

# COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL 14

October 12 2023/ 6-8pm / Public meeting with members and public via zoom

## **INTRODUCTIONS AND COMMUNITY CHECK IN**

Introductions in the Chat and Community Welcoming

Meeting started at 6:05pm

### **Attendees Present:**

Tajh Sutton  
Marissa Manzanares  
Aubree Henderson  
Sarah Sharma  
Casey Laytin  
Laraine DeAngelis  
Sandra Ferreira  
Gianinna Hutchinson  
Resham Mantri  
Ariana Lopez

### **Absentees:**

None

Welcome to our October Community Education Council meeting! Please introduce yourself in the chat with your name, school or community affiliation and preferred pronouns. Feel free to share 1 thing you are coming into the meeting with and 1 thing you hope to leave with.

### **Ice Breaker:**

If you had to describe your school or neighborhood as a type of weather which would it be and why?

Ex: sunshower, snow flurries, heatwave, tropical storm, etc.

### **Announcements and acknowledgements:**

#### **St Nicks Alliance Offerings - Aaliyah Dennis**

Ongoing enrollments throughout the whole fiscal year for classes at St. Nicks Alliance including GED classes. Shared via CEC14 social media

#### **School Foods Update - Pamela Okoli**

Pamela gave an overview of the school foods program and the ways that the program considers cultural needs, health needs, and more in developing menus. She emphasized that breakfast is always available to students until lunch service, even if students arrive late. She reviewed the

Principal Guide that each school principal receives providing the overview of the school food program - parents can request a paper copy of this guide and can access this information online.

**Presentation: District Planning (Sharukh Tasnim & Jyoti Folch-Bermin)**

District planning team highlighted data around district enrollment trends. Enrollment is down across NYC since the COVID-19 pandemic. District 14 is no exception and has experienced a 13% enrollment decrease. District 14 has the lowest elementary school retention rate and the second lowest middle school retention rate. There were many questions from the community about the data and reasons behind these trends.

Many parents & students from MS 50 shared concerns about building space usage, lack of space and congestion in classrooms at MS 50. There are many concerns specifically about Success Academy's use of the space taking away space from MS 50 students. Question discussed: How do we go about addressing the issues with building utilization at MS 50 in light of enrollment realities and class size guidance? District planning team shared that this is a concern they are aware of and are actively working on. MS 50 leadership, students, and parents would like to be involved with a planning meeting with District Planning team & DOE. The CEC is committed to supporting and advocating for MS 50 stakeholders to be at the table for this conversation. Superintendent Cintron named that he has been having conversations about this and is committed to working alongside MS 50 students, parents, and leadership to find a solution.

Brooklyn North High School Fair - Yuet Chu

There will be a Brooklyn North High School Fair October 21 2023 from 10a-3p at George Westinghouse CTE High School. More info will be shared on CEC14 social media.

Presidents Council elections: congratulations President Yadsuel Barada & Secretary Samantha Sanchez [https://instagram.com/d14\\_prescouncil?igshid=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==](https://instagram.com/d14_prescouncil?igshid=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==)

Virtual/ Hybrid meeting resolution & Amended bylaws Update

CEC Website <https://cec14.org>

Community Vision Board

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/18WiyKt4mMwUZqbdbIjw1opX2uK62td9mHk-BhLhWXg/edit>

**Superintendent's Updates:**

Superintendent Cintron shared words of encouragement for those impacted by events in Gaza & Israel.

NYC Reads program beginning 2023-24, goal is ensuring all students become strong readers. As a district we are now outperforming the city average in terms of proficiency, and we have made significant gains as a district in our students' performance and proficiency.

High school admission welcome letters will be distributed to current 8th graders in early October. These letters will include info on creating a MySchools account. The high school application process is now open and deadline is Friday, December 1st 2023.

**Upcoming Events:**

October 26 Middle school showcase

November 8 Parent Coordinator Lead Workshop Series - NYCSA Activation and Attendance Matters

**Important Dates:**

Tuesday November 7 - Students do not attend school

Partnering with Mindful Schools - PD for staff & school leaders on mindfulness in schools

Breast Cancer Awareness day at PS 31

Parents as Literacy Partners at PS 380

Bring Your Parents to School Day at MS 582

**Public Comment:**

Principal Honoroff MS 50 thanked MS 50 parents & students for showing up as well as Superintendent Cintron for being an advocate for MS 50

Question for D14 middle schools to have info on their websites about LGBTQ+ friendly policies and programs like staff training, GSA, gender neutral bathrooms, etc.

Question about next coffee with superintendent - there will be one, info coming soon.

Suggestion of vaccine truck event for families to be vaccinated

Questions about i-Ready and how it's used, district approaches to test prep. Superintendent Cintron elaborated that i-Ready does not replace a teacher's role in instruction and student learning, simply a tool to strengthen learning. Not the only determining factor

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**Meeting Adjourned a 8:14 pm**