### MINUTES Community Education Council 30 Calendar Meeting

November 18, 2024

### I. Call to Order 6:46

The November Calendar Meeting of the District 30 Community Education Council was held in person in the cafeteria at PS 398Q, the Hector Figueroa School at 69-01 34th Ave and via Zoom on Monday, November 18, 2024.

Victoria Medelius, co-president, called the Calendar Meeting to order at 6:46 PM.

### II. Roll Call

Present:

Linda Chung-Leung Kelly Craig Jonathan Greenberg Victoria Medelius Danny Rojas Marlene Rossi Whitney Toussaint Gina Naranjo Maesha Rahman

Absent:

Hunter Dare Juliette-Noor Haji Cathy Kent Marisela Santos

#### III. School Spotlight - PS 398Q 6:40

Principal of PS 398Q, Jordan Fitzgerald, gave a short presentation on the school. [See attached presentation.]

Whitney Toussaint: What can the community do to support the school with its first graduating class?

Jordan Fitzgerald said that they are planning the graduation and making it student-led. Arts teachers are going to work with students.

### IV. First Public Agenda and Speaking Time 7:05

Teresa Cattone asked about a child in her neighborhood, born 12/31/2020, whose mother wants to enroll in Pre-K (rather than Kindergarten) in the 2025–2026. Is there a compelling reason not to start later?

Tiffany Echevarria from Rep. Nydia Velázquez' office announced that Rep. Velázquez attended PS 341 groundbreaking at Hunter's Point South. She thanked the council for being so proactive. Discussed a temporary incubation site for middle school students. Will meet with the SCA to see about the delay with Court Square school.

### V. Presentation: Office of Language Access 7:20

Robert Williams from the Office of Language Access gave a presentation on translation and interpretation services. [See attached slides]

Q&A:

Marlene Rossi asked how schools can make sure messages get to families once families' information is up to date.

Robert Williams: If info is updated in ATS, they don't have to do anything. They go by parents' preferred language. Staff will have the school update the preferred language when they notice a discrepancy.

Victoria Medelius asked how PTAs can get interpretation?

Robert Williams: First, go to Parent Coordinator, then administration. If those fail, which is rare, then the public website of the Office of Language Access. The district would be the point of contact for the CECs.

From the Zoom Q&A:

Salwa: Does the office help with tutoring?

Robert Williams answered that they are parent-facing. The Office of Multilingual Learners would help with student-facing services.

## VI. Lisa Hidalgo, District 30 Community Superintendent's Report 7:55

[See attached slides from her presentation.]

Whitney Toussant brought up the question from Teresa Cattone about holding children back at the Pre-K level if their birthday is late in the year.

Lisa Hidalgo: Parents always have discretion at elementary schools.

William Fahey: They don't have that discretion. Have to enroll in PreK, Kindergarten, and first grade if your birthday is in that calendar year.

Whitney Toussaint asked for more information about the Winter Wonderland event.

Lisa Hidalgo answered that the event is planned to support the families. Thinking about Jackson Heights. Aware that most schools have an event for their students. But orgs have reached out to have an event. Will have activities and inflatables. Trunk or Treat was in Astoria, so we're thinking about having it in Jackson Heights.

### VII. Public Agenda and Speaking Time 8:40

Giselle Ruiz asked to hear more about mCLASS.

Lisa Hidalgo: mCLASS is similar to Acadience. We have seven mClass schools in the district. The purpose is to be able to support multilingual learners. Allows students to be tested in both languages. It's an asset-based test. Have learned that many students are more proficient in their first language than their second language. mClass replaces Acadience for K-2, but replaces reading for iReady. Students will still take the math iReady. Not just for students in dual language programs. Any bilingual student in a school that is using mCLASS can use it.

Our district is part of the DOE's Bilingual Revitalization Initiative. We've been fortunate to be included. Goal is to keep it.

Linda Chung-Leung read a statement from a parent, Daniela Vitolo, from IS 141, who lamented difficulty with parent engagement in middle school, and difficulty with virtual parent-teacher conferences. District 30 events are hindering our ability to fundraise.

Lisa Hidalgo: Any events are always for free. There are plenty of sponsorships to go around. An event done by a school is usually just for that school. She is doing this event for all 25k+ students in the district.

