

MINUTES
Community District Education Council 30
Virtual Calendar Meeting
March 9, 2021

The March Virtual Calendar Meeting of Community District Education Council 30 was held on Tuesday, March 9, 2021, via the Zoom platform.

Deborah Alexander, Co-President, explained the format of the meeting.

Ms. Alexander called the Calendar Meeting to order at 6:37 PM.

Roll Call

Shannon Lee, Secretary, conducted roll call for the Calendar Meeting.

Present:

Deborah Alexander
Roberto Cruz
Jonathan Greenberg
Ka-Trina Harris
Fatima Lakraflī
Shannon Lee
Amina Maiza
Dani Marr
Nuala O'Doherty
Chuck Park
Scott Sharinn
Preeti Minhas

Naming P.S. 280 – PS280Q: Home of the Lionhearts

The P.S. 280 community voted to name P.S. 280 – **PS280Q: Home of the Lionhearts**. Dr. Composto reviewed the actions taken by the school. Principal Lisa Hidalgo explained the reasons for the name selection. Co-Presidents Deborah Alexander and Robert Cruz spoke in support of the name.

Nuala O'Doherty made a motion to approve that P.S. 280 be officially named **PS280Q: Home of the Lionhearts**. Amina Maiza seconded the motion.

Deborah Alexander	In Favor
Robert Cruz	In Favor
Jonathan Greenberg	In Favor
Ka-Trina Harris	In Favor
Fatima Lakraflī	In Favor
Shannon Lee	In Favor
Amina Maiza	In Favor
Dani Marr	In Favor
Nuala O'Doherty	In Favor
Chuck Park	In Favor
Scott Sharinn	In Favor
Preeti Minhas	In Favor

All in favor by unanimous vote. The motion passed.

Fair Student Funding Presentation

Howard Simms, Budget director, reviewed the PowerPoint. Fair Student Funding money comes from the City, State, and Federal Government totaling 34.3 billion dollars. The City gives 19.6 billion, 57%. The State gives 12.3 billion, 36% and the Federal Government provides 2.1 billion, 6%. Each school's Fair Student Funding allocation is calculated based on the number of students enrolled at each school, and the specific needs of those students. This budgeting method is called a "weighted pupil-funding model."

Quarterly Meeting with District 30 PA/PTA Elected Officers:

Elected parent association officers shared good things about their schools. Those sharing included Anne Court, P.S. 112; Christian Santamaria, P.S. 148; Sarah Goodman, Principal I.S. 291; Danielle LoPresti Lee, P.S. 384; Esther Verhalle, I.S. 291; Sandra Anagnostos, P.S. 2 and I.S. 141; Dionne Jaggon, Principal P.S./I.S. 111; Co-President Deborah Alexander, P.S. 150 and I.S. 300; Roberta Tapia, P.S. 280; Council Member Dani Marr, P.S. 384 and Superintendent Dr. Composto.

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

The Superintendent's report follows the minutes.

Ms. O'Doherty commented that immigrants do not qualify for housing.

Public Agenda and Speaking Time

Kathleen Essay spoke about the frustration when schools are closed.

Claudia Chacon asked about filling out the consent form for covid testing. She gave a shout out to the P.S. 70 parent coordinator, Maria Hernandez.

Olga Flores, Parent Coordinator P.S. 212, gave a shout out to Bandna Sharma, District 30 Family Leadership Coordinator, and the CEC AA, Gail Cohen.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Ka-Trina Harris made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Robert Cruz seconded. All in favor. Motion was passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:13 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon Lee

Shannon Lee
Secretary

**Superintendent's Report
Community District Education Council CDEC30
MARCH 9, 2021**

In Support of the Framework for Great Schools under Supportive Environment

Dr. Philip A. Composto

- **Renaming of 30Q280 – Reason for Name Change**

At PS 280Q, they are proposing to officially name their school, "P.S. 280Q: Home of the Lionhearts." Principal Lisa Hidalgo states, "We pride ourselves on the Core Values of H.E.A.R.T.: Honesty, Excellence, Accountability, Respect, & Teamwork. As a staff, we exude these values in all we do as we instill them in our students. Over the last 8 years, under the leadership of Ms. Lisa Hidalgo, PS280Q has developed a school culture that promotes the courage and determination to strive for greatness. A lion represents courage and strength. Even in the face of the pandemic of COVID -19, when the Jackson Heights community has experienced such tremendous loss and defeat, the LIONHEART attitude of our students, parents, and faculty has propelled us to continue the momentum of positivity and growth. Therefore, there is no time like the present to ensure that our school has a name that symbolizes the vision we have for our students. Our students may enter as cubs, but as we instill these values, support our students' social emotional learning and provide them with the tools and resources that they need for academic success, they leave as lions."

