

May 29, 2026

Superintendent Anthony Rivera
98-50 50th Avenue, Room 2
Corona, NY 11368



Community Education Council 24
62-86 Forest Avenue, Room 110
Ridgewood, NY 11385

Dear Members of Community Education Council 24:

Thank you for your resolution regarding the governance of the New York City School Construction Authority (SCA). We appreciate the time and level of detail reflected in your submission, as well as your continued engagement on issues related to school facilities.

We share your commitment to ensuring that school facilities are safe, well-maintained, and supportive of student learning. Strong governance and accountability are central to that mission, and we welcome the opportunity to provide additional context regarding the structure, responsibilities, and practices of the SCA.

The composition, powers, and responsibilities of the SCA Board of Trustees are established in New York State law. The Board operates in full compliance with the statutory framework governing public authorities, including requirements related to fiduciary duties, internal controls, training, and oversight. Trustees complete all required trainings and are supported by established governance structures and processes designed to ensure effective and ethical management of the Authority.

With respect to Board meetings, official minutes reflect formal actions taken, such as approvals and required reporting. However, these records do not fully capture the scope of Board engagement. Trustees receive detailed materials in advance of meetings and may request additional information at any time. Oversight of the Authority's work occurs on an ongoing basis through regular interaction with executive leadership, review of project and programmatic information, and continued engagement on operational and strategic matters.

We also recognize the importance of transparency and meaningful performance measurement. The SCA maintains internal tracking of key indicators related to project delivery, including schedule, cost, and safety, and uses this information to inform decision-making and oversight. In addition, we provide extensive public reporting, including capital plan presentations, quarterly project status reports, and regular engagement with Community Education Councils. We acknowledge that the scale and level of detail in these materials can make it challenging to assess system-wide trends, and we continue to consider ways to present information in a manner that is both comprehensive and accessible.

Andrea Bender
Vice President, External Affairs
New York City School
Construction Authority

More broadly, students, families, and school staff are central to our mission, and their experience in school facilities is a key driver of our work. We remain committed to ensuring that our planning and operations reflect the needs of the communities we serve.



The SCA works in close collaboration with New York City Public Schools and the Mayor's Office on the development of the Capital Plan, broader capital strategy, and, when applicable, the process for Board appointments. This coordination helps ensure that our work is aligned with citywide educational priorities and long-term planning goals.

With respect to the additional requests outlined in your resolution, the SCA currently provides regular and detailed reporting on projects in process, including public quarterly reports and ongoing communication with school leadership. Given the scale of the SCA's capital program across the five boroughs, we follow consistent, citywide protocols for project reporting and stakeholder engagement to ensure clarity and equity across districts.

Similarly, the SCA has established procedures for project kickoff meetings and ongoing job committee meetings that are designed to ensure effective coordination with school leadership and relevant stakeholders. The Division of School Facilities is represented at these meetings through the school's Custodial Engineer, who is invited to participate. In addition, the SCA strongly encourages the participation of school-based parent representatives, such as PTA designees or the Parent Coordinator; however, attendance at these meetings is determined at the discretion of the principal. These protocols support clear communication while maintaining consistent and appropriate school-level decision-making structures.

We trust this provides clarification regarding the governance, oversight, and operational practices of the SCA.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrea Bender", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Andrea Bender
Vice President, External Affairs
New York City School Construction Authority

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