

MINUTES
Community District Education Council 30
Calendar Meeting
February 7, 2022

The February Virtual Calendar Meeting of Community District Education Council 30 was held on Monday, February 7, 2022, via the Zoom platform.

Mr. Greenberg called the Calendar Meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

Roll Call

Juliette-Noor Haji, Secretary, conducted roll call for the Calendar Meeting.

Present:

Deborah Alexander
Kristina Berrouet (late)
Kelly Craig
Jonathan Greenberg
Juliette-Noor Haji
Fatima Lakrafl
Michelle Moore
Marisela Santos
Esther Verhalle
Ethan Wong

Absent and Excused

Whitney Toussaint (school)

Jonathan Greenberg, President, explained the format of the meeting.

Mr. Greenberg welcomed District 30 parent leaders to the Quarterly Meeting with Elected PA/PTA Executive Board Officers.

Presentation: School Budget Process Overview

Presenters: Luis Garcia, Paula Lotito, Dr. Gus Hatzidimitriou

Budget projections and the creation of the CEPs were reviewed.

Budget process in January with a projection of enrollment for the following school year.

School budgets are funded by tax levy funding streams such as Fair Student Funding, state and federal funding streams and programmatic allocations targeted to specific goals. School leadership teams discuss the budget and align it to the CEP.

Center for Public Research & Leadership Update

CPRL Presenters: Liz Chu, Kimberly Austin

District Planning Presenters: Jai Griem, Reba Lichtenstein

CPRL gave an update on the progress of the work done. They will be engaging the community and creating a working group with equitable distribution of voices for the impacted schools. Comments can be submitted to EngageLICNow@gmail.com.

Statement on Harassment of Councilmembers

Esther Verhalle read the following statement:

We, the members of Community District Education Council 30, denounce in the strongest terms any and all communication that contains threats of violence, harassment or other forms of intimidation. This includes written, oral, on-line, and in-person communication addressed to individual members of this Council or the Council as a whole.

As public servants, we are tasked with discussing and advocating on issues of education in District 30. There are and will be issues that are contentious, such as the deliberation and eventual voting on potential re-zonings in our district.

While we invite and encourage all members in our district to participate in free and spirited debate, we consider any threats against individual members, in any form, in writing, either online or in person, reprehensible and unacceptable.

We look forward to working together with the District 30 community in an atmosphere in which everyone feels free to express their views, listens to the opinions of others, and reacts in responsible ways.

Ms. Verhalle made a motion to have this statement as part of the record. Mr. Greenberg seconded the motion.

Juliette-Noor Haji called a roll call vote:

Deborah Alexander	In Favor
Kristina Berrouet	Not Present
Kelly Craig	In Favor
Jonathan Greenberg	In Favor
Juliette-Noor Haji	In Favor
Fatima Lakrafl	In Favor
Michelle Moore	In Favor
Marisela Santos	In Favor
Whitney Toussaint	Not Present
Esther Verhalle	In Favor
Ethan Wong	In Favor

The motion passed.

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

The Superintendent's Report follows the minutes.

Public Agenda and Speaking

Mercedes Jennings, Senator Gianaris' office, shared contact information.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Kelly Craig made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Deborah Alexander seconded. All in favor. The motion was passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Juliette-Noor Haji
Secretary

The recording of this meeting will be available at cec30.org.

**Superintendent's Report
Community District Education Council CDEC30
February 7, 2022**

In Support of the Framework for Great Schools under Supportive Environment

- **School Budget Process Overview followed by Q&A**

- **Official Appointment of D30 Principal**

I am happy to announce the appointment of Ms. Daisy Morales as principal of Q092.

Public Release of the 2020–21 School Quality Reports and NYC School Survey Results

The school's official 2020–21 School Quality Report results are now publicly available, including the following reports:

- School Quality Snapshot: A summary of the school's learning environment and student achievement outcomes.
- NYC School Survey Results: A summary of student, teacher, and parent survey responses. To view the results, select the "NYC School Survey and Quality Review" tab at the top of the School Quality Guide.
- School Quality Guide: Detailed information about student population, school conditions, and student achievement.
- School Performance Dashboard: Multiple years of data, key comparisons, and data visualizations.
- The school's 2020–21 report does not include framework scores; for a full list of report changes, please review the 2020–21 Changes to School Quality Reports.

Respect for All Week

This year's Respect for All (RFA) Week will take place from **February 14–18**. During RFA Week, schools should celebrate, highlight, and build upon ongoing diversity programs and curriculum-based instruction. School officials should also develop new initiatives that promote respect for diversity and engage students in meaningful lessons and/or other activities that focus on preventing bias-based harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying. Topics include, but are not limited to: celebrating kindness; being an ally; combatting and reporting bullying and cyber-bullying; respect for diversity, disability and religious acceptance; respecting gender identity and gender expression; and LGBTQ pride and acceptance. As a district, we are providing professional learning for teachers on diversity and bias through Learner Centered Initiatives (LCI) and The CAVU Group. Additionally, as part of RFA Week, school officials are encouraged to celebrate National No One Eats Alone Day on **February 18**. Resources can be accessed through the No One Eats Alone website.

