

Community Education Council District 32 Meeting

**BUSINESS/CALENDAR
MEETING MINUTES**

June 20th, 2019

6:00 PM

**CEC D32 Office
797 Bushwick Ave
Brooklyn, NY 11221**

Type of Meeting

Calendar and Business Meeting

Note Taker

Annie Ross, Secretary

Attendees

Calendar Meeting

Business Meeting

Martha Bayona

Late

Present

Annie Ross

Late

Present

Desines Rodriguez

Present

Present

Renisha Westbrooks

Present

Present

Luis Fonseca

Present

Present

Maria Lopez

Late

Present

Gloria Tellez-Tovar

Late

Present

Dhaysy Correa

Present

Present

Jazzy Rivera

Late

Present

Carlos Martinez

Late

Present

Quorum

Met

Monthly Calendar Meeting: 6:00 PM

1. Call to order and roll call: Present: Dhaysy Correa, Luis Fonseca, Desines Rodriguez, Renisha Westbrooks. Late arrivals: Martha Bayona, Maria Lopez, Carlos Martinez, Jazzy Rivera, Annie Ross, and Gloria Tellez-Tovar.
2. Brief message from Principal Dominic Zagami: 32K377 held its greenhouse in a double classroom space and combined it with activities from the NY Power Authority and Enterprise Sciences; received funds from the BBP Adams for a promethean board; received a grant that will be used for coding and robotics next year; and will have its schoolyard rehabilitated beginning on June 26, 2019. The artwork displayed in the school was funded through a Title IV well-grounded school allocation and made in partnership with Studio in the School, which collaborated with the Brooklyn Chorus at this year's graduation ceremony. Announcements were followed by the 32K377 student performance "Salsa Dance, A Tribute to Mark Anthony".

[Office of AW Dávila: Bushwick and Williamsburg CommUNITY Resource Fair on Saturday, August 24 at Maria Hernandez Park from 12 to 4 PM. Over 50 organizations will table at the event.]

[In the interest of time, agenda items were not followed in order]

3. Office of the Executive Superintendent, Brooklyn North NYC DOE Borough Office (Executive Superintendent Karen Watts): Vision, Mission, Accomplishments, and Goals for District 32
 - a. Vision: Chancellor Carranza re-structured the DOE with a chain command that starts with the NYC Mayor and ends with teachers, students, and families. There are seven community school districts in Brooklyn North and nine executive superintendents responsible for specific geographic areas – Brooklyn North has eight community school district superintendents and 231 schools.
 - b. Brooklyn North by the Numbers: The Borough Office is made up of about 120 employees responsible for supporting schools in the areas of teaching and learning, special education, multilingual learners, budget and human resources, operations, student services, and continuous improvement. All work collaboratively with the eight superintendents' offices. This year, BN supported eight transfer schools that it will no longer support next year. There are approximately 7,748 students in D32.
 - c. Why Do We Do This Work? To ensure that students graduating in 2030 are prepared for a more technologically advanced workforce.
 - d. Work In Progress: The DOE is rolling out Advanced Literacies to help students learn to solve unstructured problems, be able to work with new information, to combine cooperative and social skills, and work well in groups. Chancellor Carranza introduced four priorities: accelerated learning and instruction, develop people, partner with communities, and doing all this through an equity lens called "advancing equity now". It started with President Obama's introduction of the MBK Milestones at the national level in 2014. Mayor DeBlasio then introduced the "equity and excellence agenda" in 2015, which includes all 'For All' programs in the DOE, such as Algebra, and Computer Science For All. This year, the Chancellor also introduced three drivers:
 - i. Comprehensive Schools Support Strategy: there is a new template for the CEP, which schools are currently working on and is due on the last day of school.
 - ii. Instructional Leadership Framework (advanced literacy): pedagogical or interactional model rolled out to schools starting in the 2020.
 - iii. Supportive Environment Framework: encourages restorative practices, social emotional learning in elementary schools, etc.