Whitney Toussant: As a CEC, we can only do things for parent engagement for the entire district.

Carmen Rodriguez: Woodside on the Move also offers a day for all families.

Teresa Cattone: In the city, kids go to different schools. Find families that live in the area. Build community in the neighborhood, not just the school.

#### VIII. Announcements 9:00

Next meeting Monday, December 9 at Queens Plaza North, Fifth Floor. The School Construction Authority will be there about the capital plan and new schools.

#### IX. Adjournment

At 8:02, Victory Medelius motioned to adjourn the meeting. Whitney Toussant second the motion.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jonathan Greenberg

Secretary

The recording and closed caption transcript of this meeting will be available at cec30.org.

### MINUTES Community Education Council 30 Business Meeting

November 18, 2024

Whitney Toussaint, co-president, called the business meeting to order at 8:12pm.

Present:

Linda Chung-Leung Jonathan Greenberg Victoria Medelius Danny Rojas Marlene Rossi Whitney Toussaint

Absent:

Cathy Kent Kelly Craig Hunter Dare Juliette-Noor Haji Marisela Santos

Whitney Toussaint made a motion to move all remaining business items to a Committee of the Whole meeting next Monday.

Linda Chung-Leung seconded the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:14pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Jonathan Greenberg

Secretary

The recording and closed caption transcript of this meeting will be available at cec30.org.

### MINUTES Community Education Council 30 Committee of the Whole Meeting

November 25, 2024

The November 25, 2024 District 30 Community Education Council Committee of the Whole meeting was held via Zoom.

Whitney Toussaint, co-president, called the Calendar Meeting to order at 6:39 PM.

Present:

Linda Chung-Leung Kelly Craig Jonathan Greenberg Juliette-Noor Haji Victoria Medelius Danny Rojas Marlene Rossi Marisela Santos Whitney Toussaint

Absent:

Kelly Craig Hunter Dare Cathy Kent

1. Acceptance of Minutes

Whitney Toussaint will send out draft minutes from October for members to review.

2. Member Reports

- Juliette-Noor Haji spoke about the CEC's participation in the District Trunk or Treat event, run by the District 30 President's Council. It was very fun.. Thanks to those who donated candy.
- Linda Chung-Leung visited PS 69, and attended an SLT meeting. They have an annual "continent" theme and this year's theme is the Americas. Their school yard is run-down, and they will put it on Participatory Budgeting. The SLT is talking about class size law compliance, and the school has the space to comply. They are looking to hire a third assistant principal.
- PS 2's goal for this year is to increase attendance. They moved their STEM programs from the end to the beginning of the day. They have a new drama club. And they need the stage curtains to be fixed.

- Linda also visited PS 222, who now has a 3K class. They would like to open another dual-language class for PK and K. Have a long wait list.
- Marlene Rossi reported on PS 92: They don't have access to Farjani???? [Paraujano?] language interpretation for parents, but they are making it work with the phone interpretation service. They have lots of new clubs. They are having trouble with the A/C in the old part of the building on all floors. The A/C has been worked on for over a year. Can we escalate?
- PS 329 had an event this past weekend. They have trouble getting substitute paraprofessionals (PS 92 does also), which is eating into their budget because they have to use their regular teachers.
- Marlene went to the Safe Schools, Safe Streets Community for Action (NYCPS) online. Many topics and organizations: Had Department of Health, CPCS, Corrections. Talked about teaching school staff to administer Narcan. She was disappointed that they didn't have the Department of Transportation there. Nothing about street safety.
- Marlene has a petition for more crossing guards on Astoria Blvd between 94th and 114th Streets.
- She came across a street safety plan that the Department of Transportation has.
- Marisela Santos PS 111 having.... On Thursday, November 28, from 12 to 3. Need donations and volunteers. Everyone is welcome.
- Victoria Medelius attended PS 70 "inauguration day." Day after Election Day. They have class senators in addition to other officers. There is a Senate meeting each month. The student government will vote for which musical to present.
- Victoria attended the IS 429 PTA meeting last Thursday. Don't have a DOE Zoom account or interpretation services. Spanish speakers didn't not feel seen or heard. The school was able to get a crossing guard. They lost their Parent Coordinator.
- Whitney Toussaint had a call with the new Chancellor (Victoria Medelius was there as well). They didn't have a lot of notice, so they couldn't gather questions from us. Whitney asked if they could share what NYCPS are going to do to protect undocumented students and families. They answered that they have extensive guidance. Weisberg will give us guidance. They are meeting with principals, having Know Your Rights trainings. There were questions about Title I funding and Title III funding; Busing; the Via app; OMNY cards for all students; exemptions from the class size mandates. Schools should be working on reports with their SLT. Special Ed; there was a question about funding: about advocating for stopping paying rent for charter schools.
- Whitney went to the Participatory Budgeting event at PS 85 with Victoria. There were 8–10 parents. A lot of ideas were shared. Deadline was November 15.
- There is a one-year delay in the construction of the Court Square school (SCA). CM Won was not happy about that. Whitney Participated in CM Won's rally on the 17th.
- On November 18, went with Victoria to the groundbreaking of PS/IS 341 (Parcel C). Many elected officials were there.

