

# Community Education Council District 32 Meeting

**CALENDAR/BUSINESS  
MEETING MINUTES**

**August 15th,  
2019**

**6:00 PM**

CEC D32 Office  
797 Bushwick Ave  
Brooklyn, NY 11221

<b>Type of Meeting</b>	<b>Calendar and Business Meetings</b>		
<b>Note Taker</b>	<b>Stacie Johnson, Recording Secretary</b>		
<b>Attendees</b>		<b>Calendar Meeting</b>	<b>Business Meeting</b>
	<b>Martha Bayona</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Present</b>
	<b>Joanna Fuentes</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Present</b>
	<b>Stacie Johnson</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Present</b>
	<b>Maria Lopez</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Present</b>
	<b>Wanda Nunez</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Present</b>
	<b>Samuel Olivares</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Present</b>
	<b>Desines Rodriguez</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Present</b>
	<b>Renisha Westbrooks</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Present</b>
<b>Quorum</b>	<b>Met</b>		

## Monthly Calendar Meeting: 6:08 PM

[Guests: Robert Camacho, CB4 President; Cynthia Macias, Parent Empowerment Liaison; and Council Member Antonio Reynoso, who announced that schools in his district will be receiving new computer labs (as is done every three years), partnering with the SCA to solve issues that the infrastructure might pose; the State passed seven laws that will come into effect after the rezoning to protect tenants; and his intent to converse with principals about bullying in schools. For information on afterschool budgeting or capital funding, his staff may be contacted. His information is: CMReynoso34@twitter, ReynosoBrooklyn@twitter, [reynosoa@council.nyc.gov](mailto:reynosoa@council.nyc.gov)\*, (718) 963 3141]

1. Call to order and roll-call: Present: Martha Bayona, Joanna Fuentes, Stacie Johnson, Maria Lopez, Wanda Nunez, Desines Rodriguez, Samuel Olivares, Renisha Westbrooks.
2. Election of CEC32 Vice-President
  - a. Motion to table the discussion to the Business Meeting, during an executive session, presented by: Desines Rodriguez. Motion seconded by: Joanna Fuentes.
3. CEC32 President Report and Announcements:
  - a. Mayor and Chancellor's Press Conference announcing changes to the 2019-2020 Middle and High Schools applications: the process will be much shorter as there will be only one round of applications and one waiting list. Representatives will be made available to inform parents of their place on the waiting list and of available alternatives if students are not accepted into their first choice.
4. Superintendent Sheila S.-Gorski's Report: Please see attachment
5. Report from Borough Appointees:
  - a. Renisha Westbrooks: the Borough President's Office and Borough Appointees will reconvene in September 2019. There is a vacancy in the Office for Education Policy and Analyst. Will send the information/description to the network.
6. Public Comment:
  - a. What alternatives are there to parents who want their child to attend a school that is not their zoned school? The status is the same as an appeal. Contact a Family Welcome Center. Families in shelters are not limited by zoning lines.
  - b. Deacon Mariana Collazo, from the South Bushwick Reformed Church: invitation to Back to School Party on September 7, 2019 at 855 Bushwick Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11221, between 12 PM and 6 PM. The congregation received 150 backpacks from the Blue Cross Blue Shield and the Ridgewood Car Service is dropping off the donation. Many local businesses in the area will be there. Will email flyer to CEC32 to be delivered to its network. PS 376 is having a similar event on the same day.
  - c. The CEC32 received an email from CB4 announcing that a company wishes to donate 100 backpacks during the last week of August and the beginning of September to D32.
7. Vote on Resolution to Vacate Seat
  - a. CEC32 President Martha Bayona presented the CEC32 Resolution to Declare Seat Vacant. It was read to those in attendance.
  - b. Vote on Resolution:
    - i. Resolution passed by a vote of eight (8) to zero (0).

