



# 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)

**APPROVED 2020/10/06**

## September Calendar Meeting

Via Teleconference

Tuesday, September 29, 2020 - 6:30 - 9:00 p.m.

### AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Roll Call (2 min)
2. Approval of Minutes - Bess Abrahams, CEC15 Secretary (8 min)
3. Introduction to CEC15 (3 min)
4. Teleconference Protocol (2 min)
5. President's Report - Camille Casaretti, CEC15 President (10 min)
6. District 15 Report - Superintendent Skop (10 min)
7. SubDistrict 3 Rezoning and Participatory Action Research Update (45 min)
8. Public Comments and Concerns (20 min)
9. Q & A (10 min)
10. CEC15 Member Questions and Comments (15 min)
11. Old Business (2 min)
12. New Business (15 min)  
Public comment and Vote on CEC15 Statement: [Success Academy Revision Request](#)
13. Adjournment

### **Call to Order at 6:31 pm**

#### **Roll Call**

#### **Present:**

Camille Casaretti, President  
Antonia Ferraro, Co-Vice President 1  
Kimmerly Scott, Treasurer  
Bess Abrahams, Secretary  
Cateia Rembert, Parliamentarian  
Tia Schellstede, BPA  
Claudia Lechuga, Member  
Krystal Cason, Member  
Mark Bisard, IEP Rep

#### **Excused Late:**

Councilmember Iván Banda (excused - at charter hearing)

**2. Introduction to CEC15:** read aloud

**3. Teleconference Protocol:** read aloud

#### **4. Approval of Minutes - Bess Abrahams, CEC15 Secretary**

- a. Minutes from [2020 09 08](#) Calendar Meeting

***Motion to approve the minutes from September 8, 2020 - Bess Abrahams***

***2nd motion to approve the minutes from September 8,, 2020 - Cateia Remebert***

***Minutes from September 8,, 2020 meeting approved unanimously by 9 members present.***



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### 5. **President's Report** - Camille Casaretti, CEC15 President

- Our CEC Members have been assigned liaison schools and have been reaching out to D15 Principals to schedule meetings in hopes of providing support where needed. You can find your school liaison [here in this link](#).
- We also know that our schools and teachers need a lot of support in this transition to remote learning. The Brooklyn North Office is offering a large variety of ongoing Professional Development classes. The schedule can be found on their website: <https://brooklynnorth.strongschools.nyc>
- Our families need support, too. Last Monday, during our weekly Diversity, Equity and Inclusion session, we were visited by Dr. Susan Green, Senior Administrator of Social Emotional Learning and Design at the Department of Education along with two representatives from [Sanford Harmony](#). Their social emotional learning program for Pre-K-6th grade students is designed to foster inter gender communication and understanding, connection, and community, both in and outside the classroom, and develop boys and girls into compassionate and caring adults.
- [Social Emotional Learning Resources](#)
- [DEI Session Topics](#)
- Other upcoming meetings include an Education Council Consortium Meeting with Chancellor Carranza scheduled for this Saturday morning.
- The Chancellor said we've had a billion dollars in cuts from the DOE, and school budgets have been untouched, yet our schools need more funding than ever before. Stripping down our Public Schools to a bare minimum is just not going to work.
- CEC15 wrote a letter to Governor Cuomo in the late Spring about the State Ed Budget. The ECC will be sending a follow up letter requesting more money be set aside for our schools.
- On Thursday, October 1 at 6:30 pm The Citywide Council on Special Education and we will be discussing a Charter School Hearing that is taking place tomorrow night.
- CEC15 is still seeking a English Language Learner Representative and a Student Member for the Council.

### 6. **District 15 Report** - Superintendent Skop

7. **Report by Jennifer Goldberg from Supt Janice Ross' office**, Director of Advanced Academic Access. Office of School Support and Supervision for High Schools in Districts 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 23, 32.

### 8. **SubDistrict 3 Rezoning and Participatory Action Research Update**

#### 9. **Q & A (10 min)**

Q: Can someone describe what is currently inequitable within the seven elementary schools in the D 15 SubDistrict 3?

ODP: Embedded in part of [the data in the presentation](#) is a view of the demographic disparities and utilization differences across the schools is part of it.

Superintendent Skop: Not only is it a demographic inequity and segregation, but it is also a question of economic inequity as well. There are schools in District 15, especially in the Sub Zone 3 that are in fact geographically segregated. There is a degree of inequity that comes from geographic segregation, in that there is a difference in, for example, income level and resources available to schools that are not Department of Ed. Resources: some D15 schools are very fortunate in terms of PTA funds. They are able to provide extra opportunities that other schools that do not have that kind of resource cannot provide.

