

# COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL 14

---

October 14, 2021/ 6-8pm / Public meeting with members and public via zoom

Meeting Start 6:05pm

## **INTRODUCTIONS AND COMMUNITY CHECK IN**

Introductions in the Chat and community welcoming

Roll Call at 6:05pm

### **Attendees Present:**

Tajh Sutton

Yuli Hsu

Iris Gutierrez

Casey Laytin

Jose Del Toro Alonso

Shy Fieldust

Marissa Manzanares

Kenyatta Reid

Marta Rybicka

### **Absentees:**

Destiney Alford

## **COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Land Acknowledgment and CEC 14 Indigenous Peoples Day statement  
by Tajh Sutton, President

We want to acknowledge that we gather as District 14 on the traditional land of the Lenapehoking- and in honor of their past and present, we honor with gratitude the land itself and the people who have stewarded it throughout generations. We reject the sharing of holidays without an analysis of the harm and erasure this causes our Indigenous comrades, and acknowledge that Italian history- like all history- is part of a year round culturally responsive education- not to be forced beside an opportunity for acknowledgment of the longstanding harm Indigenous communities have faced and continue to face. We uplift past and current struggles for Indigenous sovereignty, the protection of our planet and the essential nature of land back and connect this struggle to the fight for the rights of our undocumented neighbors, the movement for Black lives and the humanity of all oppressed people. We call on ourselves and our community to commit to learn how to be better stewards of the land we inhabit whether by calling out environmental racism or questioning how we celebrate and engage with holidays such as indigenous peoples day and thanksgiving as well as how we acknowledge indigenous communities, histories and

contributions year round. Community Education Council 14 continues to work with organizations such as the Coalition for Educational Justice, New Yorkers for Racially Just Public Schools, Frack Outta BK, the Alliance for Quality Education and El Puento to preserve and amplify culture, protect the land, air and water in our communities, and build intersectional multicultural coalitions through which to create a better world for our children. We welcome you to join us.

### **Announcements by Marissa Manzanares, Recording Secretary**

Sistas and Brothas United invites the community for a youth led day of action in service of communities not cops. SBU works with students to develop school specific and community level campaigns that build youth power. They have a focus on dismantling the school to prison pipeline that pushes students of color, students with special needs and LGBTQ+ students out of school and into prison through zero tolerance policies that involve police. You can find out more on their website at

<https://www.northwestbronx.org/sbu> or Instagram

[https://www.instagram.com/sbu\\_power/](https://www.instagram.com/sbu_power/)

SBU's youth led day of action in service of communities, not cops is this Saturday October 16 at 11am at 907 175<sup>th</sup> street in the bronx

### **Announcements by Casey Laytin**

Sunday October 24th, Join Teachers Unite, Urban Word, Theatre of The Oppressed & Yaya Network for a day of art, action & organizing in service of ending the school to prison pipeline

### **Announcement by Yuli HSU ,Co- Vice President**

Updates on remote advocacy: The New York State Senate & Assembly bills have been introduced by Senators Robert Jackson, John Liu and Assembly woman Nathalia Fernandez. Please support this legislation by up voting and subscribing for updates. We understand many families rely on in person schooling, and also know that many families would prefer a remote learning option to keep their vulnerable children and loved ones safe.

### **Announcements by Iris Gutierrez**

Black lives matter at schools Year of Purpose continues! NYC Black Lives Matter at School Week of action Starts on October 14 7:30-9:00pm. This is virtual event where Educators, Parents, Students, and Organizers are invited to celebrate teaching the truth about structural racism and other forms of oppression.

This first meeting date on October 14 is in honor of George Floyd's birthday. We want as many people to participate as possible info at [blacklivesmatteratschool.com](https://blacklivesmatteratschool.com)

Lions Community school will have its Fall Festival Open House Saturday, November 6 11:00am-3:00pm at Martinez playground. More information can be found on their website <https://www.lyonscommunityschool.org>

Kaliris Salas Ramirez, President of CEC 4, distinguished medical lecturer, founding PRESS member, BLM at schools steering committee member & neuroscientist reports on the Health and Safety Rally. There was an action organized by the UFT to elevate concerns of the safety in schools, teachers are reporting they don't know if a child in their class has tested positive. Teachers are also not being provided testing, there are mitigation and filter issues in the classroom. Teachers are may choose to retire and have connected with the retiree caucus. The UFT has stated they will not support universal healthcare. The retiree caucus wants to elevate concerns as far as DOE lack of transparency with covid safety, lack of support for students with IEP, there feels like a lack of planning that happened for the 2021-2022 school years. There have been lots of rallies in the media.

#### **Introduction of Lincoln Restler, District 33 Council Member**

Mr. Restler thanked CEC14 for supporting the community. He is excited to serve on the council as a partner, I know it has been a hard to year for everyone in the community, the trauma is deep and he wants to do his best to be an advocate and ally. We have amazing school communities, he is looking forward to listening and learning. He hopes to be an ally in getting things done and help our schools have the resources they need to be successful. You can contact him at [lincoln@lincolnforcouncil.com](mailto:lincoln@lincolnforcouncil.com)

#### **Presentation by Liz Rosenberg – Data Analyst, Communications Director, Parent Leader and Founding Member of Parents for Responsive Equitable Safe Schools**

Ms. Rosenberg reported that she is impressed by CEC14 and its efforts. She presented a dashboard on created by PRESS NYC for parents to have a more accurate idea of what is happening in schools. Week by week and daily cases can be viewed. Classroom interventions, including classroom closures, partial quarantines etc are available on the dashboard. Data is from the NYC DOE website data of students and families who have given consent. The data tells us how likely covid is in our schools.