8. Adjournment: 7:00 PM

\*Correct e-mail address is AReynoso@council.nyc.gov

## **Business Meeting: 7:08 PM**

1. Call to order and roll call: Present: Martha Bayona, Joanna Fuentes, Stacie Johnson, Maria Lopez, Wanda Nunez, Desines Rodriguez, Samuel Olivares, Renesha Westbrooks
2. Executive session
  - a. Called to discuss the re-election of the vice-president officer position and protocols around how to proceed with a previous member's reimbursement request.
  - b. Motion to move into an executive session and invite Nequan McLean, ECC President, and Steven Wieser, FACE Liaison, presented by: Member Renesha Westbrooks. Motion seconded by: Maria Lopez. All members approved the motion.
  - c. Motion to close the executive session presented by: Desines Rodriguez. Motion seconded by Maria Lopez. All members approved the motion.
  - d. Executive Session ended 7:55 PM
3. Approval of minutes: Minutes for the month of July 2019: APPROVED
4. Members' report:
  - a. Stacie Johnson: in the process of finding which schools have afterschool programs and the number of seats available. During school visits (including attending SLT Meetings), members may ask principals and parents about afterschool, including the source of funding for the programs, why more is not available, what organizations are offering the programs, if enough seats are available, and if the programs meet parent expectations. This information will be added into the spreadsheet with D32 information that Member Johnson created. Member Johnson submitted a FOIL request to DYCD for afterschool programs, and seat availability. This information is somewhat different from the one provided by the Superintendent's Office in July. A clearer account of the data was requested from the Superintendent.
  - b. Renesha Westbrooks:
    - i. Chancellor's In Your Borough Visit to 32K106: the Chancellor started the visit interacting with students in the classroom. Then he translated to a small setting of about 30 attendees (which included parent leaders and some elected officials) organized in a round table to allow for a dialogue between all participants. Hydra Mendoza, the Deputy Chancellor of Community Partnerships and Communications, facilitated the conversation. It became a Q&A session in which students asked three to four questions; elected officials also had the opportunity to ask questions, but not parent leaders.
    - ii. ECC Meeting and Meeting with the Chancellor: there was not sufficient time to go over every topic and question asked to the Chancellor. He stated that there are \$750,000 currently available for technology and \$750,000 available for other purposes. Allocation was not specified. Was unable to attend meeting with John Shea, from the Division of School Facilities, regarding lead in schools.
  - c. Martha Bayona: During his visit to 32K106, the Chancellor stated that D32 is included in a package meant to expand the quality of afterschool programs. Additionally, by 2023, all schools should have longer hours for afterschool, and will offer chorus in their music programs during school hours. To help undocumented students, the Chancellor is partnering with private companies to allow students to be paid with private money, as federal funds cannot be used. He assured that D32's IEP student population is being attended to. One of the reasons why he visited 32K106 is because of the high percentage of students with IEPs in the school. The Chancellor also assured that no more charter schools are coming into D32. He will also be working with school buildings to make them accessible.
  - d. D16 was going to have a state regent (Kathy Cashin) attend one of its schools on the first day of school. Mr. McLean, however, is not available for the visit and will propose that it take place in D32.
5. Motion to vote on approval of former member Jazzy Rivera's \$125 reimbursement for the month of June 2019 presented by: Martha Bayona. Motion seconded by: Desines Rodriguez.
  - a. Seven (7) members voted to approve the reimbursement. One (1) member abstained.
6. Treasurer's report: Please see attachment
  - a. Motion to vote on approving a three-year lease for the CEC32 copier at the expiration of the current lease, which expires on January 31, 2020, presented by: Desines Rodriguez. Motion seconded by: Joanna Fuentes. All members approved the motion.
7. Motion to re-elect CEC32 Vice-President presented by: Martha Bayona. Motion seconded by: Desines Rodriguez.
  - a. Nomination(s): Member Desines Rodriguez nominated Renesha Westbrooks. Nomination accepted.
  - b. No other nominations were made.
  - c. All eight (8) members present voted to approve the nomination. Renesha Westbrooks was elected Vice-President of the CEC32.
8. Old business
  - a. Planning for the upcoming school year:
    - i. Two offices have requested a space for presentations: the Office of District Planning and the Office of Student Enrollment.
    - ii. List of mandated presenters/presentations: Office of District Planning, the School Construction Authority, Fair Student Funding, and Contracts for Excellence. Presentation suggestions include a conversation on teacher contracts; and a review of the protocol School Safety must follow in schools, particularly looking into the changes

expressed in the recently released Memorandum of Understanding, the plan for implementation, and what the schools superintendent, principals, and parent coordinators are entitled to do. The conversation may continue via email.