Principal Lisa Hidalgo has met with her school community and discussed the request name change with the SLT, PTA and Staff. They all met on the following dates.

SLT Meeting (February 24 @ 3:00 pm) Agenda

- PTA Meeting February 25 @ 4:00pm) Power Point (minutes)
- Vote Results - Faculty Meeting February 25 @ 2:20pm)
- Vote Results include faculty & SLT

CASA (Cultural After School Adventure) Initiative

Costa Constantinides has selected the Pre-K Center at Q397 as a designated site for the Queens Museum to provide free after-school arts programs, as part of the CASA initiative. The designation was made by the New York City Council and administered by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs.

• **Remote and Blended List - Breakdown by schools as of 3/1/2021**

DBN	Blended	Remote
30Q002	252	244
30Q010	345	418
30Q011	479	336
30Q017	267	294
30Q069	383	479
30Q070	405	387
30Q076	160	237
30Q078	412	255
30Q084	163	115
30Q085	343	237
30Q092	588	263
30Q111	132	199
30Q112	101	294
30Q122	591	665
30Q126	202	376

30Q127	399	694
30Q141	525	640
30Q145	797	815
30Q148	337	389
30Q149	454	393
30Q150	459	455
30Q151	124	174
30Q152	319	507
30Q166	339	540
30Q171	168	227
30Q204	106	274
30Q212	368	355
30Q222	132	98
30Q227	723	814
30Q228	160	85
30Q230	425	710
30Q234	171	235
30Q235	56	23
30Q280	284	246
30Q291	262	153
30Q300	237	290
30Q329	249	189
30Q361	172	307
30Q384	90	44
30Q398	116	67
Grand Total	12295	13523

- **NYSIP-PLC Grant**

In December, District 30 was officially awarded the NYS Integration Project – Professional Learning Community (NYSIP – PLC) Phase III grant. This grant supports NYSED’s renewed commitment to racial, socioeconomic, and other types of student integration in the state. Phase III of this integration grant will span over a three-year period from 2020-21 through 2022-23 and totals \$2,399,41. The Phase III application is not a public document and is not available on the NYSED website.

District 30 engaged in an extensive community outreach process during Phases I-II of the NYS Integration Project and used the feedback to then apply for Phase III of this three-year grant. By the end of Phase III’s project period, the implementation of the strategies in this grant will reduce minority isolation in four of the district’s minority isolated and lowest achieving schools. In addition, this grant will result in greater integration and diversity in all CSD 30 schools, reduce achievement gaps between identified subgroups, and increase cultural diversity and community interactions throughout the district.

- **District 30 CAVU Virtual Parent Workshop Series**

As part of the NYS Integration Project Grant, District 30 will be holding a series of parent workshops as follows:

March 8	@ 6:00 p.m.	Topic: Representation Matters
March 25	@ 6:00 p.m.	Topic: Words Have Meaning
April 7	@ 6:00 p.m.	Topic: Strength of Voice and Emotions
April 28	@ 6:00 p.m.	Topic: Conflict Coaching
May 6	@ 6:00 p.m.	Topic: Perception vs. Reality
May 20	@ 6:00 p.m.	Topic: Cancel Culture & Accountability

Reopening our High Schools for in-person learning on March 22

New York City public high schools will begin welcoming blended learning students in grades 9-12, YABCs, District 79, and adult learning programs beginning Monday, March 22. Staff serving these students in-person will also return beginning Thursday, March 18.

Chancellor Carranza sent a letter to families announcing the reopening of High Schools for in-person learning on **March 22, 2021**. Below please find excerpts of the letter.

Please also note that additional information about activities, such as sports and extra curriculars, will be shared as soon as it is made available.

Weekly COVID-19 Testing and Mandatory Consent

- All schools will have 20% of students and staff randomly tested on a weekly basis.
- All students who have not already done so are required to provide consent for testing by their first scheduled in-person learning day in order to learn in person.
- Families are encouraged to submit consent through your NYC Schools Account at mystudent.nyc prior to their child's first day of in-person learning.

If you already have a NYCSA account linked to your student(s):

- Log in, click your student's name, click "Manage Account," and then when a dropdown menu appears, click "Consent Forms."
- Read the page, and then choose the consent option at the end for your student. If you do not already have a NYCSA account:
 - You can create one right away! If you have an account creation code from your school, you can create a full account in approximately five minutes, and then provide consent as described above.

If you do not have an account creation code from your school, you can still provide your consent right away by clicking "Manage Consent" under "COVID-19 Testing" and filling out your and your child's information to provide consent.

