



# COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 15

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

[CEC15@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:CEC15@schools.nyc.gov) | tel. 718-935-4267 | [facebook.com/CECD15](https://facebook.com/CECD15) | [CECD15.org](http://CECD15.org)

## Business Meeting Minutes

Approved on 03/31/2020

Date: Tuesday, January 7, 2020

Time: 6 p.m.

Location: 131 Livingston St, Room 504

### BUSINESS AGENDA (as posted)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call (2 min)
2. PTA of P.S. 1 Request - Francisco Coatl and Claudia Cuateco (10 min)
3. President's Report - Camille Casaretti, CEC15 President (8 min)
4. Finalize SCA Priority List (20 min)
5. Kids PAC Presentation - Brooke Dunn Parker, Margaret Kelley & Naila Rosario (20 min)  
Adjournment

Call to order at 6:00 p.m.

### Interpreters were introduced

#### 1. Roll Call

##### Present:

Camille Casaretti, President  
Mark Bisard, Co-Vice President 1, IEP Rep  
Antonia Ferraro, Co-Vice President 2  
Bess Abrahams, Secretary  
Kimmerly Scott, Treasurer - left at 8:10 pm

Late: -

##### Excused:

Krystal Casson, Parliamentarian - Traveling for Work  
Francisca Montana, BPA - Family Emergency  
Anna Nadal Burgues, ELL Rep - Work Conflict  
Scott Powell - Sick  
Kathy Park Price - Family Emergency

Absent: -

#### 2. PTA of P.S. 1 Request - Francisco Coatl and Javier Salamanca

- Francisco stated that for the community what would make the most sense is instead of building a Pre-K between 2nd and 3rd Ave, the Pre-K is housed in the mini-building of PS1.
- Parents would have to cross 3rd Ave commuting from one location to another with small children, and it's well known that Avenue has heavy traffic where traffic accidents involving pedestrians have occurred.
- The area is also highly industrial: recently there was a fire in one the warehouses in 45th and 3rd. PS1 was evacuated, but how would it work in case there is a Pre-K between 2nd and 3rd Ave?
- The mini building (trailer) smells like gas. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd grade children are affected by the smell. *\*\*The smell was a short term incident due to a fire drill. When there is a drill the boiler automatically shuts and the gas is shut, but the smell lingers even though the boiler is functioning properly.\*\**
- Best case scenario is the mini-building (50 years old now) is demolished, and the Pre-K is built there instead.
- The Principal said that there is room in the main school for 70 children (8 classes) whose classrooms are currently in the mini-building
- Trinity Church is hosting a Pre-K, but the lease is up at the end of the 2021 school year.



## COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 15

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

[CEC15@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:CEC15@schools.nyc.gov) | tel. 718-935-4267 | [facebook.com/CECD15](https://www.facebook.com/CECD15) | [CECD15.org](http://CECD15.org)

### 3. President's Report - Camille Casaretti, CEC15 President

- Welcome everyone back after the long break.
- **Update on BHS request for more classroom space:** The Office of District Planning will share updates about the Building Utilization Plan (a legal document that dictates how much space each school can utilize when there is a charter colocated in that building). CEC15 will review how the space is allocated and provide input to the PTA.
- **School Construction Authority Capital Plan Presentation** - Joint Meeting with CEC members and the D15 Presidents' Council, Jan 28 at PS 24.
- **Chancellor's Town Hall** is scheduled tentatively for Wed, June 10. June Business Meeting rescheduled to June 2.
- **Science Saturday**, May 2 at PS 130. Seeking volunteers to organize and set up.
- **Update from Office of District Planning on Participatory Action Research** for the rezoning of SubDistrict 3 and the Red Hook area:
  - *The NYCDOE issued two Scopes of Service Needs soliciting proposals for Participatory Action Research (PAR) and Diversity, Equity and Integration (DEI) services related to rezoning work in District 15*
  - *The NYCDOE received three PAR proposals and one DEI proposal*
  - *The DEI Proposal is from the NYU Metropolitan Center for Research on Equity and the Transformation of Schools*
  - *The PAR proposals were from the following three vendors:*
    - *Public Science Project (PSP), Brooklyn College, City University of New York*
    - *Center for Public Research and Leadership (CPRL), Columbia University*
    - *WXY Studio*
  - *The NYCDOE has reviewed the submissions and conducted follow-up phone calls with each vendor to discuss the details of each proposal*
  - *The NYCDOE is aiming to choose a vendor in the next 1-2 weeks*
  - *The NYCDOE will be offering times in the coming days to discuss the proposals with CEC members*
- **Zoning** is one of the CECs primary responsibilities. Members are expected to be involved in the PAR process, and to represent the voice of the school communities that they liaise with. Possible vote in April.

