



COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 15

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December Calendar Meeting

Via Teleconference

Tuesday, Dec 15, 2020 - 6:30 - 9:00 p.m.

Vice President's Report - Antonia Ferraro Martinelli, CEC15 Co-Vice President

I will be giving the vice president's report as our president Camille Casaretti has had a Covid-related death in her extended family. Our thoughts are with Camille and all those impacted by the virus. I think I speak for everyone when I say 2021 cannot come soon enough.

So tonight I have the privilege of welcoming you all to CEC15's last calendar meeting of 2020 on this fifth night of Hanukkah. I am optimistic about 2021 because there is light at the end of the tunnel, especially if we work together to solve problems. The holiday season is always the time to give gifts, but it is also the time to give love and cooperation. And this year, it is more important than ever to find ways to support the broader community and the common good.

This weekend I put on my mask and volunteered with PS124 and the organization Amanda Donate's, which sets up a monthly food pantry for the community on 13th St. PS124 and Amanda Donates gave out hundreds of loaves of bread, milk, cereal, and canned goods to line that stretched down the block. My 11th grade son volunteered with me. It was a great hands-on enriching experience that can give students a sense of purpose and empowerment, at a time when they may feel like everything is out of control. The next food pantry at PS 124 will be on Jan. 16th from 9-11am. Volunteers are encouraged to come early to help set up at 8:15/30 am.

Speaking of the common good, Monday was the 8th and final installment of our Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion series. The topic was *Giving vs. Gaining: School Lotteries and their Impact on Education*. Camille worked very hard to present and organize these programs. So congratulations to her on a job well done. The series will now be included on the Parent University portal. I know Camille was very honored to hear



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that her work would be available for more parents to access. So please check out <https://parentu.schools.nyc> We will post the exact link when we have it.

Additionally, CEC15 will be forming various Ad Hoc [committees](#) that parents from the district can join. Committees may take up the issues such as mayoral control, PTA reform and whole child focus. Stay tuned for more information on those or email us with a suggestion of your own.

And we are still seeking applicants for our MLL parent representative. Please email CEC15@school.nyc.gov for an application. To qualify a parent or guardian must have a child enrolled in one of the District 15 public schools under the Superintendency of Anita Skop and must have a child with ELL status or have had ELL status within the last two years.

Updates

Please note our upcoming meetings:

Thurs, Jan 7 6:30 pm - Special Session: CEC15 Vote on SCA Priority List

Tues, Jan 12, 6:30 pm - Business Meeting: CEC15 meets with the D15 Presidents' Council, who is doing big things to support our community schools, from forming a district wide PTA to collecting and distributing cleaned devices to students in need.

Tues, Jan 26, 6:30 pm - Calendar Meeting: Office of District Planning on SubDistrict 3

There are now Virtual Elementary Admissions Events where you can learn about 3-K, pre-K, and kindergarten admissions. Click [here](#) to register.

The Kindergarten application period opened on Thursday, December 10th, children born in 2016 can apply to kindergarten for the 2021-22 school year. The application deadline is Tuesday, January 19, 2021. Families can apply to Kindergarten in two ways, online at [MySchools](#) and over the phone by calling 718-935-2009.

Tonight's agenda will include our Superintendent's report, an update from the Office of District Planning and the PAR team. I want to acknowledge the tremendous work of our Superintendent, ODP and PAR



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team, who didn't lose sight of our district's broader goals of diversity, equity, and inclusion. Even in the face of an unprecedented pandemic and economic crisis, they found ways to continue to plough ahead with the work. And I want to give all our principals and teachers an extra special year end thank you. For many this was the hardest year of their careers. So here's to you and here's 2021!