Q: Will the elementary GNT programs in D15 proceed as usual? How do you plan to test four year olds this year?



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Superintendent Skop: There hasn't been instructions from Central in that regard. The District is waiting on guidance from the Chancellor about G&T, and the Chancellor.

Q: If it's only a potential rezoning, what would happen if there was no rezoning?

ODP: The word potential is being used until it's materialized through an actual proposal. There's also a lot of uncertainty with school reopening, and ODP is sensitive to that and how the situation evolves this fall. Also, the findings and recommendations from the PAR team play an important role as it could lead the process in one direction or another.

### **10. CEC15 Member Questions and Comments (15 min)**

Q: Going back to how the hybrid model/Remote learning will work, in the part of the lesson and independent work, it's not clear how feedback will be provided to the student.

Superintendent Skop: It's just a variation of the in person classroom. The teacher would call kids to her desk or sit in a small group or sit independently and provide feedback to the Children. In the remote part it's called office hours. It means that a teacher can transition this to an e-platform. Office hours does not indicate a deficit, just delivered differently. Feedback and support like these may not happen every day. It's no secret that there is a shortage of teachers. What the Superintendent's office is working on is on consistency. There is no reason why that work cannot be translated to something that's being done remotely so that everybody is using the same curriculum so that everybody is focusing on. Remote learning is an opportunity for kids to be engaged in something they're really interested in. It is not there yet. Teachers and Principals are scrambling right now to try and just make sure that everybody is getting something, but that is the end goal and although it will take a few weeks that is the direction.

Q: Do we have a sense of how many outstanding safety issues there are in schools in the district, particularly the ventilation?

Superintendent Skop: The District has not been given an updated report. The turnout for hybrid has been lesser than for remote learning. Principals have had three separate walk throughs and then another 4th walk through last week. One walk through done by facilities and engineers, a second walk through done by UFT, and then a third done by Brooklyn North and the District. This last one is done every year to make sure that schools are all ready to open. Last Friday, there was a 4th walk through, the District and BCO carried that one out to make sure that everything was in place, especially with PPE with temperature taking with all of those pieces. There is enough PPE, and only usable classrooms up to the standards are ready.

Q: Do you think members of the community who did not feel involved at the beginning of the process are feeling involved this time around?

Vanessa Knight: Yes, this time will be well received. Our children should get what everyone knew before the pandemic exposed with a magnifying glass all the problems. To close the gap of equality. It's time to take action, which is the missing piece.

Q: The approach to testing requires both the randomization of participants based on school population, but also the requirement for an opt in approval to be submitted is of concern in consideration of the increase of positive numbers of Covid. Is there still a consideration on the table that the DOE will make closing of schools for those communities that have larger upticks compared to city white stats mandatory? How about mandatory testing?

Superintendent Skop: There has not been instruction from Central regarding these issues.



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Q: What is the DOE going to do to regain the confidence of the Principals about their statement expressing lack of it?

Superintendent Skop: That letter expressed a vote of no confidence because there was this consistent roll out at the last minute decisions and teachers and Principals would find out not because of Central Communications. The District is very committed to advocate for teachers, and students in any manner the district can advocate. There are political issues that the executive level is not involved in.

Q: What would happen with the shortage of teachers if we go all remote?

Superintendent Skop: There is hiring being done, sub teachers will be hired for longer. This has to be worked out because there is a high need to be able to suffice the District needs.

### 10. New Business

- a. *Vote on CEC15 [Statement regarding Success Academy Revision Request](#)*  
*Camille Casaretti made a Motion to approve the letter Supporting Testing Suspension*  
*Ivan Banda second motion to approve the letter Supporting Testing Suspension*  
*9 in favor*  
*0 opposed*  
*The [Statement regarding Success Academy Revision Request](#) passed unanimously*
- b. *Park Slope Collegiate will be joining a demonstration on Thursday to remove metal detectors from the building.*  
*Draft resolution to be approved at a later meeting.*
- c. *Report on call with the Board of Regents on CSA Resolution: Camille Casaretti, CEC15 President, spoke with the ECC Steering Committee and 2 members from the Board of Regents. They are still reviewing the Resolution but found some lack of clarity in the Resolution as to who to cede control of the schools over to.*

### 13. Adjournment

**Adjournment 9:02 p.m.**

***Motion to adjourn the meeting - Antonia Ferraro, 2nd motion, Kimmerly Scott.***

***The motion passed unanimously by all members present.***