

COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL 14

November 18, 2021/ 6-8pm / Public meeting with members and public via zoom

Meeting Start 6:02pm

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

Marissa Manzanares

Absentees:

Kenyatta Reid

Shy Fieldust

Destiney Alford

Marta Rybicka

COMMUNITY COMMITMENTS

As a member of the d14 community, I vow to uphold these values to the best of my ability. When I am in spaces with my fellow community members, I will recognize that: I will work to be *actively* anti-racist and name the systems that seek to harm students, families and communities- such as capitalism, colorism, racism, homophobia, transphobia, misogyny and ableism among others.

I understand that privilege comes in many different forms, and that intersectionality is key to all movement work.

I am responsible for my impact and as such, will recognize the privilege I bring into a space including but not limited to my race, gender, ability, socio economic status, immigration status, spoken language, gender expression and sexual orientation.

This includes not taking up space in conversations where I am not the most impacted student, parent, staff or community member.

I will do my own labor to discover when and how it is appropriate for me to stand in solidarity with my fellow students based on their identities.

A conversation is not accountability. Restorative justice is more than a dialogue. I commit to unlearning harmful behaviors that have been normalized in society and unlearning the ways they show up in my interactions with my community. I am teachable. I am coachable. I am open to learning and growing. I am capable of being accountable. My impact matters and I welcome being called in or called out when appropriate. There is value in repairing harm. Defensiveness does not serve me, my community or our collective work. My presence within the CEC space is a privilege. I understand that if my actions or behavior cause harm to any student or community member, I can and will be removed from this space.

Council vote to formally remove Council Member Destiny Alford:

YAY

Tajh Sutton
Yuli Hsu
Iris Gutierrez
Casey Laytin
Jose Del Toro Alonso
Marissa Manzanares

NAY

Council vote to accept the resignation of Council Member Marta Rybicka

YAY

Tajh Sutton
Yuli Hsu
Iris Gutierrez
Casey Laytin
Jose Del Toro Alonso
Marissa Manzanares

NAY

Announcement of Student member vacancy on the CEC 14. The CEC is only allowed to accept students that are seniors. The D14 CEC encourages principals and school administration to connect with us and submit students for the Student CEC Council seat.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

P84 PETITION FOR TRAFFIC LIGHT:

PS 84 has also started a petition to get a traffic light at the Corner of Grand and Berry in Williamsburg. They are working with Emily Gallagher, Antonio Reynoso's office (and his replacement), Lincoln Restler, and the DOT to get a traffic light at the corner of Grand and Berry. It has always been an issue but it has gotten extremely dangerous. A parent was recently struck by a vehicle and seriously injured. The ps84 community is extremely concerned as if this had been a child the child would certainly have gone under the car. To make matters worse there

is a crossing guard shortage and as of now, there is no crossing guard for the corner of Grand and Berry, the guard must be at Grand and S1st due to school entrance regulations.

The three main things you can do to support the PS84 community is

- 1) sign the petition PS84 [TRAFFIC LIGHT PETITION](#)
- 2) call 311 as much as you can and reference Case# DOT-524050-J7S1 and ask for a traffic light at that intersection
- 3) Call 311 and ask for the PS84 Crossing Guard at the corner of Grand and Berry to be reinstated

CLASS SIZE MATTERS:

The City Council Education Committee held a hearing on adding an amendment to the administrative code that would change the square footage per child to 35 square feet, which means smaller class sizes. Council Member Marissa Manzanares testified along with many other parents, educators, activists and UFT Representatives.

The committee is in support of the amendment despite pushback from the DOE. The committee will take the amendment to a vote later this month.

<https://classsizematters.org>
info@classsizematters.org

EL PUENTE FOOD DISTRIBUTION:

El Puente is Food distribution for Unsecured Families November 18 and December 16 from 3:00-5:00pm at 211 South 4th Street in Williamsburg, Brooklyn.

VACCINES AND KIDS FORUM:

Monday November 22 at 6:00pm there will be a virtual forum with Dr. Autum Hinds, Dr. Akeem Marsh, and NYC youth. This is a presentation and question/answer that CEC 4 is hosting. They have expanded this event to be city wide.