- Attended the DLT meeting, where there was a Title I presentation from Tim Miller, principal of PS 76. The new LEAPS afterschool program from the state allows only 2–3 vendors for each district. Jacob Riis was not approved to get LEAPS funding. Dr. Miller had to use \$120K funding from his budget for the Jacob Riis program. Whitney asked for Gonzalez' and Gianaris to meet. The two approved vendors are Global Kids and NY Junior Tennis League. (LEAPS supplanted Empire and Advantage programs. Smaller nonprofits were cut out of the program.) Ask liaison schools if they were affected. The CEC co-presidents are still working with Mr. Wallace, getting him acclimated. He will be submitting the reports. SCA is coming next month. Ask schools to let us know about capital requests.
- Marisela Santos commented that they are breaking up kids to send them to different afterschool programs. Some of them have to travel to get their kids.
- Jonathan Greenberg reported on his visit to PS 76. The school lost 85 students from last year's enrollment (500 down to 415). The school is still able to keep most of their classes under the new mandated limits. The principal has to pay for new A/C units out of his budget.
- Whitney Toussaint: Q300 is having AC problems as well. The PTA was told they need to raise money to get them fixed. John Shea explained the system. We need to lobby for the upkeep and repair of AC, not just the initial installation. This should be included as a line item for the school's budget.
- Whitney reported that the LAMS auditorium needs to be repaired and SCA is behind schedule.
- Danny Rojas commented that this has been delayed with multiple escalations. The school needs it especially in winter.
- Whitney commented that SCA highlighted that project on Instagram. Keep them accountable.
- Juliette-Noor Haji visited PS 85, which opened a brand-new building (annex): 4 floors, from 3K–3. The main building has upper grades. They have new playgrounds. They got a grant from the Trust for Public Land for the outdoor space. Juliette showed photos of the music room and the new gymnatorium. The PTA supports the arts in their school and they have relationships with local arts organizations. The bathrooms in the main building need to be updated, and there is a need for waterproofing (tech room needed to be closed down). They have a monthly meeting sponsored by the school where they give out awards.

#### 3. Committee Reports

• District Day Committee: May 3 and May 17 are finalist dates. They are leaning toward May 3. Got a letter from CM Krishnan's office to push for IS 145. Whitney will ask Ms. Hidalgo to connect them with the principal.

#### 4. Speaker Series

- Kelly Craig is working on a cybersecurity event.
- Danny Rojas is interested in a college and career event, and an event on how tech is helping teachers in the classroom.
- 5. School Spotlights
  - The following schools were discussed as possible school spotlight schools: PS/IS 122, PS 2, Gotham Tech.
  - The council agreed that School Spotlight should be for our schools; high schools can present separately at the meeting, and to limit them to the agreed-upon time. High schools can be given separate time.
  - Linda Chung-Leung and Juliette Noor-Haji will email principals at PS 2 and PS/IS 122
- 6. Chancellor Town Hall Planning
  - FACE recommended PS 11, IS 145, Academy for American Studies (the Chancellor is doing her listening session there). Whitney would also like to consider PS 361.
  - Jonathan Greenberg asked if we know how many in-person attendees they expect?
  - The Council decided that it does not want to do it at American Studies.
  - Whitney will email FACE with 11, 69, 152, and 361 as suggestions

#### 7. NEW BUSINESS

- We will give high schools ten minutes each for presentations next month.
- Whitney Toussaint is still on the Boldly Imaging Special Education Working Group. She will update the council at the next business meeting.
- Victoria Medelius gave a reminder about reimbursements: members are limited to \$125 for each month. Be sure to sign digitally on Adobe.
- Make sure to fill out the meeting attendance spreadsheet.

