

COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 28
Annual/Business Meeting Minutes
October 9th, 2025

ATTENDANCE

Member	Position	Attendance
Quentin Mezetin	President	Present
Lauren Clavin	1st Vice President	Present
Jennifer Sobers	2nd Vice President	Present
Chantel Chambers	Recording Secretary	Present
Olessia Bauer	Treasurer	Present
Lu Zhao	Member	Present
Amin El-Rowmeim	Member	Absent
Kenya Townsend	Member	Present
Annie Cok	Member	Present

NON-MEMBER ATTENDANCE

Dr. Eric Blake	Superintendent	Remote Present
Tameka Nurse-Carter	FACE Specialist	Present

Calendar Meeting Minutes

Meeting was called to order by Council Member Quentin Mezetin at 6:31pm
 Roll call was done by Recording Secretary Chantel Chambers and Quorum was met.

- President Quentin Mezetin opened the meeting, greeted everyone, thanked the members for all the work behind the scenes and asked Spanish Interpreters to provide instructions in Spanish. 1st VP Lauren Clavin provided chat etiquette
- President Quentin Mezetin spoke about gun violence and subway surfing in his report.
- Dr. Ellen Hagopian - Director, Queens Cancer Center of NYC Health+Hospitals/Queens presented on the negative consequences of vaping amongst young people. She spoke about anti-vaping curriculum that her and her team have been promoting.
- Superintendent Dr. Eric Blake gave his report and started with commending D28 community for always striving for diversity. He touched upon safety and collaboration with the NYPD. He also voiced that his priorities are improving the outcome in math and literacy. He confirmed that the district did see improvements in ELA and Math. Another priority will be to reduce chronic absenteeism. He voiced that they also need to continue to increase parent and family engagement and community partnership. He also touched on autism training. He voiced that the goal is for the city to hire 6,200 new teachers, and to train for paraprofessionals.

- Principal Signal was having technical issues so she could not present live. A video from Principal Signal was played for the community showcasing her school.
- Rajendra Jimenez-Jailall District Manager of Operations and Special Projects gave greetings and provided some updates on events and pilot projects
- Family Leadership Coordinator Sonia Rueda gave greetings and spoke about the workshops that she has already started and gave feedback on the workshops. She also praised the PCs on their hard work.
- President Mezetin asked the principals in attendance to give greetings
- President Mezetin went over October awarenesses
- President Mezetin announced that Council Member Din Tolbert resigned due an employment conflict therefore the council has another open seat
- President Mezetin asked the elected offices to bring greetings and announce any updates that they may have
- 2nd Vice President Jennifer Sobers went over the interview procedures with the candidates and community
- Council Members proceeded with the interview process. Each candidate introduced themselves and made a two-minute statement.
- Respective Council Members proceeded with asking each candidates the questions Council Members came up with.
- President Mezetin made a motion to move public comments before members reports
Seconded by 1st Vice President Lauren Clavin
Motion passed

Public Comments

- Former CEC28 member and community advocate thanked the members for their work and encourage them and the community to keep attending the meetings. She inquired about the class size law and asked if any programs in schools were cut.
- President Mezetin asked former member to email the CEC inbox so the members can investigate and get answers to her questions.
- D28 parent also commented on the class size law and asked for more updates since her school lost on ICT class and they're at their capacity.
- President Mezetin thanked the parent for bringing up her concerns and asked UFT Rep to advise and voiced that he will need to work on getting a class size law committee meeting happen soon
- UFT Rep gave greetings and updated the community on all the events and changes. He said he has seen schools that are 100% compliance regarding the class size but to asked parents to please continue to send concerns to the council.
- D28 parent, community leader, CB 12, NAACP member and DOE vendor, voiced that she's part of a ten-person team providing financial literacy programs. She

explained their organization supports principals with limited staff, helps PTAs with fundraising ideas, and works to engage and recognize parents especially since it's difficult to get parents involved outside major events like orientation or graduation. She emphasized the need to teach basics of money, credit, wealth, and success to promote financial stability and said they plan to partner with more District 28 schools this year, sharing her contact information for follow-up.

