

COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 28
Calendar/Business Meeting Minutes
January 2, 2025

ATTENDANCE

Member	Position	Attendance
Quentin Mezetin	President	Present
Lauren Clavin	1st Vice President	Present
Yutao Cheng	2nd Vice President	Present
Nathifa Lewis	Recording Secretary	Present
Tanya Wendt	Treasurer	Remote Present
Paquita Williams	Member	Present
Julie Suh	Member	Present
G.K Kalyanaram	Member	Present
Nurun Swapna	Member	Absent
Lu Zhao	Member	Present
Simone Dornbach	Member	Remote Present
Vacant Seat		

NON-MEMBER ATTENDANCE

Dr. Eric Blake	Superintendent	Remote Present
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Calendar Meeting Minutes

Meeting was called to order by 1st Vice President Quentin Mezetin at 6:40pm
Roll call by Recording Secretary Nathifa Lewis and Quorum was met.

- 1st Vice President Quentin Mezetin opened the meeting and gave greetings. He asked Spanish interpreters to give instructions in Spanish. He made an announcement and reminded everyone that CEC28 President Ramjattan resigned in December. He stated that the first line of business on calendar meeting will be to elect a new president. 1st Vice President Quentin Mezetin read the opening portion of the election script and asked if anyone would like to be protem.
- Recording Secretary Nathifa Lewis nominated herself to be protem and continued to read the script.
- Council Member Paquita Williams nominated Council Member 1st Vice President Quentin Mezetin for President
1st Vice President Quentin Mezetin accepted the nomination and gave his acceptance speech
Roll call by Recording Secretary Nathifa Lewis
10 in favor; 0 opposed; 0 abstention; 1 absent
- 1st Vice President Quentin Mezetin was elected as President
- President Mezetin took over script from Council Member Nathifa Lewis
- Council Member Lauren Clavin self-nominated herself for 1st Vice President
- Council Member Lu Zhao nominated Council Member Kalyanaram Gurumurthy for 1st Vice President

- Council Member Kalyanaram Gurumurthy accepted the nomination and gave his acceptance speech
- Council Member Lauren Clavin accepted the nomination and gave her acceptance speech
- Roll call by Recording Secretary Nathifa Lewis
- 6 in favor for member Lauren Clavin and 4 in favor for member G.K Gurumurthy; 0 opposed; 0 abstention; 1 absent
Recording secretary made a motion to vote again for 1st Vice President
Seconded by President Mezetin
Member G.K Gurumurthy announced that he would like to withdraw his nomination
Roll call by Recording Secretary Nathifa Lewis
10 in favor; 0 opposed; 0 abstention; 1 absent
- Member Lauren Clavin was elected 1st Vice President
- Superintendent Dr. Eric Blake gave his report and presented various topics/data. He started off by announcing new updates from the office of Chancellor Melissa Aviles-Ramos. He announced base on feedback that the chancellor mentioned, D28 office is working on updating new policies while maintaining curriculum alignment. He presented topics such as literacy proficiency, ELL, math proficiency, chronic absenteeism, and parent engagement. He also highlighted certain Principals that have reached milestones. He also highlighted certain schools that received certain grants.
- Dr. Benoit gave greetings and shared a video on behalf on Dr. Blake
- Dr. Hall gave greetings, wished everyone a happy new year
- Family Leadership Coordinator Sonia Rueda gave greetings.
- Queens PEP Representative, Adriana Alicea introduced herself and provided a brief update to the community
- Presentation by External Affairs Manager, Danielle Schaaff from School Construction Authority
- Council Members asked their questions pertaining to School Construction Authority
Danielle Schaaff from School Construction Authority answered and provided explanation
- President's Council President Gisselle Mendoza gave greetings
- Office of QBP Donovan Richards gave greetings and provided updates to the community and stakeholders
- President Mezetin gave all Principals in attendance to bring greetings

Public Comments

- D28 parent and activist voiced that she's in person to honor a parent leader in the D28 community who passed away tragically in a car accident. She wanted to highlight her work in the community.
- Community Activist from CB12 gave greetings and also voiced her sympathy for the parent that passed away. She also wants to Principals of schools that need help and funding to reach out to the CB12 for help and partnership.
- D28 parent voiced that she's back in person to ask once again for help for her child who is in need for services. Her child has not had services for over a year

and she's getting ready to be in kindergarten. She's asking the council members to assign a person or group to ensure these matters get handled as soon as possible.

