

District 30 Community Education Council

Hybrid Calendar and Business Meeting

September 15, 2025

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

Call to Order: 6:45 PM | **Adjournment:** 10:28 PM

Attendance

Present: Nahounha Alexandre, Alexis Kaloyanides, Danielle Lopresti-Lee, Victoria Medelius, Estela Nguema, Marlene Rossi (Zoom), Nadeea Saeed, Laura Simpson, Whitney Toussaint

Excused: Linda Chung-Leung (Meet the Teacher Night)

Public Comment Highlights

Annawa Naing (UFT District 30 Rep) - Introduced herself; 20 years teaching 2nd grade at PS 78

Molly Mazilu - Advocated for Vernon Boulevard Middle School progress; emphasized need for elementary and middle school seats in LIC

Cecilia Durbin - Asked about district policies protecting student information (gender identity, race, disability status) from federal agents

Andrew Sokolof-Diaz - Raised concerns about ICE activity near schools; requested protocols, safe spaces, language access, and power of attorney support for undocumented families

Superintendent Hidalgo and Co-President Toussaint responded with information about existing protections, "Know Your Rights" meetings, and upcoming Stand Against ICE events with Councilmember Cabán on September 27th.

Becca Staley (President's Council) - Announced 4th Annual Trunk or Treat on October 24th

Kelly Craig (CUNY School of Law) - Offered to facilitate "Know Your Rights" webinar for D30 families

Office of District Planning Presentation

Presenters: Julianne Bozzo, Rhea Cumberbach, team (remote)

Survey Results (as of 9/15/25):

- Just under 600 responses; 50% from Hunters Point, 25% Court Square, 25% other D30 neighborhoods

Preferred Temporary Site:

- Pre-K Center #1: 53% (340 families)
- PS 150 Annex: 27% (137 families)
- Pre-K Center #2: 20% (110 families)

Preferred Long-Term Location:

- Court Square: 52% (overall); Parcel C: 45%
- Exception: Hunters Point residents preferred Parcel C (78%)

Key Discussion Points:

- Outdoor space concerns for temporary sites
 - Middle school capacity commitments (either Parcel C or Court Square)
 - Vernon Boulevard Middle School timeline tied to One LIC Plan
 - Survey remains open; final recommendation expected October 6th
 - Class size law considerations
 - Request for dual Bangla language programs
-

Presentation: From Participation to Power

Presenter: Kent Bowman (Former CEC 10 VP, PA President, Educator)

Program Overview:

- Four-session workshop using Learning Style Growth Profile
- Helps parents understand children's dominant learning styles
- Funded through PTA Title I budgets (not charged to individual parents)

- Serves all students, including those with disabilities
 - Program decision made by PTA/SLT vote
-

Superintendent's Report

Presenter: Superintendent Lisa Hidalgo

2025-26 School Year:

- 24,000+ students across 42 schools started September 4th
- Theme: "Planting Seeds Together and Growing Futures as One"

District Priorities:

1. **Academic Excellence:** Math focus - 5% increase all students, 8% for ELs/IEPs
2. **Safety & Wellness:** Leader in Me program (\$1M+ funding) - 10% reduction in incidents
3. **College Savings:** NYC Rides accounts from 62% to 70%
4. **Parent Involvement:** 92% to 95%
5. **Chronic Absenteeism:** 27% to 24%

State Assessment Results (2024 vs 2025):

- ELA: 55.8% → 60.9% (+5.1%)
- Math: 58.4% → 61.5% (+3.1%)
- Science: +11.1% (District 47.4% vs. lower city average)
- **Highest performance in several years**

Notable Gains:

- Grade 5 ELA: +10.5%
- Grade 3 Math: +9.6%
- K-2 growth: +9% all students
- Students with IEPs: +10% (K-2), +6% (ELA 3-8), +5.4% (Math 3-8)

MTSS Parent Communication Discussion: Council member Alexandre raised equity concerns about parents not knowing to ask about tier supports. Extended discussion included Superintendent Hidalgo, Dr. Fahey, and council members about improving proactive communication. Parents should receive letters when children are placed in Tier 2/3 interventions.

Community Questions/Concerns

Katherine Zapata (Queens Borough President's Office) - Announced High School Fair September 30th; congratulated district on test scores

Randi Dinh - Q972 CPSE concerns: No OT provider all last year, speech not assigned until 7 months in; CPSE not responding to parent emails this year

Ashley Rzonca - Requested collaboration on mayoral control narrative ahead of upcoming election

Tiffany Echeverria (Rep. Nydia Velasquez) - Announced Congressional App Challenge, deadline October 30th

- **Nina Arden** - Son (autistic, 3K) waiting for speech services since March IEP approval
-

Announcements:

- Next CEC 30 meeting is scheduled Oct 6th.
- Panel for Education Policy meeting details (Sept 25, 6 PM, Francis Lewis HS)

Adjourned: Call for Adjournment at 9:12pm by Whitney

Business Meeting (9:32 PM)

Attendance

Present: Nahounha Alexandre, Linda Chung-Leung(Zoom), Alexis Kaloyanides, Danielle Lopresti-Lee, Victoria Medelius, Estela Nguema, Marlene Rossi (Zoom), Nadeea Saeed, Laura Simpson, Whitney Toussaint

Minutes: Approved with edits by consensus

Speaker Series Planning:

- Marble Health, Sensory Room Planners (November), Office of Language Access (Oct/Nov), Literacy Partners (October)
- PS 148 Book Club proposal for district-wide expansion

Back to School Event Recap: 1,100 backpacks distributed; identified improvements for logistics, supplies, line management

Individual Member Reports:

- Meeting scheduled with Shanelle Thomas Henry re: East Elmhurst overcrowding (Alexis, Victoria, Marlene, Whitney)
- Family Coalition Arts & Literacy program discussions (Linda)
- Community Voices Heard event participation (Laura)
- D75 school liaison refinement (Estela)
- PS 171/PS 76 Afterschool for All concerns (Whitney)
- Stand Against ICE planning with Councilmember Cabán (Whitney)

Executive Session: 10:27-10:28 PM (October 7th start date discussed; special meeting planned for resolution)

Adjourned: Call for Adjournment at 10:28pm by Whitney

Minutes Prepared by: Laura Simpson, Secretary