- CB 12 gave greetings. She provided updates on the new Jamaica rezoning plans. She is requesting all principals to reach out and establish your own relationships with the Community Board so they can help with funding etc.
- Representative from Senator Leroy Comrie office gave greetings and provided event updates
- D28 parent and her children gave greetings to the members and community

Member Reports

- Council Member gave feedback on her recent attended SCA meeting regarding the new space in D28. She spoke about a survey from the Department of Youth and Community Development. They use the data from this survey to determine how their block grant funds will be distributed. She also spoke about an organization called the City Tutors, it's a free program where, children and adults can get free tutoring, and you can also sign up to be a mentor. She also spoke about middle and high school admissions. She also voiced a couple of community events that's taking place
- Council Member gave feedback on her recent attended DLT and PS121 SLT meetings. She also provided feedback on her school visit to PS55 and PS121. She spoke about community boards and how they ask schools to give them a list of projects that they can vote on to help with financially. She also provided feedback on Jamaica Community Partnership; she voiced that they have helpful meetings like title1 which are part of all her schools that she liaises with.
- Council Member provided feedback on her recent school visit to PS354. She gave feedback on her school visit to PS48.
- Council Member gave her feedback on her recent school visit to MS157. She voiced that the principal wants to make the school more accessible. She also voiced that parents are still concern about the food served, more outdoor time at recess and more recess time.
- Council Member gave his feedback on recent attended SLT for PS54. He gave his feedback on recent school visit at PS303.
- Council Member gave feedback on her recent IEP meeting at PS206. She spoke about her plans to attend PS220 SLT in the coming weeks. She also shared that approximately 10 years ago, they had 655 students at its max and in 2015 data, but now it's dropping to almost 563. She voiced that the demographic breakdown and saw that, groups that were represented there, also had a big drop in a few categories.
- Council Member voiced that she has some schools lined up for visit in the coming weeks. She gave feedback on her Queens Borough President meeting and Chancellor State of the school.

- Council Member voiced concern with the bussing company. He attended various meetings pertaining to bussing issues. He provided feedback on the meeting he attended at tweed and PEP. He also provided feedback on his meeting with SCA regarding the new school building in D28 that he has been advocating for it be a D28 school. He also gave feedback on his PTA meeting at Q680.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:34pm

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
ATTENDANCE

Member	Position	Attendance
Quentin Mezetin	President	Present
Lauren Clavin	1st Vice President	Present
Jennifer Sobers	2nd Vice President	Present
Chantel Chambers	Recording Secretary	Present
Olessia Bauer	Treasurer	Present
Lu Zhao	Member	Present
Amin El-Rowmeim	Member	Absent
Kenya Townsend	Member	Present
Annie Cok	Member	Present

Meeting was called to order by President Mezetin at 9:43pm
Roll call was done by Recording Secretary Chantel Chambers and Quorum was met.

1st Vice President Lauren Clavin made a motion to not excuse Council Member Amin El-Rowmeim absent for September Calendar and Business Meeting.

Seconded by President Mezetin

President Mezetin announced that Member Amin El-Rowmeim has been absent since September without emailing his absent form or notifying anyone. The voiced that he, AA and FACE have tried to reach out to Amin. Amin has not answered any emails, any texts nor phone calls.

Recording Secretary Chantel Chambers made motion to adopt September Calendar and Business Meeting Minutes

Seconded by President Mezetin

President Mezetin reiterated that Member Din Tolbert resigned and that is why the board has three open seats.

President Mezetin made a motion to enter go into a different room for an executive session to discuss the candidates so the members can decide and vote on who to elect once they come back out.

Seconded by 1st Vice President Lauren Clavin

President asked permission from the members to allow AA and FACE Representative to enter the room.

President Mezetin announced that the executive session is over, and they members will take a vote on who to elect.

Recording Secretary announced that voting will being with Paquita Williams

Roll call by Recording Secretary Chantel Chambers

8 in favor; 0 opposed; 1 absent; 0 abstain.

Paquita Williams elected as CEC D28 Council Member

Recording Secretary announced that voting will begin with Laurie Garcia

Roll call by Recording Secretary Chantel Chambers

5 in favor; 3 opposed; 1 absent; 0 abstain.

Laurie Garcia not elected as CEC D28 Council Member

Recording Secretary announced that voting will being with Gurumurthy Kalyanaram

Roll call by Recording Secretary Chantel Chambers

2 in favor; 5 opposed; 1 absent; 1 abstain.

Gurumurthy Kalyanaram not elected as CEC D28 Council Member

President Mezetin announced that the council still has two open seats, and he welcomes anyone who wants to reapply.

President Mezetin made a motion to table the CEC28 Budget Modification and CEC28 Principal Breakfast Discussion

Seconded by 1st Vice President Lauren Clavin

President Mezetin asked members if they would like to discuss any new business. No one responded. He made a motion to adjourn meeting

Business Meeting Adjourned at [10:40pm]

Respectfully Adopted by

Chantel Chambers

CEC 28 Recording Secretary