



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

November 28, 2023

Calendar Meeting

Vice President's Report - Antonia Ferraro Martinelli

Welcome everyone to this meeting at the Shirley Chisholm Family Residence in Sunset Park. This is a first for us. We normally meet in school buildings, but as our district has welcomed so many newcomers we wanted to go to those families and provide them with a forum to speak out about their challenges. We also have families in this district who are very dedicated to the work of mutual aid that supports new neighbors. I can tell you that many community members have expressed tremendous concerns to me about families forced to move to other shelters. They are actively advocating for policy solutions to prevent future forced transfers of families with school-aged children. Academically, socially, emotionally, and physically this is not a best practice. I would call it a worst practice. So I am excited to be speaking about this issue, in this brand new space that is a tremendous resource to our entire community, not just the residents. Thank you to Program Director Ania Bell for supporting our council's needs and making this meeting possible. We hope to have future meetings here to give families and students in temporary housing a voice.

Updates:

Budget Cuts

Mayor Adams announced a plan to slash 5% of the DOE's overall budget, which could take effect as early as mid-December. He has asked city agencies to submit plans for these cuts by Dec. 8. He has threatened to make a third round of cuts of equal size before June. Funding will be cut for after-school programs, early childhood education, computer science, community schools, mental health and more.

Here are some of the mayor's unacceptable cuts to school funding:

- *\$120 million in cuts to 3K/ pre-K program*
- *\$286 million in cuts to funded DOE positions*
- *\$96 million in cuts to after-school, substitutes and other per-session pay and Summer Rising*
- *Cuts to hours, days and ages for Summer Rising*
- *\$109 million from 653 schools due to enrollment*



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

The Mayor rationalizes these cuts with the false political narrative that New York City is about to fall off a fiscal cliff when in fact City revenues are higher than expected, the city's reserves are at a near-record high, and state aid has increased.

[Tell your Council Member to reject these cuts](#)

Mayoral Control Hearings

<https://www.nysed.gov/new-york-city-mayoral-control-hearings>

New York City Mayoral Control Hearings

NYSED shall conduct a comprehensive review and assessment of the overall effectiveness of mayoral control of New York City schools. Members of the public—including students, parents, teachers, school administrators and staff, and individuals with experience and expertise in education policy and school governance—are invited to provide feedback on their experiences, assessments, and/or review of the mayoral control system of New York City schools. Members of the public may participate (a) by providing oral testimony at one of five public hearings (see [Request to Testify](#)) and/or (b) by submitting written electronic testimony by January 31, 2024 at 5:00pm (see [Submit Written Electronic Testimony](#)). Information on the date, time, and location of each public hearing is below. Please be advised that each in-person public hearing will be recorded and broadcast.

- [Request to Testify](#)
- [Submit Written Electronic Testimony](#)

OPEN STREETS - The application for Open Streets is now officially open! Check out the application and eligibility requirements [here](#), and be sure to get your application in before 1/31/24.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Jonathan Davis has volunteered to chair the communications committee. The committee will create a set of communications recommendations in collaboration with the AA. The recommendations will be shared at a future Business Meeting.



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

Class Size Reduction

- *Leslie King reports on Class Size Matters, AQE and NYC Kids PAC webinar on lower class size*

UPCOMING DATES

Tues. Dec. 12, Business/Calendar & Joint Meeting w/ Presidents' Council - PS 321

This is an opportunity for PTAs and the public to share school building priorities for our SCA list. During the business portion of the meeting members will also share their school reports

Thurs. Dec. 14, Chancellor's Townhall - MS 51

Please send cec15@schools.nyc.gov your questions for the chancellor

Fri. Jan. 5, CEC15 Legislative Breakfast - Brooklyn Borough Hall

This is another joint meeting with the PTA presidents' council

I will now turn it over to Superintendent Alvarez and Principal Ip