



COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 15

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

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February 27, 2024

Calendar Meeting

President's Report - Antonia Ferraro Martinelli

Good evening everyone. I hope you were able to enjoy your winter break and the final days of Lunar New Year.

We have a very packed agenda tonight, so I am going to be brief.

HS members

High School members are valued members of Community Education Councils. While HS members cannot vote and don't count towards quorum, their opinions and experiences are critically important for members to hear. Tonight we have two new HS members, Leroy Miller and Annalie Diatta. They will be attending our meetings going forward. I believe they are on the zoom. Would you like to introduce yourself?

District 15 events:

Project Based Learning /SEM Share Fair Wed. Mar 13 - Industry City

Universal Screeners

District 15 is planning a Family Workshop on Using Universal Screener Data to Inform Instruction, for April 9, 2024, from 10 - 11 am. I will share my screen so you can pick up the QR code from the flier. We will also share the flier on our website and in email.

Covid Relief Funds

Later we will be voting on a [Resolution in Support of Sustaining Key Education Programs Funded with Expiring Federal COVID-19 Relief](#) that was provided to us by the Emergency Coalition to Save Education Programs. They are approx 150 organizations working with CM Rita Joseph to bring attention to the programs at stake.

Loss of Covid Relief Funds will impact District 15 schools. I know our Superintendent will be working with principals to mitigate this as much as possible but the threat is real. Remember those shelter coordinators we fought for? They could be gone, along with many other vital programs.



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Over the last few years, the NYC Department of Education has been using \$7 billion in temporary federal COVID-19 relief funds for important programs, such as 3-K, preschool special education, 450 school social workers, community schools, school nurses, restorative justice, 60 school psychologists, 75 coordinators working in homeless shelters, bilingual staff, translation and interpretation, dyslexia and literacy initiatives, and more. The federal funds will run out in June 2024, and there is not yet a plan for what comes next. The State Budget is due April 1 and the City Budget is due in June. There is little time to act.

Please take a look at the one-pagers that illustrate the risks to programs in schools across our City Council Districts 33, 38, 39, and 40. City Council will hold hearings on March 18th. Speak out! Tell them what's at stake for your school.

Add to chat:

[guidance online](#) with step-by-step instructions for signing up to testify and testifying. You can register to testify at <https://council.nyc.gov/testify/>

[E-mail your state legislators](#) and other key decision-makers and tell them to reject this harmful change and make sure the final budget has a substantial increase in funding for our schools to save important education programs.

Join the Call to Action yourself! Individuals and organizations are calling upon elected leaders to develop a plan to continue these essential programs. Sign the form at bit.ly/NYCCTA.

Get more involved by letting organizers know your interest through the online sign-on form: <http://bit.ly/SignCTA>

IBO- Independent Budget Office Resources will be presenting at our March 26 meeting at PS 230

Last year IBO created a video series called [Demystifying School Budgets](#) available on YouTube that walk through how to find and read a school budget. We've also recently published two reports that may be of interest to CECs: a report on NYC funding for early childhood programs



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called [Drifting From the Plan: Changes to Early Childhood Budgets](#) and another on the impact of expiring federal funds called [Programs At Risk: Assessing the Impact of the Mayor's PEG and Expiring Federal Covid-Era Funds On the Education Budget](#).