- You can also print and submit the form attached to this letter. • Students who do not submit consent will be immediately transitioned to fully remote learning.

Learning Preference & In-Person Schedule

Those of you who chose blended learning as your child's learning preference, either prior to the beginning of the school year or during the November opt-in period, will soon be contacted by your child's school with their new schedule. If you previously selected blended learning but wish to stay fully remote, you may do so by changing your preference as soon as possible at nycenet.edu/surveys/learning-preference.

Attendance

Please note that students in blended learning are required to attend in-person on a consistent basis. Your school will reach out if your child is not attending in-person regularly and will transition your child to

fully remote learning if irregular in-person attendance continues. This will allow schools to maximize in-person instructional days for students who are attending in-person.

If You Travel

Spring break begins on Monday, March 29. Please remember that students and staff who have recently traveled outside of New York to a place on the State's travel advisory list must quarantine for 10 days, or test out of the 10-day quarantine based on the State's guidance, which can be found at coronavirus.health.ny.gov/covid-19-travel-advisory.

- DOE students continue to have access to priority testing at H+H sites across the city; a list of sites can be found here: schools.nyc.gov/covidtesting.

Update on Gifted & Talented Admissions for the 2021–22 School Year

The current Gifted and Talented admissions process for the 2021–22 school year will not include administering a test for incoming students, and instead will involve family and teacher identification of students for accelerated learning. Beginning **March 8**, families will have the opportunity to submit a Gifted and Talented application for all NYC residents born in 2016, who will enter kindergarten in the fall of 2021. The deadline to submit an application is **April 9**. Please review the changes to the admissions process below:

- A child's pre-K teacher will then be asked to complete a questionnaire to determine if the child is eligible to be considered for a Gifted & Talented seat.
- Families with pre-K age children who are not enrolled in a DOE program can complete a remote interview with DOE staff who will complete the questionnaire for the child.
- Eligible families will receive notification in May and enter the randomized lottery. Offers will be made this summer; siblings of students in schools with Gifted and Talented programs will have priority for admission, as they have previously. Similarly, schools with Diversity in Admissions initiatives will continue to implement this priority.

Placement for grades 1, 2, and 3 will rely on waitlists from 2020. Schools will be provided access to these waitlists and may make additional offers as needed based on seat availability.

Review Updated Guide to Supporting High School Students and Families During Remote Learning

The [Guide to Supporting High School Students and Families During Remote Learning](#) has been updated to include the latest academic policies and resources related to graduation and postsecondary planning for high school students. Additional information on graduation ceremonies will be shared in a future date.

Process for Requesting Hotspot Devices

The DOE has a limited number of donated hotspot devices available for schools to distribute to students. These hotspot devices should be assigned to students who do not have a Centrally loaned LTE enabled iPad, but do need internet at home. The data plan associated with the hotspot is unlimited service for 2 years and can be used to connect up to 8 devices to the internet.

School staff should work with families to identify any student who has a device but needs connectivity at home. In that case, they can fill out the device request form on behalf of those families. The requested hotspots will be shipped to the school and will arrive pre-assigned to the specific student associated with each request.

Once the device arrives at the school, the family must be contacted to pick up the device and the school must mark the device as Assigned to Student using the RLD Report. Schools must work with families/students to sign the Terms of Use agreement electronically or in person at the school.

Extended Deadline for Immunization Requirements for Remote-Only Students

The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) has further extended the grace period to obtain all required vaccinations for students who have opted for fully remote learning to March 11 (extended from February 9). Note that for remote-only students, the **March 11** deadline supersedes all [previously published](#) immunization compliance deadlines.

By **March 11**, students exclusively engaged in remote learning must submit proof to their school that they have obtained all required vaccinations, if they have not already done so.

Remote-only students, who have not demonstrated immunization compliance by **March 11**, must be excluded from all remote instruction/schooling. Remote-only students who were excluded from classes on February 9 should be allowed to return to classes as soon as possible. Schools must reach out to parents to inform them of the latest NYSDOH decision and invite students to return to remote learning immediately. As a condition of remote learning, parents of remote-learning students must submit in writing an acknowledgement of their intention to obtain the appropriate vaccinations by **March 11**, for students to resume learning activities during this grace period.

Note that this guidance does not change the requirement for all blended and in-person learning students to obtain vaccinations to attend school; this deadline extension is for remote-only students to show proof of immunization compliance.

Updated NYSED Definition of Multilingual Learners

As of February 2021, NYSED and the DOE will abbreviate multilingual learners as MLs.