BLM AT SCHOOL DESIGN CONTEST:

The 5th annual BLM T-Shirt design contest is here. In preparation for the celebration of Black History Month there is a BLM t-shirt design contest. We encourage every student every school that is interested submit their drawing by Dec. 2. We need to have contests such as this that speak to all of our students in the greater community. The community gets to vote on their favorite design.

UNIVERSAL MOSIAC CURRICULUM SURVEY:

The NYCDOE is co-designing a rigorous, inclusive, and affirming Language Arts and Math Curricula that will be available to all schools by 2023. You can find out more information here: <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/learning/universal-mosaic-curriculum>

We hope families are able to fill out the Mosaic Curriculum Feedback form so that the DOE will know what families want for their children's education.

<https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/6609568/Universal-Mosaic-Curriculum-Feedback-Form>

PRESENTATIONS

BRILLIANT NYC:

In order to provide a community perspective of the Brilliant NYC blueprint the D14 CEC has invited Matt Gonzalez from NYU Metro Center, Tiffani Torres an Alumni Student Organizer with Teens Take Charge, and Asamia Diaby from the Alliance for Quality Education.

Matt Gonzalez discussed his thoughts on the current Blueprint for Brilliant NYC. He discussed the history of the current G and T program and encouraged the community to ask itself questions such as “When we create a resource for a small group of students, and make definitions (such as “gifted” meaning being good at taking a test) what does that create in the community as a whole?” Mr. Gonzalez reiterated that many people working and advocating towards an education system that sees every child as gifted and while it feels too late, at least it is moving in the right direction.

Asamia Diaby discussed thoughts about what Brilliant NYC is and what does it mean for education citywide. The main concerns discussed were that it feels as if this program has been set up to fail. These thoughts are based on the timeline it was released, the upcoming change in Mayoral control of education, and concerns about timing, funding and staffing.

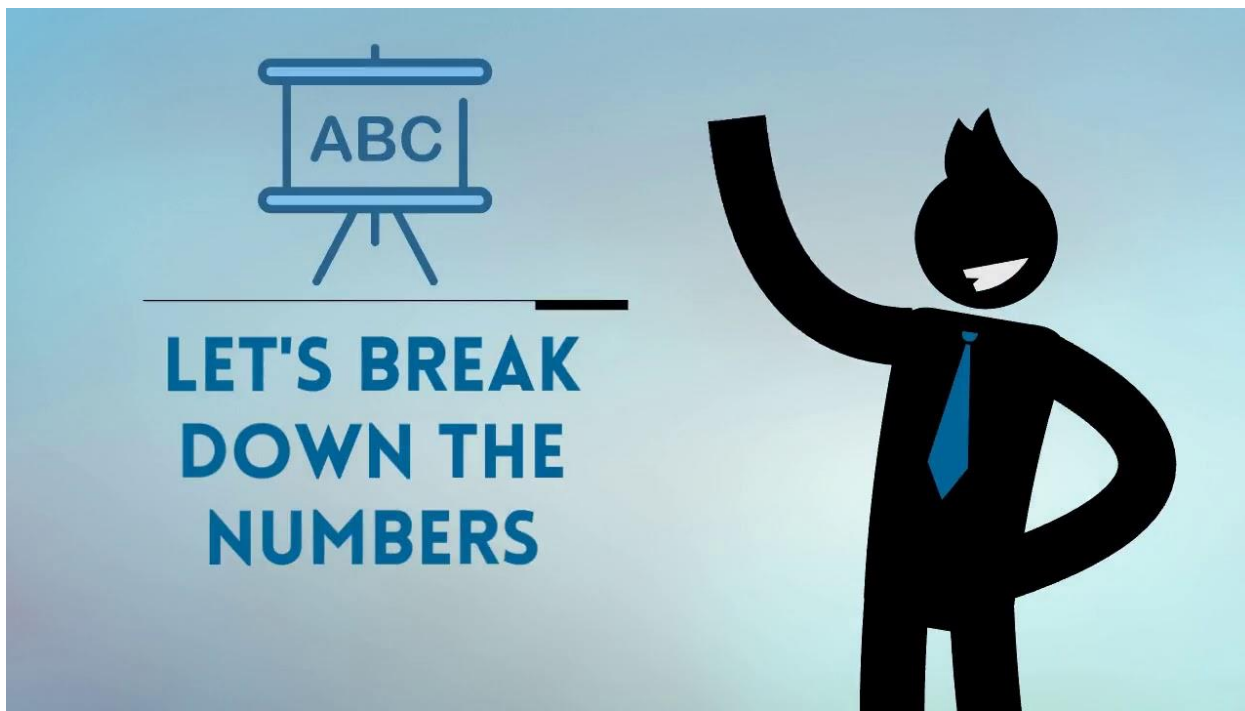
Tazin Azad from PRESS NYC added to the conversation stating that there are and have been people thinking about culturally responsible education for a long time. She commented on her experience at the BRILLIANT NYC Community Meeting expressing that many parents, activists, and community people feel that language access is an after thought. The facilitators were not given instruction or taught how to make space for parents who might need communication other than English. So communities are continuously coming up against lack of information. Tazin encourages legitimate and proven methods to engage folks to be used by the DOE and has expressed that many people in the community have those methods to be utilized, the DOE simply needs to make the effort.

