



COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 15

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October 22, 2024
Calendar Meeting

President's Report - Antonia Ferraro Martinelli

Welcome to CEC15's October Calendar meeting. We are here at a beautiful new school in District 15 - PS 456, The Elizabeth Jennings School for Bold Explorers at 489 State Street

Rob Aguilar is here from Alex Avilés office.

Introduce Principal Malika Johnson-Willis.

I also want to introduce the principal of the Khalil Gibran International Academy, which is located in the new building as well, Principal Amanda Hunter.

Introduce new Family Leadership Coordinator Michelle Oritz mortiz57@schools.nyc.gov

Introduce new CEC member Kwame Egerton

Kwame Egerton is a parent from PS 15. He will liaise with PS 32, IS 136, PS261/ D75 - 369, IS 136/MS 821

I am really sad to report that Dominika Jaworski Turkcan resigned and canceled her gmail account.

CEC15 is formally announcing a vacant seat for a MLL representative. CEC members will have to take on additional liaison assignments with four schools. If any members can volunteer to take on an additional school let me know. The available schools are PS 1, PS 131, PS 154, MS 428.

Happy Italian American Heritage Month to everyone. In honor of the month I reread the book, "Murder in Matera" by a District 15 parent & author Helen Stapinski. The author goes on a hunt for the truth about her immigrant ancestors and in the process unravels the myths that we tell ourselves about them. This book is where I first read about the 1924 exclusion act. My ancestors came from Sicily in 1920. At that point 200,000 Italians were entering the US every year. 4 years later and (100 years ago) Congress enacted the 1924 exclusion act, which restricted

the immigration of certain groups. Italians were one of those groups. The act developed through congressional hearings in 1911 that centered around the theories of a particular eugenicist (Cesare Lombroso) who believed that Southern Italians were inherently prone to criminality. One hundred years later we hear loud echoes of this sentiment every time locals protest a new migrant shelter.

It is also Hindu Heritage Month and of course Diwali is Nov. 1. And in honor of Hindu Heritage Month and Diwali, I read “Sita’s Ramayana” by Samhita Arni and Moyna Chitrakar. I think this might be the most beautiful book ever. It is the story of Diwali told from the perspective of the female character, Sita who finds herself imprisoned by men both good and evil. War blurs the lines of good and evil. My favorite quote is, “Violence breeds violence, and an unjust act only begets greater injustice.” **I wish a bright and hopeful Diwali to all who celebrate the holiday.**

Some Updates & Reminders:

4 Joint Presidents’ Councils meetings have been added to our schedule.

The Presidents’ Council will host and provide links for 2 virtual meetings
Mon. Nov 25 6:30 pm - They wish to discuss PTA Equity and Afterschool Programs
Mon. Feb 24 6:30 pm -

CEC15 will host two in-person meetings
Tues. Dec. 10 Calendar/Business Meeting which will be held at PS 516 Annex - 4308 4th Avenue at 6:30 pm - This will be a forum for the public and PTA members to share SCA capital plan projects.

Fri. Jan. 24 Legislative Breakfast at Brooklyn Borough Hall

The Annual PTA Fun Run is Saturday, October 26, 2024

Join the Brooklyn PTA Fun Run on Saturday, October 26, 2024 at 10 AM. Bib pickup and pre-race activities will begin at 9:00 AM. The PTA Fun Run demonstrates the tremendous strength of our local public school communities. Parents, students, and educators run to collectively raise funds for our neediest schools and uplift the full school community. The Fun Run is a 3.3 mile loop, starting and finishing on the main park drive just outside the LeFrak Center. As a fun run, we welcome everyone-- young, old, experienced and not, runners, walkers, strollers, tricycles, scooters, wheelchairs-- all are invited to join!

[Share link in Chat](#)

The Annual PTA Fun Run is Saturday, October 26, 2024

[Please register here!](#)

Also on Saturday, Oct. 26, 2024 at 8:00 am - 2:00 pm NYC Public schools is hosting an event called Safe Streets, Safe Schools - A Community Call to Action at the High School for Fashion Industries, 225 West 24th Street, New York, NY 10011

This is an opportunity to hear from New York City Public Schools and other city agencies on interventions and resources for students and families available to mitigate community violence.

Childcare available. Breakfast, and Lunch included.

[Share link in Chat](#)

Register here

<https://learndoe.org/ospp/>

The Panel for Education Policy has a new email address to simplify your communications with the entire NYC Board of Education. No need to write individually to each member unless you want to.

[Share link in Chat](#)

Please send your comments on ANY school related issue to: panel@schools.nyc.gov

I attended the PEP meeting on Wednesday, September 25, 6pm at the High School of Fashion Industries (225 West 24th Street, New York, New York 10011). I met a parent who is unhappy with the quality and quantity of movies shown during recess on bad weather days. I referred this parent to her liaison and fellow SLT members to try to work collaboratively to find ways to enrich indoor recess.

The next PEP meeting is Oct. 30. M.S. 131 100 Hester Street, Manhattan
Speaker sign up is from 5:30 - 6:15 pm.

Tomorrow evening I will be attending a virtual Chancellors' Town Hall

CCECPresidents have been invited to a meeting with our new Chancellor, Melissa Aviles-Ramos on Wednesday October 23rd from **5:30pm – 6:30pm**.

And Thursday evening Oct 24th at 6pm, FACE is holding a virtual conversation to gather suggestions for changes to Chancellor's Regulation D-210. Section VI of Chancellor's Regulation D-210 ("Citywide and Community Education Council Code of Conduct and Complaint Procedures: Anti-Discrimination and Anti-Harassment Policy"), is undergoing a

review. I am unable to attend but I have assigned VP2 Vanessa Gonzalez Ueoka to be my designee to represent the council. If you have any feedback on [CR D-210](#) please share it with Vanessa in advance of Thursday evening.

Location Change for Nov. 19 Meeting

We will not be meeting at MS 88. We have not confirmed a location yet, but we are inquiring to use the black box theater at the Brooklyn High School of the Arts, HS 656. We are waiting for confirmation that the space has a screen and Wifi access.