

DECEMBER 08, 2025

CALENDAR | BUSINESS MEETING

Location: 28-11 Queens Plaza North, 5th Floor Conference Room, Long Island City (Hybrid)

Calendar Meeting

Call to Order: 6:38 PM

Roll Call:

Nahounha Alexandre: Unexcused Absent
Linda Chung-Leung: Present
Alexis Kaloyanides: Present
Danielle Lopresti-Lee: Present
Victoria Medelius: Present
Estela Nguema: Present
Marlene Rossi: Present
Nadeea Saeed: Present
Laura Simpson: Present
Whitney Toussaint: Present
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Kayla Spence: Present

First Public Agenda and Speaking Time

District 30 Book Club Update

Damien Larocque and Pierre Argiers, PS 148

Last month, the book club read about Ruby Bridges and participated in the Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day. The walk went from PS148 to the Langston Hughes Library. Students from PS 92 and PS 149 also participated, and around 50 students attended. Students are currently reading Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. Also, partnered with a student entrepreneur from Boston Spa High School who will provide freeze-dried ice cream sandwiches for the book club. The student's business is a NYS fully insured and licensed commercial kitchen. (Damien Larocque)

Book Club has reached as many as 103 registered students across eight schools in the district. The goal is to have every school in District 30 participate, including teachers as guest readers.

School Spotlight

Principal Annette Beale, Assistant Principals Miranda Haraughty and Jenna O'Shaughnessy

The Riverview School (277Q) is a special education school with 12 locations across Queens, serving over 850 students with special needs and Individualized Education Programs (IEPs). The school is part of District 75 and operates in District 30 and District 24. It offers education for students from kindergarten through age 22, with a focus on providing tailored support in both academic and life skills areas.

Riverview School includes a variety of classroom settings, including 6:1:1, 8:1:1, and 12:1:1 ratios. The 6:1:1 classrooms are designed for students with the highest needs, focusing primarily on life skills. The 8:1:1 and 12:1:1 classrooms at the elementary level follow the same curriculum as general education peers, with modifications and adaptations to suit the needs of the students. The school also emphasizes literacy and has a print shop that produces literacy anchor charts used in classrooms.

In addition to its educational programs, Riverview School has several enrichment opportunities. They have an ongoing partnership with Special Olympics, where students participate in competitive sports teams, and collaborate with neurodiverse programs like Epic Players for student performances. The school also includes 14 inclusion classes and has over 120 students in its inclusion program across grades K-12.

Riverview School's achievements have been recognized nationally, as it received the Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence Lighthouse Award for special needs education. They have achieved an impressive 85% or better in all nine categories under the Blue Ribbon Schools of Excellence (BSRE) expectations. The school is currently in its fourth year of the New York City Reads program and continues to prioritize literacy development

District 30 will be visiting two Riverview School locations on December 17th. Additionally, the school will be holding a Related Service Fair on January 23rd.

As for the high school locations, Riverview School operates at Hunters Point Middle School campus, Energy Tech High School, and Grover Cleveland High School. Of these, only Energy Tech High School is available for application through the parent portal.

C30 President's Council Check-in and Updates

Co president -Becca Staley

The Trunk or Treat event had a total of 31 trunks/tables this year, an increase from 26 last year. It included participation from 19 district schools, 4 high schools, 2 SBOs, 3 elected officials' offices, the district office, UFT, and the new D30 school. Next year's event is scheduled for October 23rd (Friday), and there is consideration to shorten it from two hours to 1.5 hours.

In the December meeting, The Art of Living presented on mindful breathing, giving PTA presidents the opportunity to relax and practice stress-relief techniques.

At the November meeting, representatives from Kaman, Juan, and Krishnan's office discussed budgeting.

The PA/PTA/PTO meetings calendar is being developed to assist with workshop and meeting planning across the district. So far, 19 out of 42 schools have provided their meeting information. PA/PTA presidents will soon receive an email requesting their meeting details and a survey about SLT training.

PAP members' interim financial reports are due by January 31st. The next meeting is scheduled for January 6th at 10 AM at QPN, where there will be a presentation from Cosmic. Members are encouraged to wear school colors for a group photo.

The next CPAC meeting will be this Thursday at 9:00 AM, which will be open to the public via live stream on YouTube through the CTAC NYC channel. Topics to be discussed include Pre-K, 3K, and K enrollment, a presentation on the cell phone ban, and a Q&A with the Chancellor.

