

COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 28
Annual/Business Meeting Minutes
November 6th, 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
Paquita Williams	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 6:35pm
 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. 1st 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 sikh high school student who was brutally attacked and still in the hospital. He briefly spoke about the bussing situation, government shutdown and NYC mayoral election.
- Superintendent Dr. Eric Blake gave his report and started with commending D28 community for always striving for diversity. He voiced that D28 team is always focused on equity as a lever for achievement for every single scholar. 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 also voiced that they were prepared to handle the bus strike had it gone into effect. He also praised PS86 who entered and won a National Geographic competition. He spoke about Middle School admissions deadlines. He praised Principal Hicks and her newly renovated school. He congratulated PS196 for ranking

number 1 in district 28, but number 3 in New York State. Another top 10 school is PS303, which is ranked 8th in New York State and 2nd in district 28. Both rankings are according to U.S news and world report. He voiced that the district is part of phase 1 of 5 districts across the city piloting a program which is tailored professional learning, coaching and sustained support to ensure implementation of evidence-based strategies that fully integrate autistic students and students with other disabilities into everyday school life. Dr. Blake introduced Principal Patrice Henry from B-Tech High School, a former colleague of his when he was in the high school world.

- Principal Henry gave a brief presentation about B-Tech
- President Mezetin went over the month of November awarenesses
- Superintendent of Queens South High Schools, Superintendent Dr. Van Ess presented on each of her school briefly. She also introduced each of the schools Principals and team. She also introduced her team and provided important updates.
- Queens Collegiate School, Principal Harrell presented on his school and provided upcoming events dates and updates.
- President Mezetin called on all Principals in attendance to bring greetings
- President Mezetin called on all elected offices to bring greetings and provide upcoming updates
- Deputy Superintendent Dr. Hall gave greetings and praised all presenters for November's meeting. She briefly spoke about the MTSS program
- Dr. Benoit also gave greetings and praised all presenters and CEC board for the partnership
- Family Leadership Coordinator Sonia Rueda gave greetings and spoke about the workshops that she has already started and gave feedback on the workshops. She voiced mental health awareness. She also praised the PCs on their hard work.
- Presidents' Council President, Giselle Mendoza introduced herself and gave a brief presentation
- Panel for Educational Policy – Queens Representative, Adriana Alicea gave a presentation and provided important updates and shared upcoming meeting dates and information.
- President Mezetin started the process of CEC28 interview process. He asked 2nd Vice President Jennifer Sobers to take over with the order and announced each candidate will have two minutes each to make a statement.
- 2nd Vice President Jennifer Sobers went over the order and announced the respective council members who will asking the questions. She also 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 candidate the questions Council Members came up with.
- Each candidate proceeded with answering their questions accordingly.
- After the interview, 1st President Lauren Clavin and President Mezetin back gave feedback on meetings time, date and protocols.

- President Mezetin made a motion to move public comments before members reports
Seconded by 1st Vice President Lauren Clavin
Motion passed

Public Comments

- Arts educator and vendor introduced himself and spoke about the services he offers and is willing to offer the students in D28
- UFT Rep gave greetings and updated the community on all the events and changes. He gave feedback on the class size law survey that Principals completed. He voiced the survey gives them another opportunity to apply for more funding, which could be used for class size reduction for the upcoming 2026-2027 school year. He voiced that principals will be consulting with UFT chapter leaders in the building but also will be consulting with the SLT's in the schools to complete this survey and apply for the funding for the upcoming school year. The surveys are due by December 3rd. Lastly, he voiced that the Queens UFT parent conference taking place on Saturday, November 22nd this school year, and it's taking place at the Queens UFT office.
- CEC26 President came in person to give greetings and to speak about resolutions that CEC26 passed. He briefly went over each resolution.
- D28 parent voiced concerns surrounding the middle and high school admissions portal. It's apparently showing how likely your kid is going to be getting into a school, which is discouraging parents from choosing, potentially, their number one school.
- Dr. Hall answered the question from D28 parent. She voiced that they would take this concern back to central office and update the CEC at the next meeting.

Member Reports

- Council Member gave feedback on her recent school visits to PS349 and, Mel's Metropolitan Expeditionary Learning School. She also voiced concerns surrounding the government shutdown and gave a list of resources to help families. She voiced that some community members, herself and some of her fellow community people in Kew Gardens and Forest Hills have put up a free pantry.
- Council Member voiced that she has been helping with finalizing the capital improvement needs for PS55 and PS121. She also gave feedback on an SCA meeting she attended virtually. She praised D28 FLC Sonia Rueda for the workshop she did. She also praised the work the PEP has done with bussing situation. She also announced that CEC28 has a lot of resources on the website. She mentioned that CEC28 AA and others updates it regularly. She also voiced

that the city will be mailing out inflation refund checks throughout November to eligible New Yorkers.

