



COMMUNITY EDUCATION DISTRICT COUNCIL 30

28-11 Queens Plaza North, Room 512
Long Island City, NY 11101
Tel: 718-391-8380
Fax: 718-391-8500
CEC30.org
Email: CEC30@schools.nyc.gov

Resolution 198

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

Author: Laura Simpson

Co-Sponsors: Whitney Toussaint, Estela Nguema, Alexis Kaloyanides

WHEREAS, New York State Education Law § 2590-h requires the Chancellor of New York City schools to establish School Leadership Teams (SLTs) in every public school, charged with creating the Comprehensive Educational Plan (CEP) and ensuring that the school's budget is aligned with that plan, thereby performing a governmental function; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner's Regulation 8 NYCRR § 100.11 requires parent, teacher, administrator, and student participation in school-based planning and decision-making, ensuring that SLTs serve as the legally recognized vehicle for such collaboration; and

WHEREAS, Chancellor's Regulation A-655 "School and District Leadership Teams" provides for the composition, responsibilities, and operation of SLTs, requiring monthly meetings and consensus-based decision-making; and

WHEREAS, in Matter of Thomas v. New York City Dept. of Education, 2016 NY Slip Op 06989, the Appellate Division held that SLTs are "public bodies" subject to the Open Meetings Law (OML); and

WHEREAS, section 103-a, paragraph 2 of the Open Meetings Law states, "A public body may, in its discretion, use videoconferencing to conduct its meetings pursuant to the requirements of this article provided that a minimum number of members are present to fulfill the public body's quorum requirement"; and

WHEREAS, some schools and districts have received guidance suggesting videoconferencing is not permitted for SLT meetings, based on interpretations that may not reflect current state law; and

WHEREAS, many parents in District 30's diverse communities face legitimate challenges attending in-person SLT meetings due to work schedules, childcare responsibilities, health concerns, or transportation issues; and



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WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated that hybrid meeting formats can effectively increase parent participation when properly implemented; and

WHEREAS, ensuring maximum parent participation in school governance strengthens our schools and benefits all students; and

WHEREAS, Community Education Council 30 has successfully implemented fully hybrid calendar and business meetings in compliance with the Open Meetings Law, with committee meetings conducted entirely remotely, demonstrating that videoconferencing enhances parent participation while maintaining transparency and legal compliance; and

WHEREAS, Chancellor's Regulation A-655, last updated March 24, 2010, predates significant technological advances and shifts in workplace practices;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Community Education Council District 30 recommends that the Panel for Education Policy:

1. Update Chancellor's Regulation A-655 to:

- Clarify alignment with NYS Education Law § 2590-h and Public Officers Law Article 7, §§ 100–111;
- Explicitly acknowledge that videoconferencing is permitted for SLT meetings under state law;
- Provide clear guidance on how schools can implement hybrid meeting options while maintaining compliance;
- Ensure that virtual participation counts toward attendance and remuneration where appropriate; and

2. Direct the Department of Education to:

- Provide updated guidance to all schools regarding videoconferencing options for SLT meetings;
- Support schools with technology resources and training for effective hybrid meetings;
- Clarify any discrepancies between current guidance documents and state law;
- Ensure consistent interpretation across all districts; and

3. Encourage District 30 schools to:

- Explore hybrid meeting options that increase parent participation;
- Survey their communities about barriers to SLT participation;
- Share successful strategies for inclusive meeting formats; and
- Maintain flexibility to meet their specific community needs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that CEC 30:



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- Recognizes that increasing parent participation strengthens school governance and student outcomes; and
- Supports schools in finding meeting formats that work best for their communities while complying with applicable laws; and
- Will assist schools seeking to implement more inclusive meeting practices; and
- Joins other Community Education Councils in advocating for modernized parent engagement practices.

Adopted this 08 day of December, 2025, by the CEC 30.

Rollcall:

Nahounha Alexandre: **UNEXCUSED ABSENCE**

Linda Chung-Leung: **IN FAVOR**

Alexis Kaloyanides: **IN FAVOR**

Danielle Lopresti-Lee: **IN FAVOR**

Victoria Medelius: **IN FAVOR**

Estela Nguema: **IN FAVOR**

Marlene Rossi: **IN FAVOR**

Nadeea Saeed: **IN FAVOR**

Laura Simpson: **IN FAVOR**

Whitney Toussaint: **IN FAVOR**

Xochitl Cohen-Garcia: **IN FAVOR**

Kayla Spence: **IN FAVOR**