Whitney made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jonathan Greenberg

Secretary

The recording and closed caption transcript of this meeting will be available at cec30.org.



NYC Public Schools Speak Your Language

Presented by: Office of Language Access Family and Community Engagement and External Affairs







## Agenda

- NYC Public Schools Background
- Our Commitment to NYCPS Families
- Schools.nyc.gov/Hello
- 4.

5.

1.

2.

3.

- Raising Awareness in our Communities
- Questions

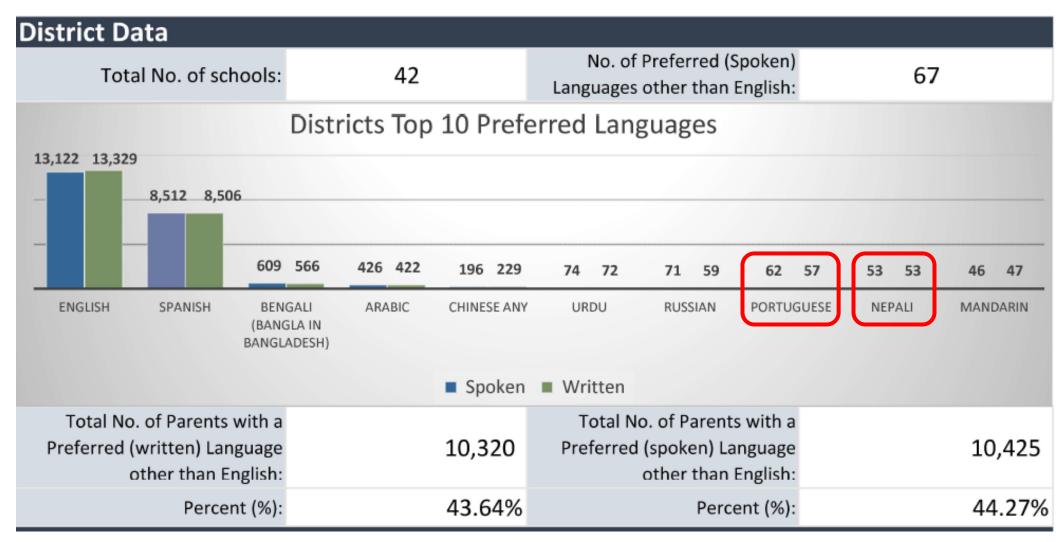
## **NYCPS Background**



- 1.05+ million students
- 1,600+ schools
- 180+ languages spoken
- Approximately 40% of NYCPS households speak a language other than English at home.
- NYCPS' top 10 covered languages besides English are:
  - Arabic, Bangla, Cantonese, French, Haitian Creole, Korean, Mandarin, Russian, Spanish, Urdu
    - Written translations are also available in both Traditional and Simplified Chinese.
- The Office of Language Access (OLA) is dedicated to supporting both NYCPS staff and families by providing the resources necessary for effective communication in languages other than English.



## **District 30 Preferred Languages**





## **Our Commitment to NYCPS Families**

### Office of Language Access (OLA)

OLA supports NYCPS with translation and interpretation services for families whose preferred language is other than English.

- Translation Team, our largest department, provides written translation services in the ten non-English languages, and works in close collaboration with our contracted vendor to extend services for languages beyond the capacity of our internal resources.
- Interpretation Team works with our contracted interpretation vendors to ensure schools receive services for in-person, virtual and over-the-phone for parent engagements.
- Outreach & Data Integration Team focuses on promoting equitable language access services to schools and empowering NYCPS parents to understand and advocate for their language access rights.



