

**COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 28**  
**Annual/Business Meeting Minutes**  
**December 4th, 2025**

**ATTENDANCE**

<b>Member</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
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
Kenya Townsend	Member	Present
Annie Cok	Member	Present
Paquita Williams	Member	Present
Eric Gretch	Member	Present

**NON-MEMBER ATTENDANCE**

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

**Calendar Meeting Minutes**

Meeting was called to order by Council Member Quentin Mezetin at 6:41pm  
 Roll call was done by Recording Secretary Chantel Chambers and Quorum was met.

- President Quentin Mezetin opened the meeting, greeted everyone, thanked everyone for attending on parent's teacher conference night and asked Spanish Interpreters to provide instructions in Spanish. 1<sup>st</sup> VP Lauren Clavin provided chat etiquette. President Mezetin thanked all the members and A.A for all the work they do behind the scenes.
- President Quentin Mezetin spoke about briefly about a 6-year-old that was taken by ICE in district 30. He voiced that he stands in solidarity with the family. He also voiced that another child lost her family in Queens due to a house fire. He voiced that not every family enter this holiday season with joy, some enters it with despair, tragedies and lost. He voiced that every decision the council makes touches a child they may never meet, and every vote impacts a family trying their best, and every conversation shapes the kind of system our children inherit.
- President Mezetin went over the month of December awarenesses
- Superintendent Dr. Eric Blake gave his report. He voiced that D28 celebrates all differences, racial differences, ethnic differences, and language differences, and belief differences. He also voiced that his priorities are to improve the outcome in math and literacy. He touched on the multi-tiered system of support. 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 thanked Queen's Borough President for supporting Queens borough schools. And announce that the Borough President Donovan Richards has allocated \$40 million to support the schools in Queens in fiscal yr 2026 and D28 is apart of that project. He touched upon class size law mandate. He also voiced that MS72 has a food drive for hurricane Melissa relieve that devastated Jamaica and PS48 had their 3rd Annual Fest of Love Food Drive for the families in need. PS220, hosted its in-house project Soapbox that showcase with 12 of their passionate student speakers. He shared that PS349 was featured on the news. The meteorologist visited the school and gave an engaging lesson on weather to the 3rd and 5th grade students. He also voiced that PS174 had a Food Drive and was able to deliver generous donations from the community to Common Point Food Pantry. He also praised PS54 for hosting an amazing family Thanksgiving feast. He continued to give feedback on various meetings, events and deadlines.

- President Mezetin voiced that Council Member Jordan Dakamseh resigned due to personal reasons.
- Presentation by PS 354Q Principal Dr. Emmanuela Remy. She showcased all the great things about her school.
- Presentation by the Office of Leadership by Senior Director Dr. Tammy Pate
- Presentation by NYC School Construction Authority by External Affairs Manager Danielle Schaaff.
- Council Members asked various questions pertaining to SCA.
- Danielle and her team responded accordingly to the Council Members and provided next steps
- Council Member Olessia Bauer shared her school (MS217) visit report and pleaded with SCA for assistance for this MS217.
- SCA responded to Council Member Olessia Bauer accordingly and asked that she shares the report via email so they may continue the conversation offline.
- MS217 Principal also spoke and attest to the issues that Member Bauer reported on.
- President Mezetin made a motion to move public comments before members reports  
Seconded by 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Lauren Clavin  
Motion passed

### **Public Comments**

- D28 parent voiced concerns surrounding Q54 bus issues at Metropolitan Educational Campus because of the bus redesign. She also brought up her previous concern from the month before regarding middle and high school admissions portal discrepancy.
- Panel for Educational Policy – Queens Representative, Adriana Alicea provided important updates and shared upcoming meeting dates and information.
- UFT Rep gave greetings and thanked the presenters for their wonderful presentations. He spoke about the upcoming IEP workshops. He updated the

community on all the events and changes. He also thanked Member Olessia Bauer for her report and attested to everything she mentioned as he is aware of the situation. He called on SCA to get the situational handled as soon as possible.