- e. A Fourth Driver: Brooklyn North has included a fourth driver: eSTEAM Vision (Equity Through STEM and STEAM Education). The goal is to bring best practices around STEM education to every elementary and middle school and ensure that 8th graders take the algebra regents in preparation for acceleration at the HS level, where they can take college level courses starting at the 9th grade. Students are also encouraged to take four years of math and science so they can access STEM majors in college. The Mayor's city goals for Equity and Excellence include an 80% HS graduation rate by 2025 and having 67% of this cohort college and career ready (at least 53.6%). In 2018, Brooklyn North obtained an 85% HS graduation rate and is attributed 56% in college readiness. Even if Brooklyn Tech and Brooklyn Latin HSs were removed, Brooklyn North's graduation rates would be higher than the city average. Removing ten of the schools with the highest graduation rates for SY17-18, gives a 76% graduation rate at 36% college readiness.
 - f. SY18-19 Accomplishments: Brooklyn North has the highest graduation rate from within the city's borough offices - one district in BN had the highest increase in proficiency rates for both Math and ELA.
 - g. Strengthening the Borough Office and Superintendents' Reach: Ensures early childhood representation in each superintendent's team. Every school received \$6000 for Social Emotional Learning programs. Districts work with principals to decide how to use these funds. BN also offers a yoga teacher training program. D32 is implementing Kids at Hope. Restorative practices are also in place - five districts are receiving implicit bias training offered by the DOE. Brooklyn Basics, a special program in BN, is also offered to ensure literacy and numeracy development, even before 3-K.
 - h. New for the SY19-20:
 - i. Four drivers (listed above) - districts may adopt this curriculum or superintendents may work closely with principals to adopt a district wide curriculum. This will help with advanced literacy pedagogy.
 - ii. 3-K and three teacher development programs will come into D32 next SY. Seven schools will receive funding from the Central DOE to ensure corealized, model, and masters teacher leaders meeting the Teacher Leadership Model standards.
 - iii. Increasing dual language programs in middle schools.
 - iv. Increasing the amount of make up space and fabrication labs in all the district's schools through eSTEAM.
 - v. Math Stories initiative has taken place in collaboration with Achievement First. The EASE program is also available to support Students with Disabilities for a transition from a more restrictive to a less restrictive environment. There will also be a program called Story Studio to support MLLs, and a program similar to Universal Literacy for math teachers in elementary schools.
 - i. Developing People: Will implement an employee feedback cycle at the borough office to ensure that every employee is being developed and strong practices to support our schools are in place. Will also ensure that new employees are on boarded, mentored, and supported.
 - j. Constituency: will continue to work with all constituents, per the Chancellor's priority to partner with communities (students, parents, CBOs, community schools, colleges, universities, businesses, museums, parks, unions, and elected officials.)
 - k. Questions and answers:
 - i. *What are you doing about charter schools taking away from our kids?* Question referred to representatives at the Central Department of Education.
 - ii. *What is the future for this school if we have less than 300 kids? Are we already a shutdown/closing school?* Not aware of a plan to shut down PS 377. The overarching goal is to strengthen programs offered in schools, such as STEM programs, to attract families in the community and increase enrollment.
 - iii. *What are you doing when a parent(s) is/are not valued or appreciated in your district?* The hope is that all parents are valued and appreciated at all levels, welcomed, and have their concerns heeded to and addressed. There is a ladder of referral. Concerns are addressed first at the school level, then to the district superintendent, and then to the executive superintendent.
 - iv. *For a very long time, we have heard of the need for financial literacy as a core part of public schools' curriculum. What are the advances in conversations around Financial Literacy for All?* Will follow up on whether there is a program in place by the Central Department of Education. In Brooklyn North, however, the Executive Supt. exposed superintendents to different financial literacy programs that they would share with principals who would implement them in their schools.
 - v. *What is the conversation around training and strengthening parent leaders?* There are structures within the DOE that support the development of parent leadership, starting at the school level with PTAs, followed by the Presidents' Council, SLTs, DLTs, CECs, Citywide CECs, and CPAC. In Brooklyn North, the Executive Supt. has invited parent leaders to the Borough Offices and hopes to have a parent representative there for the next school year to see the work that is being done to support schools and to keep them informed, with the goal of empowering them with knowledge of the opportunities available to students.
 - vi. *Will Algebra For All be offered to District 32 schools?* Algebra For All has been in place for about two years. All middle schools offer it either during the day or after-school (usually for earlier grades), or both. Some elementary schools have Algebra For All but support is sought to have it in all. Some schools have Algebra For All through the Beacon Program. The hope is to provide supports to middle school teachers to ensure that students are able to take the algebra regents by the end of the 8th grade. The Elementary Focus Math Program is part of Algebra For All, but at the elementary school level.
 - vii. *As the demographics change in the neighborhood, how do you plan to recruit new families while also making sure not to create pockets of segregation?* We are promoting programs with the hope that they are in all schools so that students find enriching programs in any D32 school.
 - viii. President Martha Bayona had an extra question, which the Executive Superintendent said she sent to the Central DOE for an answer.
 - l. Presentation of awards to CEC32 Members by Executive Superintendent Karen Watts.
4. CEC32 President Martha Bayona Report and Announcement (skipped due to time constraints)
 5. Report from Borough Appointees
 - a. Carlos Martinez: Farewell.
 - b. Renesha Westbrooks:

- i. Extended Use Hardship Waiver for Nonprofit Organizations: allows nonprofits that meet specific criteria to utilize public schools. Contact the CEC32 for more information.
 - ii. Yoga and Mindfulness Teacher Preparation Program: pilot program trains school staff on ways to implement mindfulness and yoga into schools. D32 is not being included presently. If parents would like to see programs brought into schools, communicate with the community schools superintendent, principals, and PTAs.
 - c. Note from President Martha Bayona: Regarding charter schools, the CEC is working very closely with Superintendent Gorski in regards to after-school programs. Charter schools run their programs until 4:45 PM. Many of our parents work but schools are not offering after-school programming. We recommended two different programs to the district office to see if schools can work with those organizations starting next year. If parents want to see a program in your schools, speak with your school's principal, the CEC, and the Superintendent.
6. Superintendent Sheila Gorski's Report
- a. D32 middle and elementary schools have after-school programming, but they cannot go as late as other schools can afford to. Schools follow DOE protocols and, in many cases, special licenses are needed to keep children after-school. The D32 is working to obtain clearance and more licensed staff for after-school programs for younger kids.
 - b. Please see attachment for the rest of the report.
 - c. Trailer: What is being done in District 32 and what is to come?
7. Note from President Martha Bayona: The City recently approved a measure favoring parents of students who are currently paying half-fare for public transportation to school, starting in June. The DOE will implement the measure in September so that students can obtain MetroCards that cover three or four rides. Will see if the CEC can do something to obtain full rides for our children. Please monitor your children's behavior (particularly to prevent vaping) and use of electronic devices.
8. Brief message from Principal Magaly Moncayo of P.S. 106 followed by the P.S. 106 student song/dance performance of "This Is Me"
9. Distribution of certificates to outstanding students from our district's schools
10. Public comment (none)
11. Adjournment: 7:30 PM

Business Meeting: 7:40 PM

- 1. Call to order and roll call: Present: Martha Bayona, Dhaysy Correa, Luis Fonseca, Maria Lopez, Carlos Martinez, Jazzy Rivera, Desines Rodriguez, Annie Ross, Gloria Tellez-Tovar, Renesha Westbrooks.
- 2. Approval of minutes: Minutes for the month of May 2019: APPROVED
- 3. Members' report:
 - a. Martha Bayona: Chancellor is adopting 62 of the 67 recommendations made by the School Diversity Advisory Group (SDAG). D32 schools will be having only one curriculum, except P.S. 376 and I.S. 383 (they work differently). More announcements will be made in the upcoming weeks. The Executive Superintendent discussed most of the changes implemented in D32.
- 4. Treasurer's report: Please see attachment.
- 5. Old business:
 - a. Member Annie Ross will discuss consultation with CEC FACE liaison regarding whether a parent may include activities conducted in their child(ren)'s schools (PTA meetings, ex.) in the IPR and member reimbursement forms
 - i. No – It is strongly suggested by the DOE Ethics Officer that members do not liaise with their child(ren)'s school due to conflicts of interest. This is not explicitly stated in the CCEC Guide nor in the regulations, but it should be in the schools visits memo. Conflict of interest is a principle and is not always explicit in the law. At the beginning of the school year, the CEC32 agreed not to liaise with their child(ren)'s school. Parents may attend as parents but should not include the activities into the CEC's IPR.
 - b. Date for the next Joint Meeting with the CEC and Presidents' Council: Member Annie Ross will discuss findings in the Chancellor's Regulations for a better idea of drafting the agenda and arranging for the meeting (because the date for a joint councils' meeting was not decided upon during the past meeting in May and the year is coming to an end on June 30, the CEC32 adjusted the focus of the discussion to analyze the reasons why the CEC and Presidents' Council have to convene)
 - i. Chancellor's Regulations A-660 Section I. 3A read. State law mandates that the CEC meet with PA/PTAs in the district. All members of the CEC and Presidents' Council have the opportunity to work on the agenda for a joint councils' meeting. During the last joint councils' meeting, information was requested from the Superintendent.
- 6. New business:
 - a. Determine and vote on date of the August 2019 Calendar & Business Meetings – considering that: Thursday, August 8 is the last day of summer school for elementary and middle schools
 - i. Motion to move the August 2019 Calendar & Business Meeting from the third Thursday in August to August 8th considering that schools are closed during the week of the third Thursday in August, presented by: Martha Bayona. Motion seconded by: Desines Rodriguez. All members approved the motion.
- 7. Executive session
 - a. Called to discuss the 2018-2019 Superintendent's Evaluation
 - b. Motion to move into Executive Session presented by Martha Bayona. Motion seconded by: Annie Ross. All members approved the motion.
 - c. Motion to invite Paola deKock, CEC liaison, the DOE FACE Division, and Silvia Belmonte, CEC32 Administrative Assistant presented by: Martha Bayona. Motion seconded by: Desines Rodriguez. All members approved the motion.

Executive Session Start: 8:15 PM

- a. Motion to approve Superintendent's Evaluation, as worked on collaboratively by the Council, and to finish the last section of Part III and all of Part IV via e-mail, presented by Martha Bayona. Motion seconded by: Desines Rodriguez. All members approved the motion.
- b. Motion to end Executive Session presented by: Martha Bayona. Motion seconded by: All members approved the motion.

c. Executive Session ended 8:59 PM	
8. Adjournment: 9:00 PM	
APPROVAL OF MONTHLY CALENDAR AND BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES	May 2019 - Approved [Met Quorum]
NOTE: All meetings are recorded for future availability/submission upon request at the CEC D32 office.	
ADJOURNMENT	Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM
SUBMITTED BY:	Silvia Belmonte, Administrative Assistant

Approved on: July 18, 2019

Recording Secretary