



Community Education Council District 21

Officers: **Jay Brown** President **Randi Garay** 1st Vice President **Lakeisha Bowers** 2nd Vice President **Esfira Shakhmurova** Treasurer **Elizabeth Rodriguez-Perez** Recording Secretary

Borough President Appointee

Members: **Amy Chen** IEP **Nadiia Kushylina** ELL **Dawn Qiu** D75 **Petra Remy** Borough President Appointee **Priscilla Santos** **Maxim Torbin** **Mei Ping Tran**

HYBRID MEETING (VIDEOCONFERENCING)

DATE: Wednesday, March 20, 2024

Location: P.S. 215 – 415 Avenue S, Brooklyn, NY 11223

ZOOM Link: <https://nycdoe.zoom.us/j/87699821402?pwd=Y3NJT1AxZZNFcCtjQXVWRTU0WjBtQT09>

Meeting ID: 876 9982 1402

Passcode: 110280

+16465189805

Community Education Council District 21 Business/Calendar Meeting

Business Meeting 5:30 PM

1. **Call to Order:** at 5:33PM Motioned by: **Amy** seconded by: **Nadiia**
2. **Roll Call**
 - a. In person: Jay, Randi, Esfira, Petra, Amy, Dawn, Nadiia, Elizabeth
 - b. Virtual: Maxim, Priscilla
 - c. Absent: Mei – Ping, Lakeisha
3. **Old Business**
 - a. **Review of February Minutes and Absences**
 - i. Sent to all members in advance of the meeting, no questions were raised
 - ii. Lakeisha and Mei – Ping other commitments conflicted with meeting was sent to Jay and Steve in advance and Priscilla had a family member emergency
 - b. **Council Member Report**
 - i. Members shared their school visits for the month of March
4. **New Business**
 - a. **Approval of February Minutes and Absences**
 - i. Minutes and Absence approved unanimously by members present and virtual
 - b. **Legislative Breakfast**
 - i. Informal unanimous vote to go on for Legislative Breakfast
 - c. **Treasurer's Report**
 - i. Opening Balance: \$19,786 Closing Balance: \$18,725
5. **Adjournment:** at 5:43PM Motioned by: **Esfira** seconded by: **Amy**

Calendar Meeting 6:00 PM

1. **P.S. 215 School Presentation – (*The Little Mermaid*) followed by a performance by P.S. 329 Dance Team**
2. **Call to Order and Roll Call:** 6:15PM
 - a. Motioned by: **Esfira** seconded by: **Randi**
 - b. In person: Jay, Randi, Esfira, Petra, Amy, Dawn, Maxim, Nadiia, Elizabeth, Lakeisha
 - c. Virtual: Max, Mei – Ping, Priscilla
 - d. President Brown thanked Superintendent DiMola (Lisa from the District will filling in; Superintendent lost her voice), Principal Miller and P.S. 215 family for hosting our CEC meeting and the PTA for the refreshments. President Brown outlined the norms for our meeting and thanked principals, assistant principals, parent coordinators, FACE liaison, and parents (in-person, and virtual) for attending.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance performed by P.S. 215 Color guard**
4. **Superintendent's Report:** School Budgets SY 2024 – 2025

Address: 2630 Benson Avenue, b38 Brooklyn, NY 11214

Email: cec21@schools.nyc.gov

facebook: www.facebook.com/cec21
www.cec21.weebly.com

Twitter/X: www.twitter.com/cec_d21



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- a. Funding comes from income and corporate, property and sales taxes that is spent on employees, charter schools, non – public and contract schools. The remaining goes to instruction, childhood programs, school operations and administrative offices
 - b. Principals along with their School Leadership Teams and the Superintendent’s supervision work to create their school’s budget to pay for instructional programs detailed in the Comprehensive Educational Plan
 - c. The Fair Student Funding provides principals/schools with substantial flexibility to tailor spending to school and community needs
 - i. The vast majority of the funds are spent on teachers as well as for guidance counselors, social workers, after – school programs and classroom resources and materials
 - d. In 2023 – 2024 added a new FSF weight to support Students in Temporary Housing, proposed to continue in 2024 – 2025. Additionally, they are proposing to continue the weight established this school year to support schools with high percentages of student need, the concentration weight
 - e. More information can be found [here](#)
- 5. Middle School Capacity Presentation:** District 21 School Buildings and Planning
- a. The Office of District Planning in collaboration with Superintendents, partners with school communities, CECs, Citywide Councils, other NYCPS central offices, and additional stakeholders to assess district needs and priorities and develop strategic plans to address them
 - b. New School Additions to the District:
 - i. P.S. 253 (601 Ocean Avenue) opening this upcoming 2024 – 2025 school year. The addition will add 391 seats to address significant overcrowding
 - ii. The “John Dewey Annex” will be opening in the 2026 – 2027 school year with 553 middle school seats. The current idea to expand John Dewey to serve grades 6 – 12 is pending
 - iii. Bishop Kearny (2202 60th Street) is opening in the 2025 – 2026 school year with a middle school design. The building has a capacity of approximately 640 seats
 - c. There is no stand – alone middle school (6 – 8) in the northern part of the district. The closest two schools are zoned and over 100% utilized
 - d. Should a decision be made to proceed with a new school, the Office of New Schools, in collaboration with Superintendent DiMola, will support design planning sessions with parent leaders, families, students and other community stakeholders
 - e. More information can be found [here](#)
- 6. President’s Report:** Jay Brown
- a. Wishes everyone a Happy First Day of Spring
 - b. March is National Women’s Month and thanked all of the women for the history they have made and continue to make
 - c. 2023 – 2024 and 2024 – 2025 School Calendars are up online and Parent Teacher Conferences have begun
 - d. Schools are phasing into computer based tests now and into the future
 - e. March 27th Kindergarten offers begin and April 3rd Middle School offers begin
 - f. Summer Rising is coming up. Sign up with your *schools* account
 - g. Wishes everyone a Happy Ramadan, Purim and Easter who celebrates
 - h. Good Friday and Easter Monday schools are closed
- 7. Report of Committees**
- a. Elizabeth, Chair of the Special Education Committee, invites everyone to their next meeting, March 26th, where best practices can be shared, creating resources for families and try to make things prioritized in schools

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- b. Petra, D75 Representative, encourages families to take the survey about bussing issues with routes taking longer than needed to go to schools

8. Public Comment – Requesting Two Minutes Per Comment

- a. Nick Tamborra – a licensed mental health counselor and supervisor at a clinical school-based program aimed to both provide mental health support to students and provide the staff and community with information and resources for mental health-related education
- b. Ryan Miele – Turbobo, a therapeutic stuffed animal device, is designed to reduce anxiety in children. Turbobo has been shown to improve the quality and productivity of work product from students, improve the student’s overall learning experience within their classroom learning environments, and make the teacher’s jobs of managing their classrooms much easier. He’d love to offer schools a 3 week FREE pilot program where he provides your schools with between 15 and 20 units of Turbobo at no cost so your schools, teachers, and students can see the immense benefits first hand
- c. Parent wanted to know about the opening year of the new school and speed traffic cameras installed by P.S. 177

9. Adjournment: 7:41PM

- a. Motioned by: **Esfira** seconded by: **Dawn**

NEXT MEETING: APRIL 17, 2024 LOCATION: P.S./I.S. 238 – 1633 EAST 8TH STREET

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