- Sara Bedassie from NYS Senator Leroy office gave updates and important information and resources.
- President Mezetin called on all Principals in attendance to bring greetings
- D28 Parent asked if there is a plan to reduce the class size at, JHS Junior High School 157 Halsey as there are only 3 or 4 classes being reduced, and the rest of the classes are about 33 students. She also wants to know if the plan for children with dyslexia.
- Deputy Superintendent Dr. Hall gave greetings and answered the parent question regarding dyslexia plan.
- President Mezetin called on all elected offices to bring greetings and provide upcoming updates
- President Mezetin voiced that the class size committee will be having a committee meeting as it's currently being discussed.
- D28 parent voiced an issue that she claims directly impacts the parent engagement and equity across all our schools. Our parent coordinators, family leadership coordinators, are meant to bridge between families and the school system, like the DOE, but right now. She voiced that the role looks very different depending on the school building. She voiced that it's the same expectation on paper, but very different reality for families in some schools. She pointed that there's a lot of inconsistency, and inconsistency works against the Chancellor's parent engagement empowerment goals that she set out. She is asking CEC28, and Alicia Adriana, Queens PEP Rep, if they can support and elevate these concerns to the Chancellors. She is also asking the Office of FACE to seriously consider restoring the reporting structure.
- Family Leadership Coordinator Sonia Rueda gave greetings and commented on the parent engagement question.
- D28 Parent and ex-cec28 council member voiced there's an issue here in Queens, but also really in District 28. She stated that the class size law is very hard to implement, because the schools are so overcrowded, and planning needs to start immediately since building schools takes a long time. She is requesting SCA to assist and support D28 with building new schools.

## **Member Reports**

- Council Member voiced that her heart is heavy thinking about, the 6-year-old child who is separated from his family and has been separated for a week. She voiced that ICE agents were posted in Jackson Heights, along a route where families walk their children to, I think there's 7 schools along 34th Avenue. She said that's an open street that's open because so many families are traveling to and from their schools to take their children. She wants to uplift the neighbors in District 30, who, within 24 hours, convened an emergency meeting this morning that she was at along with President Mezetin. She praised CEC30 President Whitney Toussaint for how she uses her platform. She gave feedback on her recent SLT meeting at PS349. She voiced that they brought up how they're looking to further support parents to be prepared to support their students and advocate for their kids at their IEP meetings. She also voiced that Include NYC provides incredible resources for parents of students with disabilities. They're training parent members, they do it on a rolling basis. The next training is January 16th.
- Council Member thanked fellow council member and UFT Rep for their reports and comments. She gave feedback on a Black Educators, ABNY meeting. She voiced that they gave an objective report on the progress of the Black Studies curriculum. She also said that she attended the UFT parent conference and provided feedback. A highlight was attendance at a workshop on making dreams and goals come true. She voiced that it was eye-opening regarding relationships we keep in our lives and the effect on our goal setting and achieving. She wants to encourage families to consider attending for next year. She provided feedback on a recently attended SLT meeting at PS50. She voiced that PS55 dedicated their SLT time to the important SLT trainings. She encourages all SLT members of all schools to take the training and mentioned that it really does help empower the SLTs, particularly the parents. She voiced that she's looking forward to attending the SLT meeting for the Young Women's Leadership and strengthening the collaboration between the school and the CEC.
- Council Member thanked fellow council member and UFT Rep for their reports and comments. She voiced concerns where there's property that is jointly, operated with the Parks Department. She voiced that she has been seeing a lack of communication between the people who are supposed to be jointly working together. She voiced that there must be some accountability and communication where that is concerned as you can't jointly operate something if you're not speaking to each other. She voiced that she has been experiencing these situations with PS35. She highlighted her fellow council members for putting together a fantastic middle school and high school admissions fair. She also provided feedback on both fairs.
- Council Member thanked UFT Rep for his comments. She gave her feedback on her recent SLT meeting for MS157. She mentioned the small classroom size compliance was discussed. She also gave feedback on the Parent Advisory Board of Queensboro President's meeting. She also praised the A.A for her meeting with her monthly to review all the records and help with tracking

expenses. She also voiced that she attended president's council meeting where new information, and some updates were shared pertaining to PTA financial business.

- Council member thanked the members for speaking up for the 6-year-old Chinese boy which affected the Chinese community tremendously. He spoke briefly about the hardship that families are going through regarding immigration. He voiced that some School Construction Authority projects does get approved but it's taking a very long time to get started. Council Member gave his feedback on recent school visit at PS54. He voiced that a to install a few cameras at PS54 will take one year. He also said he will be assisting with PC interview at PS303 in the coming week.
- Council Member started her report by thanking to everyone present at the meeting. She voiced that it's always a pleasure to come every month and reconnect with everyone and working with them throughout the month, She voiced that being a council member is a full-time job, on top of the parenting that they must do. She wanted to highlight the fact that the things that come through her inbox every day, and the chats they have daily is very challenging to her mental health but the work they put in is all that more important for the future of their children. She voiced that she been a teacher for many years. In her heart, since she was 25 years old and midlife now, and she wants to see the change that she set out to be. She gave feedback on her conversations with elected official Lynn Schulman regarding PS161.
- Council Member started off her by thanking the CEC D28 community. She gave feedback on the CEC28 Harvest of Hope community event that she put together. She voiced that she gave out oven roasters and, turkeys and several, items of, groceries in the bag. She said they had over 40 volunteers. She thanked fellow council member Jennifer Sobers for attending. Ex council Member Simone Dornbach and G.K Kalyanaraman for donating money. She also thanked Jennifer as well as G.K and the rest of the organizations for their support at the event. She announced that on behalf of the Outreach Committee for CEC28, they were able to feed 120 families. She also voiced that she attended the education presser with Queensborough President Richards, along with some of the other, appointees to just celebrate the \$40 million that he donated to the Queens schools. She also attended New York Urban League Town Hall about education and justice, and had a chance to listen to key speaker, former Chancellor Misha Porter. She gave feedback on the town hall.
- Council Member introduced himself and voiced that he's excited to be on the board, learn and get ready to do the work.
- Council Member gave feedback on her recent school visit to PS101. She voiced that she met with the Principal, PC and student council.
- Council Member voiced all the other platforms he sits on and the advocacy work that he does in the community. He gave feedback on his recent attended meeting at PS80 regarding elementary seats for D75 students in district 28. He voiced

