



COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 15

Office: 131 Livingston Street, Room 301, Brooklyn, New York 11201

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August Business Meeting

Via Teleconference

Tuesday, August 4, 2020 - 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

President's Report - Camille Casaretti, CEC15 President

Welcome to the CEC15 August Business Meeting and thank you for taking the time to join us this evening. I am Camille Casaretti, President of CEC15. I hope everyone is feeling well and that you and your loved ones are staying safe. We've heard about power outages throughout the city and lots of down trees. Please look out for your neighbors and do what you can to help each other.

If you have any questions while I am reporting please feel free to add them to the chat, and I will do my best to answer them.

We have some special guests this evening, among them is the newly elected Panel for Education Policy Parent Member, Tom Sheppard. Tom is the first person to be elected to this seat and it's very exciting to have him here with us tonight to learn about District 15 concerns and learn how he can best represent our voice on the Panel. As you know, the PEP is the governing body of the Department of Education. Although the majority of appointees are chosen by the Mayor, this new seat was written into the law because Parents were advocating for it. Tom, I'll ask you to add your email to the chat so that our members and anyone on this call might be able to reach out to you directly. Congratulations to Tom Sheppard and we are delighted to work with you going forward.

Our other Special Guest this evening is Joseph Lazarus, Director of School Facilities for the New York City Department of Education. Joe and his team have come to our meetings before and they always offer very useful information about how the Office of School Facilities supports our school buildings. We will hear about the school readiness plans for keeping our buildings clean and keeping students, teachers and staff safe once they return to the buildings.

There have been a lot of opportunities to hear the Chancellor speak about what the start of the new school year will look like. Town Hall dates are posted on the DOE website, and D15 will be hosting a Town Hall in the coming months.

There is an ECC meeting with the Chancellor on Saturday August 8th from 9:30AM to 11:00AM.

The Chancellor and his cabinet members will provide updates on:

- Summer School
- Reopening Plans



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And there will be a Q&A with the Council President. All CEC Members are invited and encouraged to attend. You must [RSVP](#) by 4PM Thursday August 6th. The meeting will be live-streamed on ECC's Facebook page for members of the public. I would encourage everyone on this call to watch the livestream and send questions if you have any.

Some other upcoming meetings to keep in mind are:

The Citywide Council on Special Education is having their Annual Meeting this Thursday Aug 6 at 6:30 PM
Via Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/96257952844?pwd=eJQc2J5WWg5NEhyU21YbmlHMxIxQT09>

Meeting ID: 962 5795 2844

Passcode: 041204

Next Monday, August 11: I've scheduled a Curriculum Workshop Joint Meeting with CEC14 from 1pm - 2pm on The New 3Rs which is an anti bias, social justice based curriculum. All are welcome to attend. Please tell your teachers about this meeting and invite them to participate. An email will be sent out in the coming days with more details and the link.

Our CEC15 August Calendar Meeting is scheduled for **Tues, August 25** at 6:30 p.m and we are hoping to host Deputy Chancellor Karin Goldmark along with Executive Superintendent Karen Watts who will be in attendance to talk about Brooklyn North and details on back to school planning. Additionally, we have been invited to co-host a Brooklyn North Parent Feedback Session. I'll share more information about that as it develops.

A month from now, on Tues, September 8 at 6:30 p.m we have another CEC15 Business Meeting. The Office of District Planning and the PAR Team are hoping to report on the Preliminary PAR findings related to the Rezoning of SubDistrict 3. The PAR Team is also planning to hold virtual meetings on the next 4 Mondays in August. The link will be sent out via email as soon as we receive it.

Additionally, keep in mind that the School Construction Authority will be scheduling a Joint Public Hearing Meeting with CEC15 and the Community Board to discuss a new property that was purchased recently by the DOE for a school. There will be a brief presentation and then CEC Members and the Public will be able to ask questions. We don't have a date yet for this meeting.

For those who are interested, CEC15 is still seeking a English Language Learner Representative and a Student Member for the Council. The ELL Member must have a student that qualifies for ELL status, or has received ELL services within the last 2 years. The student member must be an entering Senior that lives in District 15. If you



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have someone you would like to nominate for either of these volunteer positions, please write to CEC15@schools.nyc.gov. There is a simple application to fill out and it is posted on our website CECD15.org

A brief update on the Chancellor's Parent Advisory Council meeting this morning with Chancellor Carranza that happened this morning and was posted live on Facebook, to discuss school reopening .

The Chancellor and his cabinet are trying to answer as many questions as possible so that families can decide about signing up for blended in person learning or fully remote learning prior to the August 7th survey deadline.

If you have not received the link to the survey, please reach out to your school Principal or Parent coordinator as soon as possible. All schools should have contacted parents by now to ask about their preference for the start of the school year.

The Chancellor said that the "virtues and benefits of in person learning are profound. We know that nothing can replace the instruction that happens in the classroom. There are varying levels of comfort around in person learning during the pandemic." These are difficult choices and there is a lot of information but we need to be informed.

The DOE is preparing for a sense of readiness to move to fully remote learning if necessary. They are looking at the state guidelines. We shared the 145 page document at our last meeting. I will drop it in the chat again for your review.

<http://www.nysed.gov/common/nysed/files/programs/reopening-schools/nys-p12-school-reopening-guidance.pdf>

Naturally, there are lots of moving parts as we move forward. If you have questions please write to your Principal, Superintendent Skop or even to us, and we will try to get you answers.

Save the Dates for these [Upcoming Meetings](#)

- CEC15 Calendar Meeting: Tues, August 25 - 6:30 p.m
- CEC15 Business Meeting: Tues, September 8 - 6:30 p.m
- CEC15 Calendar Meeting: Tues, September 29 - 6:30 p.m.
- CEC15 Business Meeting: Tues, October 6- 6:30 p.m.