

The NYC Junior Ambassadors (NYCJA) program educates New York City students about the role of the United Nations in world affairs and positions students from all five boroughs to tackle global issues, locally. Each classroom incorporates the UN into their curriculum and is given the unique opportunity to attend curated tours of the United Nations Headquarters. They receive informational briefings on a topic matched to their curricular interest including gender equity, refugees, sustainable development and more! Together, we are creating global citizens who will continue to positively impact their communities and the world.

“The NYC Junior Ambassadors program is an important investment in our students and educators,” said **Schools Chancellor Carmen Fariña, a member of the selection committee.** *“Teaching students how to become thoughtful global citizens is a game changer and I congratulate the classrooms and after-school programs selected to participate this year.”*

- **“Just Say Hi” initiative for 2017-18 school year – IS. 230**

Intermediate School 230 has been selected to participate in the “Just Say Hi” initiative. **Just Say Hi** supports schools in creating a community where disability is considered an aspect of diversity. “Just Say Hi” encourages students with and without disabilities to have conversations and build relationships with one another. The initiative also helps staff to deepen their understanding of disability and develop more classrooms that are inclusive.

In support of the Framework for Great Schools under Supportive Environment

Chancellor Fariña Announces Reforms to Strengthen and Expand Anti-Bullying Programs in Schools.

The DOE worked in close partnership with the health department, NYPD, parent leaders, and other City agencies to develop the reforms, which are key to engaging families as partners and improving school culture, for example:

- **Bullying Complaint Portal:** Launching in 2019, the portal will provide an easy-to-use, public-facing online tool for families to report any incidents of student discrimination, harassment, intimidation and/or bullying.
- **Mental Health First Aid training and community workshops:** Families, school staff, and students will be provided with Mental Health First Aid training and workshops on preventing and reducing bullying in schools. ThriveNYC will offer the trainings that cover a five-step action plan for assessing, identifying, and assisting students in crisis. The DOE will also offer parents, families, community members, and students the chance to participate in workshops on bullying prevention and reduction, and strengthening positive school climate.
- **Anti-bias and anti-bullying training for staff:** In January, the DOE will offer web-based anti-bias training, in partnership with the Anti-Defamation League, for all school-based employees.
- **Increased protection from bullying for students:** Schools will be required to develop individual student action plans to address instances in which there are several substantiated claims of bullying against the same student. Students who experience one or more incidents of bullying or harassment will be eligible to receive a transfer; once a family requests a safety transfer, the DOE will work with them to identify alternative placement options.
- **Funding for student-led clubs:** The City is dedicating \$1 million to support the establishment of groups such as Gender and Sexuality Alliances and Respect for All clubs. Middle schools and high schools will be able to apply to receive funding to support existing programs as well as launch new organizations.
- **Targeted support for 300 schools:** Schools with high rates of bullying will receive targeted social-emotional learning resources to train staff and support students. Programs for those schools will

focus on self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision-making.

- **Expansion of restorative practices training:** The DOE has trained all 35 schools in District 18, the district that previously had the highest rate of suspensions, in restorative practices.

Opportunity to Host an Emergency Preparedness Demonstration at Schools

The New York City Office of Emergency Management (OEM) is offering free demonstrations on emergency preparedness for students in pre-K through eighth grade. The pre-K session includes an interactive presentation for pre-K students and their families; the elementary school presentation, entitled “Let’s Get Ready, New York,” includes an interactive storybook and poem for students in kindergarten through fifth grade. For students in sixth through eighth grade, the presentation will focus on the importance of teamwork and quick-thinking during emergency situations. Schools that are interested in participating are asked to contact OEM.

Security Clearance Requirements for All DOE Employees, Vendor Employees, and Volunteers

In accordance with Chancellor’s Regulation C-105, all teachers, staff, volunteers (excluding the parents and legal guardians of current students), and other workers at your school or in any other DOE worksite must complete the security clearance process conducted by the DOE Office of Personnel Investigation before they can work in any capacity at any school or DOE worksite. This process includes, but may not be limited to, fingerprinting and a review of the candidate’s employment history.