Project Open Arms Presentation

Tamara Mair (Senior Director), Tammy Nim, and Krystal Ortiz

Project Open Arms, presented by Tamara Mayer, Tammy Nim, and Krystal Ortiz, shared updates on their ongoing work supporting newly arrived immigrant students and families across New York City. The initiative supports families regardless of immigration status and works closely with schools to ensure access to education, enrollment support, and essential services. Since July 2022, NYC Public Schools has welcomed over 101,000 students, including those in temporary housing. Project Open Arms assists with enrollment, transportation access, language services, and family stabilization, while also providing training to school staff on immigration-related protocols. The team emphasized that NYC Public Schools does not collect immigration status and that families have the right to enroll at any time. They also reviewed non-local law enforcement protocols, noting that no such entities have entered NYC public schools and that any concerns are escalated through designated channels. Additional supports include care closets, shared food tables, resource fairs, legal referrals, standby guardianship assistance, and

Know Your Rights trainings. The initiative partners with MOIA, NYLAG, and community organizations to provide legal guidance, emergency support, and accompaniment. Upcoming resource fairs and trainings were announced, along with opportunities for volunteers. Schools are encouraged to collaborate with Project Open Arms to host trainings, share resources, and support families through culturally responsive and trauma-informed practices.

Know Your Rights

An overview of the rights of migrant youth and families who reside in New York City under the relevant bodies of law.

- December 15th 2025 at 6:00pm
Interpretation in Arabic & Haitian Creole
Meeting ID: 988 6818 6035 Passcode: 667189
- December 18th 2025 at 6:00pm
Interpretation in Spanish & Arabic
Meeting ID: 955 6750 1743 Passcode: 343464
- December 17th 2025 at 2:00pm
Interpretation will be available in Spanish & French
- December 17th 2025 at 6:00pm
- Interpretation will be available in Spanish & Urdu
Meeting ID: 826 9926 9281 Passcode: 069275

Project Open Arms & The Shed Resource Fair

Gifts and other giveaways, free food, and connections to lots of resources for education, healthcare, and more!

When: Saturday, December 13, 2025

Time: 11:00am to 2:00pm

Where: George Washington Educational Campus, 549 Audubon Ave, New York, NY 10040

Comments –

Teresa from Council Member Julie Won's office announced two upcoming Rapid Response Training events in partnership with the Malika Foundation and Project Hands Off NYC. These trainings are designed to support bystanders and upstanders with tools and resources related to immigration response efforts.

- December 11 at 7:00 PM – Rapid Response Training hosted by the Malika Foundation
- December 13 from 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM – Rapid Response Training hosted by Project Hands Off NYC in Queens

Both events aim to provide critical information, community support, and guidance through collaboration with local organizations and elected officials.

Superintendent Hidalgo's Report

Superintendent Hidalgo was absent due to a family matter, and the report was presented by Dr. Fahey William – Deputy Superintendent

The District 30 leadership team includes Superintendent Hidalgo, Dr. Fahey as Deputy Superintendent, Dr. Tanisha Rivera as Executive Director of School Support and Operations, Bandana Shawarma as Family Leadership Coordinator, and Marco Dominguez as Family Support Coordinator.

Ms. Ciani Espada is the Founding Principal and Project Director of Newport Square School (PS 439Q). The school will initially open at a temporary location at 1111 40th Avenue before transitioning to its permanent site at 2310 43rd Avenue in September 2028. The school's mission centers on culturally responsive education that supports student identity, curiosity, and creativity. Its core values are rooted in ACE: Agency and Learning Community, Community Growth, and Excellence. Enrollment for Fall 2026 will open through MySchools and will include three kindergarten classes and one pre-K class.

District leadership reaffirmed its commitment to the HEART values of Honesty, Excellence, Accountability, Respect, and Teamwork. These values guide districtwide work and align with initiatives such as NYC Reads and NYC Solves. The district continues to focus on strengthening instructional practices, supporting families, and fostering collaboration across all school communities.

District highlights included a middle school Futsal tournament won by I.S. 227 and 2 parent workshops focused on communication strategies and iReady Math support.

NYCPS Updates- Kindergarten admissions for children born in 2021 are open on December 9 and close on January 23, 2026, and middle school applications will close on December 12. NYC

Teen Spaces was highlighted as a free virtual therapy resource available to youth ages 13 to 17.