LINKS TO RESOURCES SHARED DURING THE DISCUSSION:

<https://www.education4liberation.org>

<https://steinhardt.nyu.edu/metrocenter/school-diversity-advisory-group>

<https://gifted.uconn.edu/schoolwide-enrichment-model/#>



SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

- 1) Attendance - Citywide average is 92% and D14 is 91% as a district
- 2) Brilliant NYC Community Engagement Sessions are happening in every district to identify areas of need and next steps in the design of the program. There is an expert panel on Monday November 29 at 7:30pm. The panel will be moderated by middle school students from our very own District 14
- 3) The District 14 Equity team will be collaborating with WXY to create a multi-disciplinary team. They will be holding meetings with a variety of constituents from the community.

The Three Equity Goals:

Attendance - improve chronic absenteeism by building inclusive environments by providing supports for families

Culturally Relevant/Culturally Sustaining Curriculum - provide education to students in which they see themselves and engage in learning experiences they connect with AND learning about other cultures.

Professional Learning - address biases and practices that marginalize students by providing principals with knowledge and necessary skills to provide compassionate education. This will be specifically for students identified as living in temporary housing, male Black/Hispanic students, and students with disabilities

- 4) There will be community session with Dr. Sealy Ruiz on December 2 from 6:00-7:30. You can sign up here:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf83CO6loRDYmPNYDs3QPtl2cOKI7-r90tO4T03wmkSBC98Fg/viewform>

5) The DESSA/SEL screener

Results will not be included on report cards

Results are secure

Parents can opt out by writing a letter to their school

6) In partnership with NYC Rise the city will begin a college program for all kindergarten students in 2021. It provides incoming students with \$100, once a parent activates the account they will receive \$25 and there are additional opportunities to receive rewards. Everyone is automatically enrolled unless you opt out.

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/learning/student-journey/college-and-career-planning/nyc-kids-rise-save-for-college-program>

7) District 14 now has a twitter page: <https://twitter.com/NYCDOED14>

8) There are two new positions in the D14 office. Director of early childhood and Special Education and n Instructional liaison

PRESENTATION BY THE OFFICE OF DISTRICT PLANNING:

PRESENTATION BY PERRY STEIN AND JAMIE DOLLINGER

CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE THANKSGIVING RESOURCES:

[HTTPS://DOCS.GOOGLE.COM/DOCUMENT/D/1E-WZIZWHPAVNGZ_GJZQJAOYOYV56H6NREBOCS1RPDK/EDIT?USP=SHARING](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1E-WZIZWHPAVNGZ_GJZQJAOYOYV56H6NREBOCS1RPDK/EDIT?USP=SHARING)