## **Our Commitment to NYCPS Families**

## Office of Language Access (OLA)

Public Schools Office of Language Access OLA continues to pursue innovation and partnerships to be the nation's leader of language access in schools. OLA...

- Collaborates with advocates to identify needs and address language barriers in our ever-changing communities.
- Engages parent leaders to enhance the message of language access to our communities.
- Pursues innovative ways to engage with and receive feedback from families.
  - Online portals
  - Emails, robocalls, text, direct mailers
- Leverages technology to continuously:
  - Enhances the interpretation experience for families (e.g., virtual meetings).
  - Ensures translation quality (e.g., professional translation tools).
  - Keeps a pulse of citywide parent language data and translation and interpretation service outputs.

## **Our Commitment to NYCPS Families**

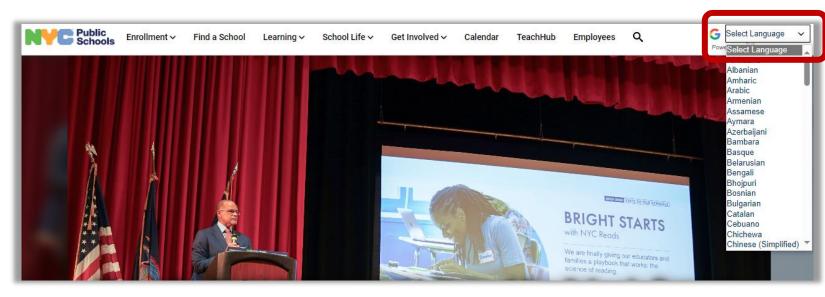


NYCPS' **FREE** language services include:

- Interpretation for all types of meetings and interactions with NYCPS staff.
- Translation of general documents into the NYCPS' top 10 covered languages. Examples of general documents include:
  - o Parent newsletters
  - Event flyers
- Translation of individualized documents into a parent's preferred language, upon request. Examples of individualized documents include:
  - IEPs (Individualized Education Programs)
  - Section 504 Plans (medical accommodations)
  - Foreign Transcripts



## Schools.nyc.gov



### **Navigating Website Language:**

 The NYCPS website can be automatically translated by selecting your language on the top part of any page using the Google Translate feature.

Please note:

- Automated translations are not intended to replace human translators and are provided as a service to users of the website.
- Some content (such as images, videos, animations, etc.) may not be translated due to the limitations of the translation software.





Home 
School Life 
School Environment 
NYC Public Schools Speak Your Language

### NYC Public Schools Speak Your Language!

HELLO! مرحباً! 되ר 죄다 您好! BONJOUR! ALO! 안녕하세요 ЗДРАВСТВУЙТЕ ¡HOLA! بيلو!





Arabic, Bangla, Cantonese, English, French, Haitian Creole, Korean, Mandarin, Russian, Spanish, Urdu

G Select Language

Powered by Translate

### **Helpful Resources**

### Print Me:

You may print and cut out an "I Speak" card, in ten languages, to request language assistance services when communicating with NYC Public School staff.

### Multilingual "I Speak" Cards

Arabic| Bangla| Cantonese| French| Haitian Creole| Korean | Mandarin| Russian| Spanish| Urdu

Language Access for NYCPS Families brochure advises families of the availability of language assistance services. You may also request one at your school!



Connect to other NYC Public Schools resources in your language:

Health Forms and Notices Special Education Communications Early Childhood Communications Enrollment Forms



### Language Access for NYCPS Families Brochure







### **Request Language Services**

Families may complete the Translation and Interpretation Services Request Form to request language services.

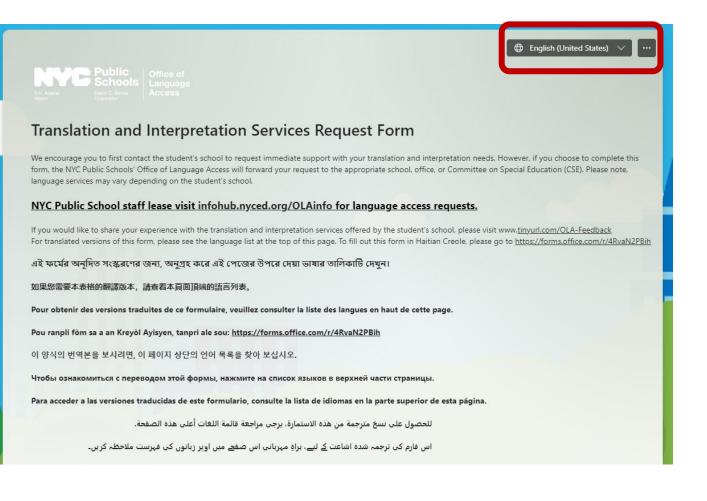
The NYC Public Schools' Office of Language Access (OLA) will forward your request to the appropriate school, office or Committee on Special Education (CSE).