Family Letter COVID Health and Safety Policies – Update February 4, 2022

Message for Families

The new family letter (along with translations) which outlines the updated COVID health and safety policies is now available on the Messages for Families page. (Please also see attached). This Family Update provides important information about the latest health and safety policies. These policies will take effect on Monday, February 7, 2022.

COVID-19 Testing

Increased In-School COVID-19 Testing

Home Test Kits

COVID-19 Testing Sites

In anticipation of the Midwinter Break, the DOE is increasing the number of students who will be included in the city's in-school random surveillance testing program. Beginning on February 7, schools will test the larger of either:

- 10 percent of the school's student enrollment in grades 1 through 12, up to a cap of 250 students
- 20 percent of the school's unvaccinated student population

This change allows schools with highly vaccinated student populations to test a larger group of students every week. Additionally, 10 percent of staff continue to be able to get tested weekly. We encourage all families to consent to in-school testing through their NYC Schools Account ([schoolsaccount.nyc](https://schoolsaccount.nyc.gov)) or return a signed paper form to the school.

More information about COVID-19 NYC DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Testing in schools and printable version of the consent form in multiple languages can be found at schools.nyc.gov/covidtesting. Testing is a critical part of keeping schools open and protecting the health of our students, staff, and neighbors.

Attendance

In light of the 95% reduction in COVID cases reported in schools since the peak of the Omicron surge, the Attendance Policy has been updated. Effective immediately, students participating in asynchronous remote instruction may be marked present only when isolating consistent with health guidance due to a positive COVID-19 test result.

Your school will provide details about how children in those circumstances can access remote instruction and office hours. Students who are absent for reasons other than a positive COVID-19 test result or school/building closure will be marked absent and can no longer be marked present for remote instruction.

Home Test Kits for Return from Midwinter Recess

Principals were informed that for the week of February 14, schools should distribute home test kits to all staff on Monday, February 14 **and again on** Friday, February 18. This is to ensure staff have a second kit (2 tests) to use before they return from the midwinter recess on February 28. All students should receive home test kits (2 tests) on Friday, February 18, even if they were exposed earlier in the week. A family letter to accompany the February 18 distribution of test kits will be available on the Messages for Families page on February 11. The DOE wants to ensure that everyone (students and staff) has a test kit to use prior to returning from the midwinter recess. Students and staff can use the second kit to test on the evening of Saturday, February 26 and the evening of Sunday, February 27 before returning on Monday, February 28. Please note that while use of the test kit is *strongly encouraged*, participation is voluntary, and staff and students are not required to show proof of a negative test result before being allowed to return to work and school.

COVID-19 Health Policy Changes – January 28, 2022

Messages for Families

Update for Families on COVID-19 Health and Safety Policies: January 28, 2022

Under the DOEs “Stay Safe, Stay Open” plan, schools have remained open and among the safest places for young people to be during the pandemic, including during the Omicron surge. We are determined to build on that progress. This Family Update provides important information about the DOEs latest health and safety policies, which will take effect on Monday, January 31.

Updated COVID-19 Health and Safety Policies

We recognize that families need clear information to help them make decisions. For a visual guide to the policies explained in detail below, visit schools.nyc.gov/2021health for two charts that outline the steps you should take if your child feels sick, was exposed to COVID-19, or tested positive for COVID-19: 9 (also attached)

- COVID-19 Chart for Early Childhood Families (LYFE, 3-K, Pre-K, or EarlyLearn)
- COVID-19 Chart for Kindergarten–12 students

Shortened Isolation Period for COVID-19 Cases

Based on Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and New York State Department of Health (DOH) guidance, the New York City Department of Education (DOE) has shortened the isolation period for K-12 students with a positive COVID-19 test result **from 10 days to 5 days**. This means if your child tests positive for COVID-19 and is in kindergarten or higher, your child can return to school on Day 6 if they have no symptoms or their symptoms are improving, and they have been fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication. Students returning from isolation on Day 6 must wear a well-fitting mask such as a KN95, KF94, or a cloth mask over a disposable surgical mask on Days 6–10. Please be aware that any child (in any grade) who has completed their isolation period is NOT required to show proof of a negative test result before being allowed to return to school.

Shortened Quarantine for COVID-19 Exposure

The CDC and DOH also shortened the quarantine period for students exposed to COVID-19. Students in grades kindergarten or higher will continue to use home test kits to stay in school after an in-school exposure. If your child is NOT fully vaccinated and was exposed to COVID-19 **outside** of a school setting, your child must quarantine for at least 5 days; this is reduced from 10 days. If your child is fully vaccinated and was exposed outside of school, your child can continue to attend school so long as they do not have any symptoms. All students are required to wear masks while on school grounds, and students returning from isolation or quarantine on Day 6 must wear a well-fitting mask such as a KN95, KF94, or a cloth mask over a disposable surgical mask on Days 6–10.