Previously published guidance from the Division of Multilingual Learners, including the Policy & Reference Guide, will be updated to reflect this change for the 2021–22 school year.

Per the New York State Education Department (NYSED) Multilingual Learners (MLs) are defined as:

- Current English language learners (ELLs);
- Students who were once ELLs but have exited out of ELL status;

- Students who were never ELLs but are heritage speakers of a world language; or
- World language students

Note that ELLs are a subcategory of MLs—ELLs are students with a home language other than English who score below commanding on the New York State Identification Test for English Language Learners (NYSITELL) or the LAB-R (before February 2014). As such, NYSED and the DOE will often refer to English language learners as MLs/ELLs to emphasize the assets and prior knowledge these students bring as MLs. Regarding state and federal policy, the DOE will continue to refer to English language learners exclusively as ELLs for clarity and accuracy.

Prepare for Civics Week Activities and High School Student Voter Registration

The third annual Civics Week will take place virtually from **March 8–12**. During Civics Week, schools across the city will celebrate youth voice, civic empowerment, and the importance of registering to vote, as part of the Civics for All initiative supported by Mayor Bill de Blasio’s DemocracyNYC. One of the goals of Civics Week is to get students to understand that their voice matters and that they can create change as active participants in their community.

Culturally Responsive-Sustaining Education (CRSE) Family Engagement Workshops for Family Facing Staff

The DOE, in partnership with the NYU Metropolitan Center for Research on Equity and the Transformation of Schools, has begun hosting a series of workshops to provide guidance on culturally responsive-sustaining education (CRSE), relationship-building, advocacy, and immigrant justice for family-facing staff.

Floating Hospital Offering Healthcare Services to Students in Temporary Housing

The Floating Hospital provides healthcare services to Student in Temporary Housing, regardless of ability to pay or immigration status. The DOE is partnering with the clinic to provide healthcare-related training and workshops to school staff and students.

Ensure Schools Complete the SAT School Day Scheduling Survey

The DOE will continue to fund the SAT School Day administration this spring for all students in grade 11. Schools are expected to administer the exam to any student in grade 11, who expresses an interest in taking the SAT this spring, at the student’s home school.

For the 2020–21 school year, schools may choose to administer the SAT exam on any or all of the four available SAT School Day test dates: **March 3, or 24; April 13, or 27.**

Guidance on Graduation and Other End-of-Year Activities

The DOE is in the process of formalizing guidance for schools to have graduation and moving-up ceremonies to celebrate their students at all levels, including 3-K, pre-K, and kindergarten moving-up ceremonies, as well as fifth-, eighth-, and twelfth-grade graduations.

The DOE is committed to supporting schools in finding meaningful and creative ways to celebrate the class of 2021 in these unprecedented times. Please review the guidance below regarding end-of-year celebrations.

- **End-of-School Year Activities Guidance:** To ensure the health and safety of all students and staff, at this time schools may arrange for in-person graduation pictures (for pre-K through grade 8 schools that are open; high school guidance is forthcoming), and explore opportunities for outdoor, in-person graduations and other virtual celebrations. Schools planning to hold outdoor, in-person graduations should also offer a virtual option for families and students. All graduation ceremonies and other end-of-year activities, including any graduation photography, are subject to strict adherence to Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) COVID-19 policies and the DOE's previously published guidelines.

Updates on June Regents Exams

A memo sent to principals from the New York State Education Department (NYSED) provides additional information about NYSED's plans for June Regents exams.

At the March Board of Regents meeting on **March 15–16**, NYSED will propose that all Regents exams except Algebra I, English language arts (ELA), Living Environment, and Physical Setting/Earth Science be cancelled for June 2021. NYSED will also provide additional guidance on how these potential changes may impact diploma requirements. These changes have not yet been approved; further information will be shared in a future edition of Principals Digest, in alignment with updates from NYSED.

Encourage Eligible Students to Apply to DREAM-SHSI Program

The [DREAM Specialized High School Institute](#) (SHSI) is launching its application for eligible seventh-grade students. The DREAM-SHSI program provides free test preparation for the Specialized High School Admissions Test (SHSAT); the program will start in the summer of 2021 and continue into the fall. During the week of **March 15**, DREAM-SHSI will directly contact school guidance counselors or DREAM points identified by schools with the list of [eligible students](#) to reach out and inform families about this opportunity. Schools are asked to ensure that their school counselors distribute the DREAM-SHSI application with information to eligible students by **March 24**. The application deadline for students is **April 9**.

Special Education Program Services Data

According to the Executive Director - D30 is making great steady progress on performance. Really nice to see D30 schools continuing to move ahead.

DRAFT