*CEC15 Members expressed concerns on the timeline for PAR and how vendors would be selected. Superintendent Skop discussed the differences in populations between Sunset Park and SubDistrict 3. She will talk to the Office of District Planning regarding next steps. There are only 3 Calendar Meetings until a possible vote. Superintendent Skop offered her office for CEC Members to meet with ODP if it was more convenient.*

### 4. Finalize SCA Priority List

**P.S. 896** - Camille Casaretti reported that Principal Rodriguez **would like the multi purpose room**, which operates as the gym and auditorium and cafeteria, and was the former chapel, to be **soundproofed**. The ceilings are pitched with painted tin tiles. Soundproofing would be rather complicated due to various factors. She asked if we could explore alternative solutions. **Perhaps sound dampening room dividers.**

**P.S. 516** - Camille Casaretti reported that Principal Knudson the **need for a door in order to access the play yard/parking lot**. Currently students are required to leave the building and walk down the block to the play area entrance. They would also like **air conditioning in the multipurpose room** and believe that the negotiation could be made with the Diocese, as they use the space for Church events as well. The space gets very hot and is used throughout the day. They can not leave the doors open as it is a safety risk. All of their Smart Boards are no longer under warranty. They will request Reso A funding. **Floor of the Dance Studio needs repair or to be refinished.**



## COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 15

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

[CEC15@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:CEC15@schools.nyc.gov) | tel. 718-935-4267 | [facebook.com/CECD15](https://facebook.com/CECD15) | [CECD15.org](http://CECD15.org)

**P.S. 261** - PTA President Christine Egan reported via email that they would like a **renovation of the children's bathrooms**. Most of the bathrooms in the school building have never been renovated, and they are in appalling condition. Plus, there is currently only one adult bathroom. They need an additional **adult bathroom for teachers, staff and parents** to use. They are a school of 800 students who need and deserve renovated bathrooms that function well.

**P.S. 130** - Camille Casaretti reported that Principal Nunziata needs a new **PA system**.

**P.S. 142 (building 15K146)** - Mark Bisard reported that the school is experiencing heating problems and may require a new **heating system**.

*\*\*\*Due to the first part of the agenda running over time, it was agreed by the Council that KidsPAC would present and then the SCA Priority List vote would continue after the [Special Session](#)\*\*\**

### 5. Kids PAC Presentation - Brooke Dunn Parker, Margaret Kelley & Naila Rosario

- Kids PAC is a Political Action Committee with a goal to advocate for better schools and to inform parents about candidates who support education.
- Kids PAC has an annual education conference with updates on issues affecting public schools to organize parents for collective advocacy.
- The Conference has been held in Manhattan for the last 2 years. Asking for CEC15 support to bring it to Brooklyn this year. Can CEC 15 sponsor with helping to promote the event, be a part of the workshops if possible, and also help with the planning.
- **This year's KidsPAC Conference will be on March 7th, in Urban Assemblies, District 13, from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm.**
- Candidate Surveys: KidsPAC looks at highly contested elections from city to state, and presidential. This detailed survey shows where the candidate stands on public school policies that relate to Charter schools, testing and teachers evaluations, class size, Mayoral Control, and co-locations. Endorsements are done matching the KidsPAC legislative agenda.
- The legislative agenda is a living document that is designed according to educational needs
- This agenda is taken to City Agencies, State Agencies, Albany, and the agenda is pushed to be materialized in policy.

*\*\*\*The Business Meeting continued after the [Special Session](#)\*\*\**

### Finalize SCA Priority List (Continued)

CEC15 Members reviewed the list and decided to rank the top 5 priorities as follows:

1. P.S. 15 PA System
2. P.S. 261 Renovation of the student bathrooms
3. P.S. 130 Exterior Elevator
4. P.S. 130 Windows require replacement or repair due to construction buildup on the sills after exterior renovation. Many of the windows can not open.
5. P.S. 124 Security cameras outside the building

### Follow Up from Previous CEC15 Request to Superintendent Skop on P.S. 676 and the Re-Imagine Schools Proposals

Ursula Koffer, D15 Teacher Development and Evaluation Coach (TDEC), reported that P.S. 676 has been selected to go to the next round of the Re-Imagine Schools Grant with their "All Hands on Deck" concept that utilized various vendors and community organizations as additional supports for learning. Only 90 proposals of 250 were accepted to go to the next round.

Regarding P.S. 676 Accountability Measures: schools will always be accountable for student achievement. Superintendent Skop has worked closely with P.S. 676's Principal Figueroa, on curriculum for the last 2 years. They are using Teachers College.



## COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 15

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

[CEC15@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:CEC15@schools.nyc.gov) | tel. 718-935-4267 | [facebook.com/CECD15](https://facebook.com/CECD15) | [CECD15.org](http://CECD15.org)

---

Superintendent Skop discussed the long history and reputation of P.S. 676, former P.S. 27, in the neighborhood. They have historically served an underprivileged population. This new Principal is making a difference, and finding the best opportunities for the children. The work is very intense. They have made great strides in a short period of time.

*Bess Abrahams- made a motion to Adjourn*

*Antonia Ferraro- seconded the motion*

*All in favor of Adjourning the Meeting*

**Adjournment at 8:40 p.m.**

**Krystal Cason**

Sun, Jan 5, 2020 at 6:06 PM

Hello,

I will be away on business the week of 1/6 and will not be in attendance for CEC15 meetings scheduled during this time.

Thanks

Krystal Cason

-----

**Kathy Price**

Tue 1/7/2020 2:24 PM

Saida,

Hi there! I'm dealing with a personal emergency and won't be able to attend tonight's meeting.

Best,

Kathy

-----

**Anna Nadal Burgues**

Tue 1/7/2020 2:27 PM

Happy New Year and Thanks for your emails!

I'm sorry to let you know that I can not attend tonight's meeting due to a job interview.

I'm committed to submit the info about my schools for the DCEP 15 tomorrow morning.

Thanks for your understanding

Anna