

**COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 28**  
**Minutes of Business, Calendar & Annual Meeting of**  
**[November 4, 2021]**

**ATTENDANCE**

<b>Member</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
Vijah Ramjattan	President	Excused
Barbara Williams	1st Vice President	Present
Ted Chang	2nd Vice President	Present
Nathifa Lewis	Recording Secretary	Present
Lu Zhao	Treasurer	Present
Nancy Lugassy	Member	Present
Sheleeza Deen	Member	Present
Shila Akter	Member	Unexcused
Cassandra Alexander	Member	Present
Elena Aminova	Member	Present
Rajwinder Kaur	Member	Excused

**NON-MEMBER ATTENDANCE**

Dr. Tammy Pate	Superintendent	Present
Bibi Matadin	FACE Liaison	Present

**CALENDAR MEETING**

Meeting was called to order by [ Barbara Williams] at [ 6:30 pm ] and New Borough Appointees were introduced Elena Aminova and Rajwinder Kaur.

**Superintendent's Report**

- Dr. Pate indicated we need to have a conversation about Traffic and Transportation issues
- Due to cancelled Safety Agents classes, there is a current shortage for schools. Some were moved from schools with multiple to ensure each school has at least one.
- The entire School District team are in communication in the individual schools trying to help directly support the numerous safety issues and walking schools almost daily
- Shared District Plan based on Chancellors Instructional Priorities to support students, families in multiple ways including language access and Technology. As well as support and create new district Leadership using multiple pathways.
- D28 leads the entire DOE in Special Education compliance
- Our District wide attendance is up to 91.3 from less than 90 last month
- D28 was ahead of the game and had SEL implemented a year and a half ago, but now we have to comply with the Citywide requirement. Families do have
- 2021 State test results have been released and is being analyzed. They were available in NYCSA on Oct 28.
- Brilliant NYC Scheduled November 18

**Member Reports**

**Barbara Williams**

- As Safety chair, there are a few issues. PS48 is asking for CEC assistance with addressing Drug activity and other dangerous conditions outside of school areas
- There is a push to put my Concerns about Bussing and Communications raised from

**Nathifa Lewis**

- PS48 is liaising with the community to show a strong presence there to combat the drug use in area
- Continued concern with Bussing. Routes are changing and students are missing instructional time.
- Lots of DESSA questions regarding cultural sensitivity when applying. More training and assessment needed

#### **Lu Zhao**

- Also concerned about safety
- DESSA survey, parents are asking for more education on what it is
- Elimination of G&T program caught parents by surprise without input from parents

#### **Nancy Lugassy**

- PS 196 and 101 do not have enough any crossing guards. Elementary schools need them

#### **Elena Aminova**

- Concerns about safety in district. Recent Incidents at Forest Hills HS and Russell Sage and we definitely need more police presence and patrolling.

#### **Sheleeza Deen**

- Safety and Bullying issues also raised at her liaison schools.
- Recognized Indigenous Heritage Month, Diwali and other celebrations recently occurring

#### **Guest Speakers/Special Guests**

##### **Office of District Planning**

- Total 5 year data shows 2% decrease in total enrollment. Some increase in charter school enrollment. There are 50 total schools in district across K to 12.
- Enough Elementary and middle school seat in district for residents, and projected to continue
- Numerous seats completed from previous Capital plan, and many in progress. This is closing gap for D75 seats need in particular in district.

##### **Steven Chernigoff**

- Brought greetings from Superintendent Schneider and indicated many of the great things happening in High Schools throughout the district
- Leadership is also communicating with schools and precincts regarding the issues of violence that have been occurring.

##### **Bibi Matadin**

- Reminder that D27 will be holding a meeting with Chancellor Porter on Tuesday November 9, 2021

#### **Lu Zhao - Resolution Opposing Removal of Geographic Priorities for Queens High Schools**

- Presented Draft Resolution based on the one recently passed by CEC26
- [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1cpXLC90puf1QyvHf3MFdeNdp\\_GZFTLo7YbvAA7jgtMs/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1cpXLC90puf1QyvHf3MFdeNdp_GZFTLo7YbvAA7jgtMs/edit)

#### **Elena Aminova – Resolution to Expand G& T Resolution Draft**

- Presented draft resolution to maintain current G&T program and add additional
- <https://docs.google.com/document/d/19wM78DP2VkohwjWRSFlaH0ISHZ34vonF/edit>

**Public Comment**

- Concerns expressed over lack of transparency with roll out of DESSA, Halting of the G&T and roll out of Brilliant NYC. Engagement
- Encouraged community to get to know the schools. Invite schools to meetings especially those who are new.
- Charging CEC to get South Side of Queens representation.
- Invitation by District 28 Action for Equity to Attend November 11 Forum “Talking About Race in NYC Classrooms” with speaker Tennessee Williams.
- Concern of potential overcrowding with new buildings going up in Forest Hills
- Forest Hills HS is already at 200% capacity
- Request to pass a resolution about bringing back Zoning
- Request to have more engagement with CB, there is a lack of communications
- Many issues on mayoral input, new high schools have been on CB12 agenda, invitation extended to Dr Pate and CEC to attend meetings on Third Wednesday of Every Month

**Vote to table Business Meeting**

All issues to be tabled to the Special meeting due to members observing Diwali.  
Unanimous Vote - Yes

**Meeting Adjourned at [8:15 pm]**

Quorum was established at [ 8:15 pm ]

**Business Meeting Tabled to 11/17**

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**Respectfully Submitted by**

Nathifa Lewis  
Recording Secretary