- Council Member provided feedback on her recent school visit to PS160. She voiced that Principal Dr. Hicks has a new extension to the school. She gave feedback on the new spaces that are being used and voiced she attended this school when she was in elementary so it's close to her heart. She gave feedback on PS48 SLT meetings she attended. She voiced that she also attended the workshop that D28 FLC did. She also gave feedback on a recent IEP workshop she attended by Include NYC. She announced CEC28 upcoming Middle and High School Admissions Fair.
- Council Member gave her feedback on her recent SLT meeting for MS157. She also gave feedback on a School Construction Authority meeting she attended which was organized by FACE. She voiced that she asked SCA to provide CECs with a better checklist to use when members visit their respective schools. She voiced that a better checklist would help with capital planning project. She voiced that CEC28 A.A meets with her monthly to review all the records and help with tracking expenses which she's grateful for
- Council Member gave his feedback on recent school visit at PS54. He also voiced that the DOE announced that they're going to forgive this year's mid-year adjustment. He voiced that it's great because this year, again, there is a downward enrollment, approximately 2.4% which means a lot of schools will miss their protection, PS54 included. He voiced that the principal made him aware that this year's PS54 kindergarten new student, they come in with zero IEP students.
- Council Member gave feedback on her recent school visit to PS220, PS161 and MS72. She voiced that all these schools are on the edges, edges of tracks, edges behind highways, schools that could be overlooked very easily. She voiced concerns about projects that have started but halfway done for these schools. Projects such as bathroom and water fountains. She voiced in one school, the fountains are all installed, but they just need one lead test to activate every single water fountain so they could use it on the first floor. Instead, they have Poland spring bottles with dispensers. She also spoke about the rezoning of elected the schools can't work with the official that they had a rapport with and would need to start over the Reso A funds. She voiced announced MS72 open house date. She gave feedback on her meeting with Principal Sandusky.
- Council Member gave feedback on her recent school visit at PS196. She said they had a sensory room presentation that the PTA came together to raise money for, and they were so proud to show off. She voiced that the school's library has a lot of books that's not 100 % completed. She voiced that she's looking to see how she can help the school fix the library. She voiced that herself, along with the outreach committee, could possibly volunteer a day to help them to put the library together. She also voiced that she will be assisting with CEC28 Middle and High School Admission Fair. She voiced that she's a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated, and they're going to be

partnering with the Queens Alumni Chapter, Calvary Baptist Church, the 113th Precinct.

- Key Food, and CEC28 to put on the Harvest of Hope on Tuesday, the 25th. They are going to give away grocery bags to 100 families for Thanksgiving.
- Council Member voiced all the other platforms he sits on and the advocacy work that he does in the community. He gave feedback on the D75 brunch he attended. He also gave feedback on the D75 Parent Leader Empowerment Workshop at Baruch College that he attended. 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 D28. He also gave feedback on PEP meetings he attended recently, advocating for the busing. He voiced he has been attending various meetings pertaining to bussing issues. He provided feedback on the meeting he attended at tweed and PEP as well.
- President Mezetin asked the Spanish interpreters if they had any questions from the Spanish room. He also reminded the candidates to stay until the end of the business meeting. He made a motion to adjourn the calendar meeting.

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
Paquita Williams	Member	Present

Meeting was called to order by President Mezetin at 9:49pm

Roll call was done by Recording Secretary Chantel Chambers and Quorum was met.

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

1st Vice President Lauren Clavin made a motion to not excuse Council Member Amin El-Rowmeim absent for September, October and November Calendar and Business Meeting due to lack of communication. She voiced that the A.A, President, FACE and

herself have reached out multiple times with no replies, no calls back nor text back. She voiced that this means with three unexcused absences, Amin El-Rowmeim seat has been vacated, and the board will vote on the vacate seat resolution next month.

1st Vice President Lauren Clavin made a motion to remove Amin El-Rowmeim from the board and vacate his seat.

Seconded by President Mezetin

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

Seconded by Member Kenya Townsend

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.

President Mezetin voiced that the 3rd candidate Alex Segura is still being vetted by FACE legal. The board was given permission to interview him but not vote on him until they have cleared him.

Recording Secretary announced that voting will being with Jordan Dakamseh
Roll call by Recording Secretary Chantel Chambers
9 in favor; 0 opposed; 1 absent; 0 abstain.
Jordan Dakamseh elected as CEC D28 Council Member

Recording Secretary announced that voting will begin with Eric Gretch
Roll call by Recording Secretary Chantel Chambers
9 in favor; 0 opposed; 1 absent; 0 abstain.
Eric Gretch elected as CEC D28 Council Member

Treasurer Olessia Bauer shared her screen and explained new allocation for CEC28 Budget. She voiced since Member Amin El-Rowmeim has been absent for September and October; his reimbursements will be allocated to the legislative breakfast. She also voiced since Geoffrey Luan resigned, he emailed stating he would like to donate his July, August and September reimbursements to the legislative breakfast. She voiced that her own July and August reimbursements will be allocated to the legislative breakfast. She also voiced that Member Annie Cok emailed stating she would like to donate her July, August and September reimbursements to the legislative breakfast. Vacant seats from August to October reimbursements will also be allocated to the

principal legislative breakfast. Council Member Lu Zhao voiced that he will not be taking any of his reimbursements and he would like to put towards the legislative breakfast. She also voiced that an error in payment was made last year to the copier service. They were only paid 11 months instead of 12 months. Therefore, one month is carried over to this year. She voiced that she will be allocating \$137 which is one month from the legislative breakfast to the copier line. Treasurer Olessia Bauer made a motion to approve this budget with all the changes discussed.

Seconded by President Mezetin
Motion passed with no objections

Treasurer Olessia Bauer requested the president gives her 5 minutes or less every month to give a treasurer monthly report.

President Mezetin approved the request.

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

President Mezetin voiced that in the beginning of the year, members took extra schools to cover for all the schools since a few members were missing. He voiced now that we have new members, some council members that have a lot of schools may have to give us one or two schools.

President Mezetin made a motion to adjourn meeting

Business Meeting Adjourned at [10:22pm]

Respectfully Adopted by

Chantel Chambers
CEC 28 Recording Secretary