that district 28 is the only district where students in elementary school travel more than 3 miles. He relayed stories about kids being on the bus for 2 hours and voiced that it's mostly D28 students because they travel the farthest because there's enough seats in district 28. Council Member also attended the UFT parent conference, workshop provided feedback. He also attended the PEP meeting regarding bussing and provided feedback. He also gave feedback about the meeting he attended regarding the new Q497 high school building in D28. He mentioned that he voiced his opinion about the benefits of putting a D28 school in building in D28. He voiced he has been attending various meetings pertaining to bussing issues.

- President Mezetin asked the Spanish interpreters if they had any questions from the Spanish room. He wished everyone a happy holiday season. He made a motion to adjourn the calendar meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:43pm

### **BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES** **ATTENDANCE**

<b>Member</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
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
Kenya Townsend	Member	Present
Annie Cok	Member	Present
Paquita Williams	Member	Present
Eric Gretch	Member	Present

Meeting was called to order by President Mezetin at 10:02pm  
Roll call was done by Recording Secretary Chantel Chambers and Quorum was met.

Recording Secretary mentioned 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President was present for the business meeting and was also here for the calendar meeting, she was just late for the calendar meeting.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Lauren Clavin announced that they were no absences

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

Seconded by President Mezetin

Roll call was done by Recording Secretary Chantel Chambers

President Mezetin shared vacant seat resolution for Amin El-Rowmeim. He made a motion to vacate the seat.

Seconded by 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Lauren Clavin

10 in favor; 0 opposed; 0 absent; 0 abstain.

Motion passed

Council Member Lu Zhao made a motion to table voting on CEC28 Candidates

Seconded by 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Lauren Clavin

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

Motion passed

Treasurer Olessia Bauer shared her screen and explained new allocation for CEC28 Budget. She voiced since Member Amin El-Rowmeim has been absent for the past months without any communication, his \$125 for July and \$125 August reimbursements will be allocated towards the legislative breakfast. She also voiced since Din Tolbert resigned, he emailed stating he would like to donate his \$125 August and \$125 for September reimbursements to the legislative breakfast. She voiced that Eric Gretch was voted in November so he was not a council member at that time therefore his \$125 for November will be allocated to the legislative breakfast. She also voiced since they are two vacant seats for November, \$250 will also be allocated to the principal legislative breakfast. She voiced that a total of \$875 has been allocated to the legislative breakfast from reimbursement line. Treasurer Olessia Bauer made a motion to approve this budget with all the changes as discussed.

Seconded by President Mezetin

Motion passed with no objections

President Mezetin voiced that the board just voted to table the candidacy voting but wants everyone to know the board is still without two seats. He voiced that they are candidates that were vetted by FACE and was given the green light to get voted. He reminded everyone that CEC28 does not have a line out the door of people wanting to be on this council. He voiced that everyone needs to take that into account as they go into this holiday season. He voiced that they have been busy, and they will continue to be busy once they are back in January with capital planning, Chancellor's town hall and with the legislative breakfast.

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Lauren Clavin voiced that one of those candidates has already been voted on by this Council and was not elected. She asked FACE Rep if the same candidate can reapply continuously even if the council voted on them already. FACE Rep answered with a yes as their application is still active, and they are allowed to pursue a seat if still vacant.

President Mezetin asked members if they would like to discuss any new business.

Council Member asked about committee meetings. President Mezetin and member Lu Zhao explained the process.

President Mezetin made a motion to adjourn meeting

**Business Meeting Adjourned at [10:26pm]**

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**Respectfully Adopted by**

Chantel Chambers  
CEC 28 Recording Secretary

APPROVED