



COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 15

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

CEC15@schools.nyc.gov | tel. 718-935-4267 | facebook.com/CECD15 | CECD15.org

March 28, 2023
Calendar Meeting

President's Report - Camille Casaretti

Exciting news about the CCEC Elections - Last night the Presidents' Council hosted the candidates' forum and did a great job moderating. The candidate statements are posted on the DOE website as will be the video of the forum. Voting will take place after all of the candidate forums have been completed, The voting period runs between April 21 and May 9. You must have a NYCSA account to vote. Please reach out to your parent coordinator asap if you don't have a NYCSA account.

CCEC Election Information:

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/get-involved/families/Community-and-citywide-education-councils-cecs/elections-2023-community-and-citywide-education-councils>

CCEC Candidate Statements:

<https://apps.schools.nyc/CECProfiles>

<https://apps.schools.nyc/CECProfiles/CandidateListByDistrict/15>

NYCSA account:

<https://www.schoolsaccount.nyc/>

Middle school admissions

Offers for NYC public middle schools will be released after school hours on Tuesday, April 25.

Eighth grade families will receive an email when your offer is available. You can access your offer through: MySchools.nyc, Your child's school guidance counselor, or at A Family Welcome Center.



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DOE Budget- PEP voted last Wednesday to approve the preliminary budget prior to their vote on the FSF weights. Our comptroller Brad Lander has called this a “premature and meaningless exercise.” The open questions are exhaustive:

1. We need the final approval of the state budget before a vote should happen
2. We want to know how will the DOE allocate the additional \$90 million required by the new FSF weights, and will the sum be additional or will it supplant another program?
3. How will school enrollment be projected and will it relate to the budget - the DOE has already revealed at City Council hearings that there will be additional, unspecified cuts to school budgets next fall as a result of \$800 million in cuts to the DOE as a whole.

The Alliance for Quality Education (AQE) shared that *New York State is on the verge of fully fully funding 100% of Foundation Aid for the first time since its creation. The promised 3 year phase-in will be delivered in the enacted budget when it is finalized in just over a week.*

If we want Foundation Aid to have its intended impact, we have more work to do. Governor Hochul is pushing for a massive expansion of charter schools in NYC, which would siphon off the school aid increase. And NYC public and charter schools are both struggling with enrollment declines due to fewer school age children living in NYC. Charter schools have been asking the Board of Regents to modify their charters due to the inability to meet enrollment targets. Follow the link in the chat to tell Albany: Do NOT raise the Cap.

[DO NOT RAISE THE CHARTER CAP:](https://actionnetwork.org/letters/dont-raise-the-cap/?link_id=0&can_id=e162a5e988b2cf9c89a105c454340eee&source=email-ny-doesnt-need-more-charter-schools&email_referrer=email_1854789&email_subject=ny-doesnt-need-more-charter-schools)

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I'll hand the floor over to Antonia to report on the most recent Charter School Hearing in D15:

Charter Hearings - Antonia testified in opposition to a revision to Brooklyn Prospect Sunset Yards elementary and middle schools. The revision is an example that demonstrates the lack of need for more charters. Due to enrollment challenges BPC has decided to reduce opening enrollment at Sunset Yards and change grades served from 55 students in Kindergarten to 25 in 5th grade. The charter stated that they were concerned that their elementary school would simply be poaching students from their existing Brooklyn Prospect Charter. It's an admission



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that the district lacks need. They held on to this dormant charter for three years before opening. We call such dormant charters, zombie charters. BPC's revision highlights the need to put firm deadlines on use of the charter. BPC should really have to reapply for the charter based on current district need, not be able to reshuffle and reduce.