Upcoming events include a virtual workshop focused on academic support and test anxiety scheduled for January 22 at 6pm.

Middle School Math Curriculum Selection Process – December 11 6:00pm.

Budget Modification Discussion/Vote Budget Modification

The council approved the budget in July. Budget modifications include an increase in general supplies from \$1,120 to \$1,200. Equipment expenses also increased from \$200 to \$600 due to changes in Zoom services; the cost was reduced to \$1,060 as the council is now only paying for the Webinar feature, and we hold large meetings under the DOE Zoom meeting account. Meeting expenses will include **food** and **water**.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL 30			
FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025			
INITIAL BUDGET SCHEDULE			
EXPENDITURE CATEGORY	OBJECT CODE FOR BUDGETING PURPOSES	OBJECT CODE FOR EXPENDITURE PURPOSES	AMOUNT SCHEDULED
General Supplies	100	198	\$1,120
Equipment	300	332	\$200
Procurement Card (supplies and meeting expenses)	100	179	\$0
CEC30 Member Reimbursements & Parent Engagement	400	495 & 489A	\$18,000
CEC30 Meeting Expenses	451	451	\$1,300
Zoom	400	489A	\$1,740
Website Maintenance - Non-Contractual Services	400	489A	\$2,640
TOTALS			\$25,000

Roll call:

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 Kayla Spence: IN FAVOR

Resolution 196 -Amending Reimbursement Policy for Citywide and Community District Educational Council Members to Reflect Rising Costs in NYC

The Council reviewed and discussed the need to update reimbursement rates for Community and Citywide Education Council members due to rising costs of living in New York City. Members noted that current reimbursement amounts have not changed in years despite increased expenses related to transportation, food, and other duties. The Council voted to request an increase in monthly reimbursement rates from \$125 to \$250 for members and from \$200 to \$350 for chairs, and to urge the DOE and City Council to give additional funding to support these changes.

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Resolution 197 -Resolution Urging the New York State Legislature to Pass S.8139/A.9048 to Help Address the Needs of Students Experiencing Homelessness, in Foster Care, or in Temporary Housing

The Council reviewed and discussed a resolution urging the New York State Legislature to pass S.8139/A.9048 to address the growing needs of students experiencing homelessness, those in foster care, and students in temporary housing. It was noted that more than 154,000 New York City students experienced homelessness during the 2024–2025 school year, including a significant number in District 30, with many facing chronic absenteeism, housing instability, and academic challenges. Data presented highlighted that students experiencing homelessness are disproportionately students of color, English Language Learners, and students with disabilities, and that many face lower academic outcomes and higher dropout rates. The Council emphasized that the current state funding formula does not adequately support these students and fails to reflect the true cost of meeting their educational needs. As a result, the Council resolved to urge

the Governor and State Legislature to pass S.8139/A.9048 to revise the funding formula and provide additional resources for students experiencing homelessness, including those in foster care, and to ensure increased support for English Language Learners and students with disabilities.

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Kayla Spence: IN FAVOR

Resolution 198 -Resolution to Amend Chancellor’s Regulation A-655 to Promote Videoconferencing Use in SLT Meetings

The Council reviewed a resolution urging updates to Chancellor’s Regulation A-655 to allow and clarify the use of videoconferencing for School Leadership Team (SLT) meetings. The discussion emphasized that SLTs are legally recognized public bodies required to conduct school governance work, and that current state law permits the use of videoconferencing when quorum requirements are met. Members noted that many families face barriers to attending in-person meetings due to work schedules, childcare responsibilities, transportation challenges, and health concerns, and that hybrid meeting options increase accessibility and participation. The Council highlighted that District 30 has successfully implemented hybrid meeting models in compliance with Open Meetings Law and that existing regulations have not been updated to reflect modern technology or current practice. The resolution urges the Panel for Educational Policy to update Chancellor’s Regulation A-655 to explicitly allow virtual and hybrid SLT meetings, provide clear guidance to schools, and ensure consistency across districts. It further calls on the Department of Education to support schools with training and resources and encourages schools to adopt inclusive meeting practices that strengthen family engagement and participation.

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Second Public Agenda and Speaking Time/ Announcements

The next CEC 30 calendar meeting will take place on Monday, January 12, 2026, at 6:30 PM at the district office.