The Translation and Interpretation Services Request form is available in the following languages:

### <u>Arabic, Bangla, Chinese (Simplified), Chinese (Traditional), English, French, Haitian Creole,</u> <u>Korean, Russian, Spanish, Urdu</u>

Please note, language assistance services may vary depending on the type of school the student attends. Families can also call 311 to make a request for language assistance services. Over-the-phone interpretation is available in over 200 languages.







### **Request Language Services:**

- 1. Parents should contact their student's school for languages assistance services **FIRST**.
- 2. Alternatively, you may request services via the Translation and Interpretation Services Request Form.
  - Your request will be forwarded to your student's school/program.
  - The form is available in the NYCPS' 10 languages.



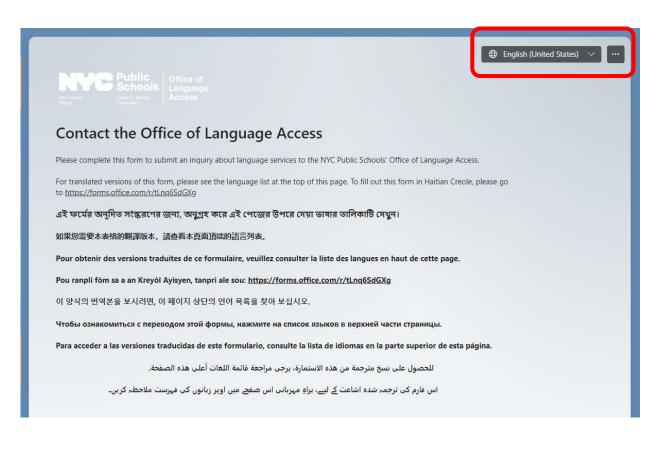
### **Connect with OLA**

If you or someone you know needs help receiving information or communicating with a school staff member in a language other than English, please tell your school's principal or parent coordinator, call 311 or visit Contact OLA.

The **<u>Contact OLA</u>** form is available in the following languages:

<u>Arabic, Bangla, Chinese (Simplified), Chinese (Traditional), English, French, Haitian Creole, Korean, Russian, Spanish, Urdu</u>





## Do you have additional questions about the NYCPS' language assistance services?

- 1. Complete the Contact the Office of Language Access form.
- 2. Your inquiry will be addressed accordingly.
- 3. The form is available in the NYCPS' 10 languages.





### Share your Experience with the NYCPS Language Assistance Services

You may also provide feedback on the NYC Public Schools' language services by completing our **Translation & Interpretation Feedback Survey** or calling 311.

The Translation & Interpretation Feedback Survey is available in the following languages:

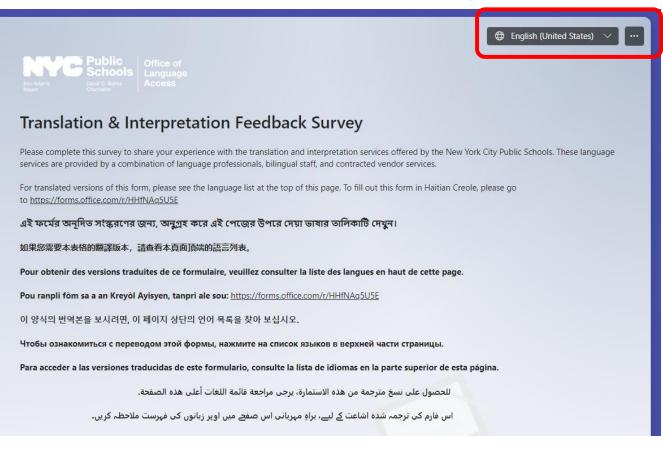
Arabic, Bangla, Chinese (Simplified), Chinese (Traditional), English, French, Haitian Creole, Korean, Russian, Spanish, Urdu



Public

Office of

Language Access



 Interpretation Feedback Form.