- D28 Parent Leader gave greetings and spoke about PS 140 and is requesting CEC and District office partnership in elevating the school community concerns.
- Dr. Hall answered the parent question regarding PS 140.
- Family Leadership Coordinator Sonia Rueda answered questions pertaining to the parent that was seeking services for her child.
- UFT Rep gave greetings congratulated the newly elected CEC Presidents He provided updates to the community.

Member Reports

- Council Member gave an update on Resolution Urging the Panel for Educational Policy to Ensure Continuity in the Administration of the Specialized High Schools Admissions Test by Approving the Pearson Assessment Contract. He announced that it was passed by the PEP.
- Council Member voiced that she was absent the day the resolution was rejected but she would have voted yes since there isn't an alternative solution. She provided her own personal feedback from experience.
- Council Member congratulated Member Mezetin and Clavin on their new roles. She voiced that she's been working the SCA capital project and hoping that the schools who really need funding gets it.
- Council Member voiced concerns surrounding a proposed merge between two of her schools that she liaises with, the schools are PS40 and PS312. The schools claims that they do not have enough information about the merge since the pause. Council Member is asking the district office for clarification.
- Dr. Hall answered the member question pertaining to the merger.
- Council Member voiced concerns around flu and covid that is still much going around. He asked the people still take precaution and especially with the children. Council Member voiced that he is inspired by the parent that came in person with her small child that needs services. He voiced kids needs to be supported from a young age not until High School.
- Council Member gave greetings and provided positive feedback on the bus services. He also gave provided an update on his recent presentation at his liaison school at Queens Gateway and the recent financial aid workshop that he was a part of at the High School president's council. He also voiced that he is working with Dr. Van Ess to get a High School student member on the board.
- Council Member voiced the dishearten feeling that families and schools are feeling in regards to the lack of funding and SCA process. She thanks each school that filled out the SCA form. She also voiced that some may have not filled out the form because the of the lack of responses from SCA.
- Council Member gave feedback on his personal experiences with students from specialize High School. He voiced that majority of them are economically backward. He also congratulated Member Mezetin and Clavin on their new roles.

- FACE liaison Tameka Nurse-Cater gave greetings and congratulated the President and 1st Vice President on their new roles.
- President Mezetin announced various awareness for the month of January.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:15pm

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Member	Position	Attendance
Quentin Mezetin	President	Present
Lauren Clavin	1st Vice President	Present
Yutao Cheng	2nd Vice President	Present
Nathifa Lewis	Recording Secretary	Present
Tanya Wendt	Treasurer	Remote Present
Paquita Williams	Member	Present
Julie Suh	Member	Present
G.K Kalyanaram	Member	Present
Nurun Swapna	Member	Absent
Lu Zhao	Member	Present
Simone Dornbach	Member	Absent
Vacant Seat		

Meeting was called to order by President Mezetin at 9:26pm
Roll call by Recording Secretary Nathifa Lewis and Quorum was met

President Quentin Mezetin made a motion to approve Council Member Nurun Swapna in-person absent for December Calendar and Business Meeting.

Seconded by Recording Secretary Nathifa Lewis

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

President Quentin Mezetin made a motion to approve Council Member Julie Suh in-person and remote absent for December Calendar and Business Meeting.

Seconded by Recording Secretary Nathifa Lewis

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

Motion was made by President Mezetin to adopt December Calendar and Business Meeting Minutes

Seconded by Seconded by 2nd Vice President Yutao Cheng

President Mezetin dismissed Spanish interpreters

Council Members discussed and completed Capital Plan Request form for submission amongst themselves. Member Julie Suh volunteered to spearhead the completion of the form and make sure it is in good order with everyone's suggestion and approval before submission.

President Mezetin made a motion to adjourn meeting.
Seconded by Recording Secretary Nathifa Lewis

Business Meeting Adjourned at [10:10pm]

Respectfully Adopted by

Nathifa Lewis
Recording Secretary