

COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 28
Calendar/Business Meeting Minutes
September 7, 2023

ATTENDANCE

Member	Position	Attendance
Vijah Ramjattan	President	Excused Absence
Lu Zhao	1st Vice President	Present
Nurun Swapna	2nd Vice President	Present
Nathifa Lewis	Recording Secretary	Present
Yutao Cheng	Treasurer	Present
Jay Lin	Member	Present
Julie Suh	Member	Present
Vacant Seat	Member	
Quentin Mezetin	Member	Present
Christine Sacristano	Member	Unexcused Absence
Adrianna Alicea	Member	Unexcused Remote
Simone Dornbach	Member	Present

NON-MEMBER ATTENDANCE

Dr. Eric Blake	Acting Superintendent	Present
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CALENDAR MEETING Minutes

Meeting was called to order by 1st Vice President Lu Zhao at 6:37pm
 Roll call by Recording Secretary Nathifa Lewis and Quorum was met.

- 1st Vice President Zhao opened the meeting and gave greeting
- Acting Superintendent Dr. Eric Blake gave his report on what he's being working on in school year 2023
- Queens South High Schools Presentation by Superintendent Dr. Van Ess
- Dr. Van Ess spoke about upcoming meetings, town halls, projects and what she and her team has been working on for school year 2023. She also went QSHS District Mission and District Vision

Member Reports

- Council Members voiced concerns about schools that did not have AC during class session on first day of school
- District office team provided feedback regarding the lack of AC in certain schools
- Council Member gave feedback on his PC interview session for PS 203 and PS82

- Council Member voiced concerns that students were not aware of their class and teachers on the first day of school
- Council Member voiced concerns about the migrant crisis and asked where are these students being placed
- Council Member voiced concerns about school safety and gave an example of school doors being left opened
- Council Member voiced concerns about class size
- Council Member asked Dr. Blake if parents or parent leaders be invited to safety meetings with the NYPD
- Council Members asked about the school bus potential strike and what are the procedures in place should bus drivers go on strike
- Council Member asked Dr. Hall to elaborate on HMH curriculum across the district and to advise how it is being used within IEP program
- Council Member asked fellow members who have been endorsed by an organization called Moms of Liberty if they will reject any rhetoric of an extremist group. Question was asked on behalf of a parent.
- Council Members whose names were on Moms of Liberty list addressed questions accordingly

Public Comments

- Community Activist introduced herself and gave greetings. Also, encouraged the parents to attend CEC meetings. She also asked for more data pertaining to school performances and curriculum
- Community Activist and Community Board Rep gave greetings and asked Dr. Blake to attend the next CB meeting
- Community Activist and UFT Rep gave greetings and provided an update to the Community.
- Speaker Adams office gave greetings and updates
- District 28 Family Leadership Coordinator Sonia Rueda gave greetings and updated the Community

Meeting Adjourned at 8:22pm

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES **ATTENDANCE**

Member	Position	Attendance
Vijah Ramjattan	President	Excused Absence
Lu Zhao	1st Vice President	Present
Nurun Swapna	2nd Vice President	Present
Nathifa Lewis	Recording Secretary	Present

Yutao Cheng	Treasurer	Present
Jay Lin	Member	Present
Julie Suh	Member	Present
Vacant Seat	Member	
Quentin Mezetin	Member	Present
Christine Sacristano	Member	Unexcused Absence
Adrianna Alicea	Member	Unexcused Remote
Simone Dornbach	Member	Present

Meeting was called to order by 1st Vice President Zhao at 8:33pm
 Roll call by Recording Secretary Nathifa Lewis

1st Vice President Lu Zhao asked candidate GK Kalyanaram to introduce himself

Council Members proceeded to interview the candidate and asked their specific questions

CEC28 candidate GK Kalyanaram proceeded with answering each question accordingly

Recording Secretary Nathifa Lewis made a motion to go into an executive session to discuss the candidate
 Seconded by 1st Vice President Lu Zhao

Council Members came out of executive session

1st Vice President Lu Zhao made a motion to vote on GK Kalyanaram candidacy

Roll call by Recording Secretary Nathifa Lewis

9 in favor; 0 opposed; 2 absent – Motion passed

GK Kalyanaram was announced as the newest CEC28 Council Member

Council Members discussed the removal of Member Christine Sacristano

Recording Secretary Nathifa Lewis made a motion to vacate the seat for Member Christine Sacristano

Roll call by Recording Secretary Nathifa Lewis

9 in favor; 0 opposed; 2 absent – Motion passed

Recording Secretary Nathifa Lewis explained the procedure to the Council on next steps to vacate the seat for Member Christine Sacristano

Recording Secretary Nathifa Lewis made a motion to table the School Liaison list for October's business meeting

Seconded by Member Quentin Mezetin

Motion was made by 1st Vice President Zhao to adopt August Meeting Minutes

Seconded by Recording Secretary Nathifa Lewis

1st Vice President Zhao made a motion to adjourn the business meeting

Seconded by Recording Secretary Nathifa Lewis

Business Meeting Adjourned at [9:30pm]

Respectfully Adopted by

Nathifa Lewis
Recording Secretary

APPROVED