- iii. Suggestion to have more than one presenter at a meeting to generate a dialogue.
- b. Structure of monthly meetings
  - i. Suggestion to have two separate dates for the calendar and business meetings.
  - ii. A suggestion was made to hear directly from the schools at the meetings through representatives that speak about the resources their schools offer. CEC32 liaisons may facilitate the discussion when their liaised schools present. Members may email their suggestions to the CEC32 account.
  - iii. Allowing more time for parents to speak: consider having have two public comment portions in the agenda and pushing borough appointees reports for the business meeting, following the calendar meeting arrangements in the CEC32 Bylaws (Article IV, Section 2).
  - iv. The Council will agree on having elected representatives attend on a predetermined date and time.
- 9. New business
  - a. Microsoft Teams: the Council may communicate through this platform
- 10. Motion to table rest of the business meeting agenda for next Thursday, per the CEC32 Bylaws, presented by: Martha Bayona. Motion seconded by Stacie Johnson.
  - a. Seven (7) members voted to approve the motion. One (1) member abstained.
  - b. Agenda items to be finalized/discussed on Thursday, August 22, 2019:
    - i. Planning for the upcoming school year
      - 1. List of potential presenters
      - 2. CEC Vision and Mission
      - 3. Meeting with Superintendent and Executive Superintendent
    - ii. Remediation status for lead in the water at 32K384/376/116/383/106
      - 1. Meeting with the Division of School Facilities to speak about remedial work in D32 schools, request a report on lead dust in paint, and obtain the number of schools affected by the presence of lead. The DSF, Lead Director, Superintendent Gorski, and the Executive Superintendent Karen Watts may be invited
      - 2. CEC32 Letter to Chancellor Carranza and DOH Commissioner Barbot on the presence of lead in water in D32 schools
    - iii. Structure of monthly meetings
      - 1. How are they organized? (specific items below were suggested for this meeting after July 18th)
      - 2. Monthly Borough President Appointees Report
      - 3. Public comment
      - 4. How to increase parent involvement – Is it acceptable to: recruit parent questions from the host school the week prior to the meeting? / Reach out to parents to coach them through the process of asking that question during the public comment portion of the meeting if we find a repeated or important question? / With the parent’s permission, ask to read parent questions and present answers even if the parent cannot attend? Can the public comment portion take place earlier in the evening to hook parents?
    - iv. Calendar & business meetings arrangement – to be held on the same day or different days of the month
    - v. Microsoft Teams – how to improve communication and flow of information within the Council
    - vi. SY2019-2020 CEC Meeting schedule (calendar)
    - vii. School liaison assignments
    - viii. Update on afterschool programming
    - ix. Election of a timekeeper
    - x. Committees
    - xi. Regarding lead, the Congresswoman Velazquez and her office would like to seat down with us, DSF, elected officials from our district, parents, and D75 to see how the DOE is implementing the new protocol, and see the work that is being done in D32.
    - xii. Diversity Plan
    - xiii. Building of the agenda

11. Adjournment: 8:54 PM

<b>APPROVAL OF CALENDAR, AND BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES</b>	July 2019 - <b>Approved</b> [Met Quorum]
NOTE: All meetings are recorded for future availability/submission upon request at the CEC D32 office.	
<b>ADJOURNMENT</b>	Meeting adjourned at 8:54 PM
<b>SUBMITTED BY:</b>	Silvia Belmonte, Administrative Assistant

**Approved on:** Thursday, September 26, 2019

\_\_\_\_\_Recording Secretary