



Community Education Council 24

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DRAFT Community Education Council 24 (CEC24) – Meeting Minutes

Date: December 16, 2025 at PS/IS 113

Welcome to the December 16th Hybrid Calendar and Business Meeting

Roll Call: Matthew Crescio, Gina Liberta (excused), Kate Barvels, Anna Karwowska, Manisha Jain, Elizabeth Fortunato, Brian Augustine, Julissa Mc Hugh, Aliya Bonar

Online: 30 guests

Attendees: Jose Jimenez, Rachell Lewis, Alejandro Megias, Principal from PS/IS 113, Africa Donn-Taylor, Liz Fisher, June Barnett, Jacqueline Atkins, Elizabeth Kot and Mikail Nahain from Division of School Facilities, John Harrington, UFT Representative, Principal Beth Hert from MS 311, Principal Kelly Nepogoda from IS 5, Principal Katherine Rodriguez from PS 16, Donna Murphy, Maribel Perez-McDaniel from FACE, Adrienne Williams, Charlie Varuska representative from Council member Bob Holden, Mercedes Jennings, representative from Senator Giannaris' office, Ela Lau from Council Member Gutierrez's office; Phil Wong, City Council member of District 30, former CEC24 member Connie Altamirano, Louis Tsai from CEC26, Shirley Aubin from PEP, Al Suhu CEC26 President

Parent Vacancy:

The candidate for the parent vacancy did not attend the scheduled meeting.

Matthew Crescio – December Report

- Meeting opened without quorum; seven members are required. Quorum was later achieved when two members arrived.
- Two parent seats on CEC24 remain vacant; interested parents are encouraged to apply.
- The President participated in a call with the Chancellor regarding Chancellor’s Regulation A-418 (Megan’s Law).
 - Compliance officers continue visiting schools to determine adherence to the regulation.
 - Many Queens schools appear “out of compliance” because principals cannot complete certain reports themselves for legal reasons.
 - Schools should note that compliance issues often stem from the unavailability of the NYPD Borough Safety Unit, not from principal error.
- At the previous meeting, members agreed to draft a letter to the NYPD Commissioner and Borough Safety Commander requesting proper enforcement of Regulation A-418.

Next CEC24 Meeting: January 27, 2026, at P.S. 7.

Superintendent Report (Read by Jose Jimenez)

1. Instructional Initiatives

NYC Math Shifts

- District presented a shift from procedural teaching toward sense-making, problem solving, and student discussion.
- Focus areas include open-ended tasks, equity-based practices, and building conceptual understanding.
- Achievement gaps among MLLs, students with disabilities, and students in poverty highlight the urgency of these changes.
- Implementation begins with middle schools before moving to elementary schools.

NYC Reads (ELA)

- Part of the district's goal for all students to read and write proficiently by 2035.
 - Reported progress:
 - ~1,000 fewer Level 1 readers
 - 3.9-point increase in overall ELA performance
 - Strong gains in classroom indicators
 - Instruction grounded in Science of Reading and MTSS.
 - Includes shared curricula, foundational skills instruction, complex texts, small-group teaching, intervention blocks, and strong professional learning for educators.
 - Family literacy engagement across the district remains a priority.
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2. New City Council Representative – District 30

- Congratulations to Phil Wong, former CEC24 President, on his election.
 - He looks forward to collaborating on capital budget, finance, and district priorities.
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3. Division of School Facilities (DSF) Update

- Elizabeth Kot and Mikail Nahian presented an overview of DSF support for District 24.
- They coordinate with custodian engineers, principals, trades staff, and central DSF to manage operations, maintenance, and work orders.
- Known for their responsiveness and consistent communication with schools.

January 10, 2026 from 10:00 - 1:00 pm at the Mosaic Center at NY Hall of Science

4. Resolution No. 188

- **Resolution 188 – CEC24 School Collaboration and Annual Staff Recognition Initiative, proposed by Elizabeth Fortunato and co-sponsored by Gina Liberta and Julissa McHugh, will be tabled and discussed at the January 27, 2026 meeting.**

CEC24 Business Meeting – Summary

- **Roll Call**
- **November Minutes were approved.**
- **Treasurer's Report: Current balance is \$14,813.38.**
- **Bylaws Committee:**
 - **Matt Crescio and Brian Augustine led a discussion on governance, agenda control, and bylaw language.**
 - **Main issue: whether the president can change the agenda alone or if a majority vote is required.**
- **Calendar Meeting Update:**
 - **Two Public Sessions added:**
 - **After the Superintendent's Report**
 - **Before Adjournment**
- **Key Clarifications:**
 - **The president drafts the agenda and may adjust it before the meeting.**
 - **During the meeting, agenda changes require:**
 - **A motion (by a member)**
 - **A second**
 - **A roll-call majority vote**
 - **This process follows Robert's Rules, Chancellor's Regulations, Education Law, and Open Meetings Law.**

- **Additional Points:**
 - **Difference between advance changes vs. real-time adjustments.**
 - **Rules for emergency or last-minute items.**
 - **Committee meeting notice requirements (including 72-hour notice and public member participation).**
- **Outcome:**
 - **After legal clarification, members agreed the language aligned with policy, and a motion reflecting this consensus was approved.**
- **Discussion on Social Committee**
- **Aliya Bonar and Matthew Crescio had a zoom. We discussed having an Instagram, UTube besides the Facebook account.**

Adjourned.