 2.
 Your inquiry will be addressed addres

doing:

1.

2. Your inquiry will be addressed accordingly.

Let us know how your student's school is

Complete the Translation &

3. The form is available in the NYCPS' 10 languages.



tinyurl.com/OLA-Feedback

17

### **Sign Language Interpretation Services**

For sign language interpretation services, please contact your school's parent coordinator or the Office of Sign Language Interpreting Services at OSLIS@schools.nyc.gov.



Need Sign Language? See a school staff member for assistance.



### Having Difficulties Obtaining Language Assistance Services?

If you are having difficulties obtaining language assistance, learn how to Get Help or File a Complaint.





## **Raising Awareness in Our Communities**

### Advertisement

- Schools
- Grocery Stores
- Laundromats
- Nail/Hair and Barber Salons
- Pharmacies

### **Direct Parent outreach**

- Robocalls
- Emails
- Text messages
- Postcards

## NYC Public Schools speak your language!

Request free translation of documents and interpreters for meetings at your student's school.

To learn more or to provide feedback, contact your school, visit **schools.nyc.gov/Hello** or call **311**.











Let us know how your student's school is doing!



tinyurl.com/OLA-Feedback



BBCC

# Welcome to our CEC Meeting

Lisa Hidalgo, Community Superintendent

November 18, 2024





#### In Support of the Chancellor's Pillar #1 Reimagining the student experience



To our **D30 dedicated educators** who attended our recent Tenure Workshop, held in partnership with the United Federation of Teachers.





## Reminders

### Five Borough Listening Tour with Chancellor Melissa Aviles-Ramos

- Ready and Eager to Listen
  - Join Chancellor Melissa Aviles-Ramos to share your experience, priorities, and feedback.
- These listening sessions will be open to the public—families, students, staff, and community members are all encouraged to attend. Here is our schedule for the tour:
  - November 19 Manhattan
  - November 26 Brooklyn
  - December 3 Queens
  - December 10 Bronx
  - December 17 Staten Island

Please visit NYCPS <u>website</u> for details, including specific locations, times, language access support, and registration instructions—and help spread the word! You all have valuable perspectives and expertise, and I'm ready and eager to listen.



## Reminders

### Save for College Program Annual Opt Out Process Launch

- Every kindergarten and new grades 1, 2, and 3 students are eligible to join the <u>NYC</u> <u>Kids RISE Save for College Program</u> in the 2024–25 school year. Families have 30 days to opt out if they do not want to be included in the program and have their student's data shared with NYC Kids RISE and VistaShare.
- Kindergarten and newly-enrolled grade 1,2, and 3 students enrolled after
   November 4 will still have the opportunity to receive an NYC Scholarship Account.

### **Share New Advocacy Guide with Multilingual and Immigrant Families**

• The Immigrant Family Empowerment: Your Advocacy Guide (available in all DOE languages) is a new resource for multilingual and immigrant families to learn about what it means to be an active member and leader of their child's academic journey and to advocate for their child's needs. Administrators and family-facing staff should share this guide with their school community to ensure families know their rights, learn strategies to practice their advocacy, and review case studies and success stories that uplift pride and agency



## Reminders

### **Prepare for November Climate Action Day**

Climate Action Days will continue this school year, with the goal of engaging all school communities in sustainability. The first Climate Action Day theme is <u>"Waste,"</u> on November 19. Schools are encouraged to plan actions, lessons, and/or activities around this theme; they may also celebrate their existing initiatives for waste prevention.

## **District Updates**

- November 18th NYC Reads Together: Empowering Families as Partners in Literacy from 5:30pm - 6:30pm (Virtual)
- January 14th NYC Solves Together: Empowering Families as Partners in Math from 5:30pm - 6:30pm (Virtual)
- January 25th District 30 Winter Wonderland
- **February (TBD)** Building Bridges: Strengthening Attendance through Effective Communication



