



COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL 32

797 Bushwick Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11221 (Rm 319) Phone: 718-574-1203 E-mail: cec32@schools.nyc.gov

Calendar and Business Meetings

Date: April 23, 2020

Time: 6 PM

President's Report

The Education Council Consortium, The Coalition for Educational Justice, Include NYC and the CACF, and GSS wrote a letter to Mayor de Blasio and Chancellor Carranza asking for the creation of a Task Force for Remote Learning. Members of the CEC32 signed the letter in support, together with other Elected Officials. On April 13th we discussed the content of the letter with the chancellor via a virtual meeting, some of the topics were:

- Creation of a taskforce with two working groups
 - one focused on supporting students with disabilities
 - the other one focusing on supporting Multilingual Learner Students
- The need to have a Centralized guidance on:
 - Attendance
 - Promotion
 - Clarity on "engagement": If a student doesn't have a device, how is the school engaging with the student?
 - Non-English-speaking families having many difficulties with the iPads; who is helping with technology?
 - Student Discipline
- Equity and Access have not been present with MLL, Students with disabilities, and homeless students.
- Bring Dial A Teacher back.

Some of the answers the chancellor gave were:

- There are ongoing conversations with UFT to bring Dial A Teacher back.
- The state is allowing local school districts to come up with a plan regarding Promotion. Conversations with UFT y CSA are happening. Students will not be penalized due to the pandemic.
- The state cancelled the regents exams.
- Deputy Chancellor Robinson and Acting Deputy Chancellor Austin are involving Parent Coordinators, guidance counselors, psychologist to support families.
- Suspensions and hearings are suspended. Restorative practices are in place. Schools should not be sending letters to families about suspensions and attendance.
- IEP meetings are being done virtually.
- The chancellor is open to have the Task Force form with many parents and different organizations.

If you want to read the letter sent to the Mayor and Chancellor, please visit our website at:

<https://cec32.org/presentations> .

These are some updates shared by the Chancellor last week:



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Academic Policy, Performance and Assessment Grading

- **How should schools handle late or missing work during remote learning?**
Existing NYCDOE policies and school-level grading policies apply regarding late or missing work. When the students miss remote learning sessions, teachers should give students reasonable chances to make up missed work before final grades are determined.
- **How should schools communicate expectations for academic integrity during remote learning?** As during traditional instruction, schools must communicate their expectations for academic integrity to students and families. Schools must provide clear directions about whether students are expected to complete specific assignments independently or with a group, and whether students are permitted to use outside resources.

Promotion

How will the transition to remote learning impact promotion decisions?

Student promotion decisions in grades Kindergarten through 8 are based on a holistic review of student work to determine whether they have mastered the skills for the next grade level in specific subject areas. For grades 3-8, schools set their own grade-level promotion benchmarks based on multiple measures; most grade 8 students must also pass their core courses. Promotion decisions must be based on academic progress, and attendance may not be used as a factor in student promotion decisions. Schools should anticipate making promotion decisions in June as they normally would.

For high school students, promotion decisions are based on credit and exam completion.

April 16 Parent Town Hall: NYCDOE's Covid-19 Response organized by the Coalition for Educational Justice and the Education Council Consortium

At this Town Hall meeting, many families throughout the city expressed:

- Frustration with remote learning.
- Non-English-speaking families aren't able to get interpreters to help them with their children.
- Families with 4 or more kids are struggling to keep up with the demands of remote learning. Some families are working from home and at the same time helping their children with remote learning.
- D75 students not receiving services
- There must be a communication from Central DOE regarding policies.
- Inconsistencies with remote learning. Some teachers are demanding the students to log in a lot of homework. Others are not even teaching.
- The social emotional learning is not working. Families are under a lot of stress without support.



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April 21st: CEC meeting with the office of the Public Advocate Jumaane Williams

This meeting was to discuss issues that every district is having due to the remote learning. The meeting with the Public Advocate will be on April 30th.

Last week the DOE released their budget with **\$150 million cut this fiscal year (which ends on June 30, 2020)** and \$470 million cuts in FY 2021 (July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021).

The NYC DOE has launched a Remote Learning Survey for parents/guardians and students from 6th to 12th grade. This survey will be open from April 17th to May 1st. To complete the survey visit: <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/RLsurvey>

We need our families to please fill up this survey. The survey is in 9 languages.

Also, parents please complete the Education Council Consortium's survey to give your input about grading policies during remote learning. To complete the survey, please visit: <https://tinyurl.com/NYCRLGradingPolicy>

These links are also posted at CEC32.org .

Thank you.