



Community Education Council 24

Public School 71 Forest

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DRAFT CEC24 Calendar Meeting Minutes, September 22, 2026 @ PS/IS 87

Call to Order/Welcome

. The Meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by CEC24 President Matthew Crescio.

Roll Call: Kate Barvels

. **Present:** Matthew Crescio, Gina Liberta, Kate Barvels, Aliya Bonar, Brian Augustine, Anna Karwowska, Manisha Jain

Excused: Julissa McHugh, Bhavi Vakil

President Matthew Crescio's Report

President Matthew Crescio welcomed families to the school year. He thanked the parents for staying engaged and reminding families that CEC24 is here to listen and advocate.

Youtube Access

The New York City Public Schools has removed YouTube access from school devices. If parents have any concerns affecting their child's work, please let your school know.

Oasis and Bussing

Mr. Crescio described errors in the new OASIS system that incorrectly identified some District 24 students as belonging to District 30 and affected admissions and transportation. Approximately 87 cases were reported; three transportation matters remained unresolved at the time of the meeting. A meeting with the OASIS team, the

Office of Pupil Transportation, student admissions, and district representatives was being arranged.

QWest

Matt Crescio reported on the opening of an unzoned Pre-K school option open to families. The school is located on 70th Street between 48th Avenue and Queens Boulevard in Woodside.

Laurel Hill Early Intervention Site

Mr. Crescio also described a proposal to use a renovated vacant site on Laurel Hill Boulevard for a specialized early childhood NEST or Horizon program; discussions with the relevant DOE team were continuing.

PS/IS 87 Capital Kitchen Project

At P.S./I.S. 87, the long delayed kitchen project had a reported contract scope of approximately \$2.895 million, including related fire alarm work. The principal thanked the council for its advocacy.

SCA

There is a new manager, Celeste Ramirez at the School Construction Authority (SCA) and is very helpful.

Ms. Caryn Michaeli, Principal of PS/IS 87

- Thanked the CEC24 members for holding the meeting at her school.
- Expressed appreciation for CEC24's continued advocacy for the **2018 project for a new kitchen and fire alarm system**. Years ago, the project was approved, construction has not yet begun
- Shared that the parents of PS/IS 87 are grateful for CEC24's support of the **Gifted and Talented Program through 8th grade**.
- Explained that **Resolution 204 was updated to reflect parents' support for extending the Gifted and Talented Program to grades 6–8**.

Superintendent Anthony Rivera's Report

Superintendent Anthony Rivera introduced new district school leaders:

Jessica Snell, new IA Principal PS/IS 49

Jessica Mazzarelli, new IA Principal for PS/IS 128

Suzanne Sheerin, Principal for PS 437, QWest Elementary School

Jeanne Gausman, UFT District Representative

Mr. Rivera reported a decline in suspensions and serious incidents during the prior year.

He reviewed work on school leadership support, targeted academic interventions, middle school literacy, English learner vocabulary, and the launch of new middle school mathematics materials under NYC Solves. Teaching Matters will provide coordinated coaching support for NYC Reads, NYC Solves, and multilevel intervention work, supplemented by the district team.

Superintendent Rivera expressed concern about declines in state assessment results across the district and beyond. He said the district was reviewing the gap between daily curricular assessments and the rigor of state tests. Priorities for 2026–27 include literacy and mathematics, intervention systems, leadership practice, family empowerment, safe and inclusive schools, and attendance. The stated district goals include increasing overall proficiency, reducing suspensions by at least 10 percent, expanding civics participation, and raising attendance to 96 percent. He noted that goals for English language learners and students with disabilities would be revisited.

On class size, the Superintendent reported 73.4 percent district compliance against the 70 percent 2026–27 benchmark, with the final state reporting snapshot expected at the end of October. Compliance varies markedly by school, and severely crowded buildings may require additional space or capital solutions. He also discussed a Queens College paraprofessional to teacher pathway and the continued recruitment of teachers.

Public Comment and P.S./I.S. 87 Middle School

Families and the school principal urged continuation of an advanced academic pathway through grades 6–8 at P.S./I.S. 87. Speakers described the benefits of the existing elementary gifted and talented program, the desire to remain in the neighborhood school, and concern that the middle school pathway lacks a formal screened designation. Other speakers raised broader questions about access, terminology,

continuity, and equitable opportunities at other schools. A speaker also requested clear, regular communication to families about student academic data and progress.

Superintendent Rivera said a formal recommendation would require broader documented family engagement, consideration of concerns, space and class size review, and central DOE approval. He offered to support the school in developing the case. He clarified that he could advocate for the change; but could not authorize it alone.

Important Parent Teacher Conferences:

. September 23

Evening Parent-Teacher Conferences for Middle Schools and D75 schools

. September 24

Evening Parent-Teacher Conferences for High Schools, K-12 and 6-12 schools

. September 30

Evening Parent-Teacher Conferences for Elementary Schools and Pre-K Centers

Resolution No. 204

In Support of Extending Gifted and Talented and Screened Seats By Parents Through Grades 6 - 8 at PS/IS 87

Sponsored by Matthew Crescio, CEC24 President

Co-Sponsored by Kate Barvels and Manisha Jain

The council considered Resolution 204 concerning screened seats in grades 6–8 at P.S./I.S. 87. During discussion, members agreed to revise references to middle school gifted and talented seats to use the appropriate screened program terminology and to change the request that the superintendent “open” the seats to a request that he will “advocate for” them.

A roll call vote was taken, and the amended resolution passed, 7 - Yes, 2 Absent

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Announcements and Additional Transportation Concern

An IEP resource fair was announced for Saturday, September 26, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at P.S. 91.

There are four Workshops for parents to attend, Arts n Crafts for the children, many Vendors and Food and Refreshments will be served.

Adjournment

CEC24 Business Meeting Minutes

Call to Order/Roll Call

The Meeting was called to order

Minutes

- . CEC24 Members approved the CEC24 August Minutes

Treasurer's Report

- The Treasurer's Report was approved by the members.

Committee Reports

- The Committees report was updated.

District 24 Schools/Liaisons

- Updated list
- AA will send out emails to principals for liaison visits

Discussions for upcoming meetings:

School Enrollment, continuation of Gifted and Talented, AI

The Meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm

Minutes Submitted by:

Janet Kregler, CEC24 Administrative Assistant.

