



COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 15

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

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October 25, 2022
Calendar Meeting

President's Report - Camille Casaretti

Good evening everyone and thank you for joining us this evening at PS24. It's so great to be back in person in Sunset Park again. I'm excited to introduce to you the **Principal of PS24, Maria Diaz**, who I've known for 8 years now. Maria is an extraordinary, dedicated leader and we are lucky to have her on the District 15 team.

Maria Diaz speaking PS 24

Thank you so much, Principal Diaz, we are so grateful to know you, and thank you again for sharing your auditorium with us tonight.

A few parents from PS24 are on the **Sunset Park Participatory Action Research Team**. These community members are collecting and understanding the perspectives of parents, students, and neighbors in the Sunset Park area on issues such as education, school safety, academics, and other related areas. This research and understanding of the schools in the area is being conducted in relation to the new public school buildings that are opening in the coming years. They are sharing what they hear with the Superintendent and the Department of Education and detailing a proposal for developing plans for new building use and ongoing parent leadership development.

Some of the ideas they have collected are:

- Dual-language and special education inclusive middle school opportunities within Sunset Park
- Implications of rezoning elementary schools in Sunset Park
- Meeting space available to community members and community groups (with safety prioritized) and
- Adult education and programming for community members



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We have a **new building coming on line in the Fall of 2023** which will be the **upper school for PS896**. We learned last night at the 896 School leadership Team Meeting that the Office of District Planning has heard the requests of the PAR Team and are considering adding a **D79 component** to the new building that would provide adult education at night and on the weekend. An Educational Impact Statement will be presented to the community in the coming weeks with more details, and the DOE Board of Education, otherwise known as the Panel for Education Policy, will vote on this new proposal on Dec 19. All members of District 15 and the general public are invited to provide feedback on the EIS prior to the PEP vote. Please look out for more information coming soon and save the date for Dec 19 for the PEP Meeting.

PS516 is also going to have a new building opening in the Fall of 2023. Stay tuned for more information there as well.

There's a lot of energy around the new buildings in addition to our responsibilities as School Liaison to do our School Visits. Each CEC member should be meeting with the school principal and doing a building walk through. At the beginning of each new year, **CEC15 submits a list of building requests to the School Construction Authority for possible additions to the SCA Capital Plan.** The deadline is typically the first week of January. If you haven't met with your school principals yet, plan to do that in the coming two weeks. We will be reviewing the draft list at our Nov 29 Calendar Meeting and voting on the top 5 priorities on Dec 13. Any member of the school community can send in a request and all ideas will be vetted by the Division of School Facilities and the School Construction Authority. Please write to your school's CEC Liaison with your suggestions.

I have a **Schoolwide Enrichment Update**. Antonia and I have been collaborating with Supt Alvarez and his team on project based learning models. We are excited about this work and the prospect of schoolwide enrichment models expanding throughout D15. Supt Alvarez will be working with Principals and Assistant Principals to support this work and start to implement project based learning in each of the chosen schools. The work created by students throughout the year will be displayed at a district fair in the Spring. This way of learning is more than just an art class, it's a way of finding the interests of students and keeping them highly motivated and engaged as they are learning about different subjects and can be accomplished across the grade.



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WYX Update on the D15 Diversity Plan Report: Nancy and I met with Supt Alvarez, some of the D15 Team and WXY members last week to talk about what the coming months of community engagement and feedback will look like. Various school community members will be participating and giving feedback on how the implementation of the MS Plan is working. WXY will plan to provide brief periodic summaries at occasional D15 town halls. Our next meeting is Friday 10/28.

MS and HS Admissions Survey: CEC15 designed a survey to collect feedback on the Middle School and High School Admissions process. We received a significant amount of feedback and are hoping to be able to create a report with the information that was gathered. Supt Alvarez is using this feedback, in addition to other feedback received, to make a decision about what this year's Middle School admissions process will look like. The survey is still open if you would like to submit comments.

CCEC Elections are coming up soon for the new council term which runs from June 2023 - July 2025. There will be a new seat for a parent of a child in a D75 program. If you know anyone who is interested in running for CEC15, or for any of the Citywide Councils, please share this information. The application period will open in January.

There is also an opportunity for Parent Leadership on the NYC Board of Education (PEP). Five new seats have been created for Parents from each Borough. The **PEP Parent Member Elections** will be starting soon. All of these roles are volunteer positions and require a great deal of time in order to appropriately represent our communities. The Brooklyn PEP Member should have a strong understanding of each district's challenges and strengths.

We're going to be hosting the **Chancellors Town Hall tomorrow night at MS88**. It's not too late to register or to submit questions. Sign up at <https://learndoe.org/cec/>