

COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL 14

January 24th 2024/ 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 6:15pm

Attendees Present:

Tajh Sutton

Marissa Manzanares

Aubree Henderson

Laraine DeAngelis

Sandra Fereirra (arrived late)

Ariana Lopez (arrived late)

Resham Mantri

Gianinna Hutchinson (arrived late)

Absentees:

None

Updated CEC14 Community Agreements:

We are committed to intersectional solidarity.

We actively listen with the intent to understand, rather than respond.

We call each other in, and out when appropriate. We are all capable of harm and the degree of harm experienced dictates the tactic used.

Conflict is inevitable, and survivable, within community.

We embrace discomfort. We work to distinguish discomfort from harm. We work to create brave spaces in the hopes they are as safe as possible. We create the conditions to minimize harm and address harm when it happens whether verbal, behavioral or physical.

We watch our jargon and welcome teachable moments.

We believe those closest to the issues are closest to the solutions.

We distinguish between good faith dialogue and bad faith arguments.

We reserve the right to remove participants causing discord, spreading misinformation and/ or affiliated with hate groups. The DOE may not utilize this practice or standard, but we do.

Ice Breaker:

Please share your Name, pronouns, school or community affiliation and a beverage that represents your personality & why

(ex: sparkling water, vanilla milkshake, ginger ale, lavender tea, hot chocolate, red wine, coquito, shot of ginger, green smoothie, etc)

Announcements and acknowledgements:

- Mayoral Control updates
 - Brooklyn Mayoral Control Forum was on January 11th which is why our January CEC Meeting was rescheduled to this evening.
 - Send a message to Kathy Hochul about her decision to extend mayoral control before hearing from parents in all boroughs:
<https://www.governor.ny.gov/content/governor-contact-form>
 - <https://www.chalkbeat.org/newyork/2024/01/16/hochul-unveils-state-budget-proposal-calls-for-mayoral-control-extension/>
 - <https://www.nysed.gov/main/form/submit-written-electronic-testimony-nyc-mayoral-control>
- Class size updates
 - Class size surveys should have been submitted by this time to DOE from schools.
 - Feel free to send a copy/forward submissions to the CEC so we can begin to advocate in the ways that your school communities may need
- Lunar New Year
 - The CEC would love to support your schools' Lunar New Year celebrations, offer support, etc. We want to uplift your work! Email us
- Black History Month/ BLM at School
 - Black Lives Matter at School Week of Action - Feb 5-9
 - More dates & times for art builds, showcases, and other creative events coming soon
 - Thanks to all of our school and organizational partners - still hoping to collaborate with even more partners, support events in your schools. Reach out to CEC14 to share events, ask questions, etc.
 - <https://www.blacklivesmatteratschool.com/13-guiding-principles.html>
- Mandated Reporting Working Group
 - Exploring mandated supporting vs. mandated reporting. Finding ways we can provide support and care for students and families rather than routes that can cause harm to families.
 - Fill out this form to express interest: <https://forms.gle/gtytDWciYnoCDAwv6>
 - Contact mgiovanelli@childrensrights.org
- Related services survey
 - We are collecting data from parents of students in district 14 who have lost access to related services in their IEP. Please fill out and share the following link widely.
 - <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd-vrXAEne3scs5vroVCpoXdY6UnKb3vQfTgqYzY3vVwkpcbw/viewform>

- Free Covid tests! <https://www.covid.gov/tools-and-resources/resources/tests>

Presentations

- High School Report (Yuet Chu - Brooklyn North High Schools)
- 2024 Themes: Hope & Resilience
- 2024 Goals:
 - Showing Students Possible Futures - Apprenticeships, Classrooms for the Future, etc.
 - High Quality Student Experience Grounded in Standards-Based Curricula - focus on math & rollout of illustrative math. Also looking at students with IEPs and ensuring these students are getting their IEP requirements met
 - Expand Parent Engagement
 - Decrease chronic absenteeism & increase overall attendance
- Yuet shared goals, vision, & events for 2024 for BKNHS - will include slides separately.

Superintendent's Updates:

Superintendent Cintron shared concerns about feelings of division, conflict, and tension in the CEC14 community, specifically around the events in Gaza and Israel. He invited anyone in our community who would like to come together in a space facilitated by an external facilitator/mediator to discuss the conflict and work toward resolution. Anyone interested should reach out to the Superintendent's office directly for more details.

The Superintendent shared about efforts from the DOE announced by the Chancellor to combat antisemitism and Islamophobia in our schools.

The Superintendent shared that January is scholarship month for NYC Kids Rise free college savings program.

There is a new free online therapy space for all NYC students ages 13 to 17. Partnership with Talkspace called NYC TeenSpace. Visit <http://www.talkspace.com/nyc> to learn more.

Upcoming Events & Important Dates:

Feb 6 - Special Education Family Institute
Feb 7 - Empowering Parents: Navigating the NYS Exams
Feb 13 - District Parent Advisory Council Elections
Feb 19-23 - Midwinter Recess, Schools Closed
Feb 28 - Stress Management for Caregivers
March 13 - Parent Leadership Summit

Website: NYCDOED14.org

Twitter: @NYCPSD14

Instagram: @CommunitySchoolDistrict14

Public Comment:

Public comment began with President Sutton & VP Manzanares sharing concerns about the Superintendent's framing of a mediation/healing space without being willing to acknowledge the violence being experienced by CEC14, as well as parents, teachers, and students in our district. Community members shared concerns about this announcement as well. In the Q&A function of the Zoom meeting, questions were asked throughout the meeting about details of mayoral control, about agenda items, and more.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:03 pm