Guidance on How Families Can Access Immunization Records of Children Displaced from Puerto Rico

Due to severe hurricanes, the DOE expects displaced children from Puerto Rico and other affected areas to enroll in schools. There are resources available to assist families of children from Puerto Rico in complying with DOE immunization requirements. These parents may be able to obtain their child’s immunization records via the Puerto Rico Immunization Registry (PRIR) parent portal, by entering their child’s identifying information (e.g., Social Security number) to locate records. Note that if the PRIR website is unavailable due to power outages or other issues, or the parent does not have internet access, they can call 311 and ask for immunization records; 311 callers will be transferred to the Department of Health (DOH) hotline staff who can access the PRIR. Once immunization records are obtained, parents may take them to a doctor to determine which vaccines a student may need. Parents of children who do not have a physician may call 311 for assistance in finding a provider or they can view a list of federally qualified health centers. The DOH has reached out to physicians to advise them of the resources available to assist displaced children.

Opportunity to Nominate Outstanding Teachers for the Big Apple Awards

The DOE is recognizing teacher excellence through the sixth annual Big Apple Awards program. Principals and school community (e.g., students, families, administrators, support staff, and teachers) are encouraged to nominate current, full-time teachers who have demonstrated exceptional success in their impact on student learning, instructional practices, and professional contributions to their school community. Nominations are due by **November 27**

Kindergarten Admissions Updates for the 2018–19 School Year

Please note the following kindergarten admissions updates:

Kindergarten Application Period: The kindergarten application period is **November 28–January 12**. All children born in 2013 who live in New York City are eligible to apply for kindergarten placement in the 2018–19 school year. Families can submit the application online, over the phone at 718-935-2009, or in-person at a Family Welcome Center.

In support of the Framework for Great Schools under Strong Family & Community Ties

- **Fine Forgiveness for Children and Teens at NYC Libraries**

On October 19, the New York Public Library, Brooklyn Public Library, and Queens Library announced fine forgiveness for NYC students; children under 18 years of age automatically had their library fines forgiven and had restrictions removed from their public library cards. High school students, ages 18 and over, can also have their fines waived by making an in-person request at their local library through **November 2**. The goal of fine forgiveness is to increase the likelihood that students with existing fines will borrow books and utilize programs at their local libraries.

New User Role Assignments in NYC Schools Account (NYCSA)

Custodial Users are now able to allow additional users linked to a student in ATS to create their NYC Schools Accounts to view key academic information. In addition, Non-Custodial Users can create NYC School Accounts, once the conditions described below are met. The role assignment will determine the level of user access in NYCSA, as follows:

- **Custodial Users:** Users who are assigned “Custodial” status will be able to view all information available for their child in NYCSA. These users can provision access for Non-custodial Users or Additional Users to their child’s student information using the new “Manage User Access” screen.
- **Non-custodial Users:** Users who are assigned “Non-custodial” status will be able to request access to most information for the student in NYCSA, but the Custodial User must separately provision access to potentially sensitive information, such as the student’s schedule. However, schools must first follow the following procedures. The school must notify the Custodial User in writing of the request and give the Custodial User 45 days from the date the Non-custodial User requested access to provide legal documentation (for example, a judicial order) prohibiting the Non-custodial User from having access to student records. If the school does not receive this legal documentation, the Non-custodial User must be provisioned with a NYC Schools Account on the 45th day. The Custodial User may also consent to the Non-custodial User’s access on the “Manage User Access” screen, in which case access may be granted immediately.
- **Additional Users:** Users who are assigned “Additional” status by the Custodial User will have limited ability to view student information, based on access provisioned by the Custodial User.

CALENDAR

November

November 7	Election Day: students do not attend school
November 23-24	Thanksgiving recess: schools closed

PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCE

Fall 2017

November 9-10	High school
November 13-14	District 75 school programs
November 15-16	Elementary school
November 29-30	Middle school