The next PEP meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 17 at 6:00 PM at the Evangel Child Educational Campus, located at 800 East Gun Hill Road, Bronx.

An AQE Speaker Series virtual event will be held on December 16 at 6:00 PM.

The discussion also includes updates regarding the New York City school system under mayoral control. The featured panelist for the AQE event will be Smitha Milich, Senior Campaign Strategist for Alliance for Quality Education (AQE).

-----**Calendar Meeting adjourned at 9:26pm.**-----

BUSINESS MEETING

Call to order -9:45pm.

Roll call:

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Announcements

Approval of the November Business and Calendar 2025 Meeting minutes. Consensus on the minutes presented.

Speaker Series Updates

AQE - Alexis Kaloyanides

- Alexis organized a speaker series with AQE on Mayoral Control.
- A flyer will be posted on social media and emailed.
- The speaker encourages everyone to attend and learn about mayoral control.

Literacy Partners – Laura Simpson

- Laura is organizing a presentation with Literacy Partners in English and Spanish in January.

ICLUDEnyc -Estella

- The Special Education Committee is organizing a workshop with Include NYC.

Know Your Right Series: Community Events and Resource

CEC30 will be creating a dedicated CEC30 Open Arms section on our webpage to share all these resources with the community. CEC30 will include downloadable DOE guidance, like the walking school bus instructions, and recordings or presentations from Project Open Arms and City Council. This way, parents and schools can easily access and share these valuable resources. Helps parents stay informed and involved.

Memorandum of Opposition for Citywide Leadership Team

A memorandum of opposition was presented regarding the proposed Citywide Leadership Team currently under consideration by the State Legislature. The proposal has been opposed by CPAC, ECC, and multiple Community Education Councils. Concerns were raised that Bills A9085 and S3067 would create a parallel governance structure that is less inclusive and would undermine existing, legally established bodies. It was noted that current governance entities are protected by law and should not be altered through code changes. CEC 30 urged the State Legislature to reject the bills and called on the New York City Council to oppose Resolution 1017. Supporting memoranda and prior opposition materials were submitted, and testimony was also provided to the City Council urging rejection of the proposal.

January Meeting Speakers/Presentations

The three key presentations: the School Construction Authority, the Office of District Planning, and Food and Nutrition Services will all be presenting. Additionally, the School Spotlight in January will feature PS 234.

Reminder: Outstanding IPR Submissions (July–October)

SCA Capital request

The CEC 30 Administrative Assistant will send an email reminder to principals regarding SCA capital requests. Once the requests are received, the Administrative Assistant will compile them, and the Co-Presidents will review and select the top five submissions to forward to the SCA for consideration. The council will then vote on the requests at the January 12th meeting.

Member Report

Members shared updates from recent school visits and community engagement activities. A liaison visit was conducted at Hunters Point Community Middle School, where Whitney and Nadeea met with Principal Goodman, who warmly welcomed the visit and highlighted the school's strong programming, student engagement, and collaborative environment. The visit included classroom observations and discussions about the school's work with students and families. Victoria also reported visiting I.S. 10, noting strong instructional practices, engaging learning environments, and a positive school culture. Additional updates included a visit to P.S. 112, where the principal discussed current programs, funding needs, and opportunities for additional support. Members emphasized the importance of advocacy for resources such as arts programming, equipment, and facility improvements. Updates were also shared regarding Whitney participating in meetings with community organizations, including AQE and Make the Road, focused on coalition-building and advocacy efforts to support schools and families across the district.

Committee Reports

Bylaws meeting needs to be scheduled before the end of the month. Alexis sent out availability polls.

New Business

If a member misses more than three meetings without an excuse, the council will issue public notice stating that their seat may be vacated unless they attend the next meeting. This policy applies to calendar meetings, business meetings, and committee meetings. The council will review and discuss any members who have accumulated more than three unexcused absences. Members are expected to notify the chair in advance if they are unable to attend a meeting; failure to do so will result in an unexcused absence. Members may also reach out directly to the president if needed.

Submit Reimbursements and IPRs.

The Legislative Brunch has been rescheduled due to the legislature being in session on January 27th. The new date is **Friday, February 27th, at 11:30 a.m.** The tentative location is **P.S. 361Q – Woodside Community School**. The estimated budget for food is between \$1,000 and \$1,200.

Adjournment

10:31pm