Children who are at least 2 years old in LYFE, 3K, and Pre-K classrooms only need to quarantine for 5 days if they are symptom-free, able to wear a well-fitting mask through Day 10, and have a negative COVID-19 test from a health care provider on Day 5 OR two negative home test results from Day 4 and Day 5.

Children under 2 years old in LYFE classrooms must still quarantine for up to 10 days but can return to school on Day 8 if they are symptom-free AND have a negative COVID-19 test from a health care provider

on Day 5 or later. Home tests are not considered valid for this age group unless administered at the direction of a health care provider. Any child in a LYFE, 3-K, or Pre-K classroom that was exposed but does NOT get tested for COVID-19 can return after completing a 10-day quarantine.

For an unvaccinated student of any age who is exposed to COVID-19 in the home, if the COVID-positive household member and student are staying in the same home, the student must continue to quarantine for at least 5 additional days after the household member's isolation period has ended.

Please note: if your child has recovered from COVID-19 in the last 90 days, they do not need to quarantine following an exposure and may continue to attend school unless they develop COVID-like symptoms.

COVID-19 Home Test Kits

Children ages 2 and up who are exposed to COVID-19 at school will receive two tests. The test kits come with printed instructions that you should follow when administering the test. You can also watch videos in multiple languages on how to use test kit at schools.nyc.gov/HomeRapidTestKits.

Please note: if a child has recovered from COVID-19 in the last 90 days, they will not receive a test kit and may continue to attend school unless they develop COVID-like symptoms.

Remote Instruction for Students Isolating Due to COVID-19

Any student who tests positive for COVID-19 and is isolating at home is entitled to asynchronous remote instruction and access to office hours with a teacher based on availability. The school will provide details about how children in those circumstances can access remote instruction and office hours.

Keeping Our Communities Healthy

Daily Health Screener

Starting Monday, January 31, the daily health screening form will be revised to reflect new health policies and options for those recently recovered from COVID-19.

Schools officials are asked to please continue to help children complete the health screener every day before coming to school.

Face Covering Reminder

The DOE's face covering policy continues to be in effect. All students over the age of two years old must wear a face covering when entering a DOE building unless they have a medical exemption. Face coverings must be worn both indoors and outdoors when on DOE grounds, regardless of COVID-19 vaccine status. The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) recommends that all individuals should consider wearing two masks or a higher-grade mask, such as a KN95 or KF94. Using a cloth mask over a disposable mask improves the fit and adds additional protective layers.

COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Shots

Students ages 12 and older who received their second Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine at least five months ago can now receive booster shots to further strengthen their immunity against COVID-19 and help safeguard our community against the virus. Additionally, children ages 5 to 11 with certain immunocompromising conditions who received their Pfizer-BioNTech initial vaccine series at least 28 days ago are now eligible for a booster shot. The CDC and DOH strongly encourage all eligible New Yorkers to get their booster dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, which is free and widely available. To find a vaccine site near you, visit vaccinefinder.nyc.gov (Open external link). If you have questions about booster shots, talk to your health care provider or call 311.

New DIIT Support Hub Tile Available in NYCSA

Please note that starting January 31, families will be able to access the DIIT Help Desk via the new Support Hub tile in their NYC Schools Account (NYCSA). Through the Support Hub, families will be able to open tickets to troubleshoot issues related to: requesting repairs for DOE-loaned technology such as iPads; iLearn; password resets; NYCSA access; and more.

In addition, the Support Hub includes the digital chatbot assistant, EVA (Education Virtual Assistant), which allows families to receive immediate responses to technical questions, without the need to submit a DIIT ticket.

Save for College Program Updates

Kindergarten families who do not wish to have their child's data shared with NYC Kids RISE should have opted out of the Save for College Program by December 31; this deadline was originally extended from November 30, in order to provide schools more time to share information about the Save for College Program with their families and to allow more time for families to review the opt-out materials.

As a result, the timeline for when parents will be able to view and activate their accounts, which was communicated in presentations to families and staff, has been extended to the spring. Participating families will receive both a welcome email and mailed welcome kit from NYC Kids RISE, once their accounts are ready to be activated and viewed. Additionally, note that as kindergarten students and new students in grades 1-4 in District 30 enroll in schools, they will become eligible for participation in the program.

Vegan Fridays

Vegan Fridays, will begin on **February 4**.

Building on the great success of Meatless Mondays, introduced in 2019, and Meatless Fridays, introduced in April 2021, Vegan Fridays will feature a vegan dish as the primary menu item. These menu items are plant based and made from scratch. The DOEs team of chefs prepared these recipes utilizing high quality ingredients to ensure they would be tasty and satisfying. They meet all of the USDA child nutrition standards. Please note:

- Vegan options are already offered in all schools on a daily basis, and milk is available as an option with every meal.
- Further, additional options are always available, including peanut butter and jelly sandwiches and hummus and pretzels, and students will continue to have non-vegan options available to them on Fridays.

If you receive questions from families and students, please consult your school food manager.

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

February 1 Tuesday Lunar New Year, schools closed
February 2 Wednesday Spring Term begins for semester-based schools
February 21– 25 Monday– Friday Midwinter Recess, schools closed