Currently the rate of 5-12 year olds is higher than the community rate which indicates spread in schools. The hope is that this data can be used to encourage better mitigation efforts by the DOE.

Information can be found at [pressnyc.org](https://pressnyc.org) [pressnyc.github.io](https://pressnyc.github.io)

#### **Report by Pamela Okoli and Emily Logan from the Office of Food and Nutrition**

Ms. Okoli discussed food difficulties for the schools due to the supply chain issues, things such as not being able to acquire certain foods or unable to get labels for individually packed food. There are still other issues related to covid including supply chain shortage and staffing shortage. Emily Logan recipe menu development chef, she develops the recipes that each school cook uses in the school stated that the OFSN puts in high priority the nutrition of its students and is doing their best to provide nutritional food to all students. She facilitates student taste testing and all recipes used

in schools are approved by student testers. Due to covid they now come to schools and do student taste testing to put new products on the menu. Principals who want to engage in taste testing can contact Emily Logan – Elogan3@schools.nyc.gov

### **Report by Valeri Johnson about the Marcy Houses Memorial Scholarship Fund.**

Ms. Johnson reports the Marcy Houses Scholarship has had challenges getting students to apply. You have to be a Marcy resident, you don't have to have particular grades, you do have to apply and indicate that you are interested in education whether that is college or trade school. Workshops are coming up for high school students to learn more about post high school educational opportunities. They want to also want to begin the process of post high school education options for students younger than seniors in high school. More information at [marcyscholarship.org](http://marcyscholarship.org)

### **Hoatu Report on High Schools**

The goals we have this year are attendance, graduation rate and making sure students are exposed to post high school options. The majority of high schools in D14 have a 90% graduation rate. There is a new Equity and Rigor project, the schools bring in equity curriculum. A new course called Black History 365 will start this year. The new DOE Social emotional screener is starting in two weeks. We must know our students academically and social/emotionally.

### **Julia Foster Reports on Adult Education**

Adult education students are back in person. Classes are open for ESL for parents and the community. MS126 has day and evening classes. Free computer classes as well. Intro to medical assistant course in D17. For more information contact at Julia Foster at [jfoster10@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:jfoster10@schools.nyc.gov)

### **SUPERINTENDANTS REPORT**

Dr. Nyree A. Dixon

- 1) School visits continue, pandemic and labor challenges continue
- 2) District 14 motto the gem of Brooklyn thank you to students for creating the logos
- 3) Welcome Susan James Admin Assistant to the superintendent
- 4) Jordan Nichols Hilliam, the new Family leadership coordinator
- 5) Mayors announcement of brilliant NYC starting September 2022 accelerated learning will be offered to all kindergarteners

### **DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

Dr. Alisson Alexander -

- 1) President Council elections are on Thursday October 21 at 5:30pm
- 2) District wide PA/PTA training will be held Thursday October 28 at 5:30pm. All PTA/PA should have received an invite, if not please email [lruizferreira@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:lruizferreira@schools.nyc.gov)

- 3) Parent Teacher Conferences Elementary will be evening On November 3 or daytime November 4, High schools, K-12 and 6-12 will be on evenings November 10 or the Afternoon November 12

**Universal Screeners have been selected for DOE students:**

Acadience helps teachers identify children at risk for reading difficulties. It will be used to determine skills to target for instructional support.

K-2 assessment I-Ready and Map Growth are both comprehensive assessments that make differentiated instruction achievable in every classroom. They enable educators to confidently determine each students on grade level proficiency based on state and national standards.

**Social Emotional Screeners have been selected for DOE students:**

DESSA Screener is a social emotional learning screener that will be used in K-8 schools. It is a strengths based assessment looking at 8 domains of social emotional competence. Students will be screened by trained adults. The health and wellness department chose the screener. The process will be that teachers analyze the data, then will utilize social emotional curriculum. Students who may need additional support will be referred to the school counselor. The screeners are accessible in the 9 core languages of the DOE.

**Business Meeting Roll Call 7:53pm**

**Attendees**

Tajh Sutton  
Marta Rybicka  
Yuli Hsu  
Marissa Manzanares  
Iris Gutierrez  
Kenyatta Reid  
Casey Laytin  
Jose Del Toro Alonso  
Shy Fieldust

**Absentees**

Destiny Alford

**CEC 14 Resolution Discussion and Vote**

Resolution in Support of Ensuring Every Child in the NYC DOE School System has a device and broadband access immediately

**YAY**

Tajh Sutton  
Marta Rybicka  
Yuli Hsu  
Marissa Manzanares  
Iris Gutierrez

Kenyatta Reid  
Casey Laytin  
Jose Del Toro Alonso  
Shy Fieldust

**Resolution in Support of Quarantining Un-vaccinated Students and Faculty  
YAY**

Tajh Sutton  
Marta Rybicka  
Yuli Hsu  
Marissa Manzanares  
Iris Gutierrez  
Kenyatta Reid  
Casey Laytin  
Jose Del Toro Alonso  
Shy Fieldust

**Resolution in Support of Shifting Children Whose Adults have not Consented to  
COVID testing to a Remote option**

**YAY**

Tajh Sutton  
Marta Rybicka  
Yuli Hsu  
Marissa Manzanares  
Iris Gutierrez  
Kenyatta Reid  
Casey Laytin  
Jose Del Toro Alonso  
Shy Fieldust

**Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm**

*Minutes by: Marissa Manzanare  
Cc: file*