

**CEC 5 Calendar Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, August 23, 2023**

**President**

Schadell Barnhill

**Vice President**

Vacant

**Recording Secretary**

Vacant

**Treasurer**

Ayishah Irvin

**Members**

Phoebe Arnold

Brian Peters

Denise Randolph

Damaris Rodriguez

Joseph Sparrow

Toby Vickers

Honey Walrond

Gina Williams

**Borough Appointees**

Phoebe Arnold

Honey Walrond

**Student Members**

Vacant

**Admin. Assistant**

Lisa Kinsey

President Barnhill called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Roll call taken by Lisa Kinsey, which resulted in the following:

**Present:** Schadell Barnhill, Ayishah Irvin, Brian Peters**,** Honey Walrond, and Gina Williams

**Absent:** Phoebe Arnold (Excused), Denise Randolph (Excused), Damaris Rodriguez (Excused), Joseph Sparrow (Excused),

and Toby Vickers (Excused)

The council did not have a quorum to proceed with official business.

**Election of Vice President and Recording Secretary**

Tabled until September 27, 2023, Calendar Meeting.

**Acknowledgement of Minutes: July 26, 2023**

**Acknowledgements**

President Barnhill acknowledged our Harlem Community School District 5 Deputy Superintendent, Dr. Decosta and Manhattan Borough President Office, Education Policy Analyst, Adita Basu. President Barnhill acknowledged and introduced newly appointed Manhattan Borough Office Appointee Honey Walrond.

**Report of President**

* On August 10, 2023, President Barnhill met with Jolisa Beaver, Founder, 4ward Inclusion Non-Profit via Zoom, which is aligned with the district. President Barnhill will be setting up a meeting with Ms. Beavers to meet the entire council. Ms. Beavers is asking for a letter of support to come into district 5. Ms. Beavers deals with social and emotional needs. They have a curriculum for teachers as well. President Barnhill shares that because Ms. Beavers is in alignment with the district, she will be an asset as well.
* President Barnhill met with the district office earlier today to talk about upcoming events and how we will be able to

       partner instead of having smaller events.

**Report of Harlem Community School District 5 Superintendent – Dr. Davenport**

Dr. Decosta, Harlem Community School District 5 Deputy Superintendent, reported in the absence of   Dr. Davenport.

We wanted to share a few of the initiatives for this year. Ms. Kinsey sent out an email with all the attachments.

**District Goals**

We have identified our goals for the year. Although, we have not received the state exam scores and we expect to get those late this year. We are using the data from the end of last year to determine our goals. One of our priorities is our students learning to read well.

* Harlem Reads and Writes
* Social and Emotional Culturally Responsive
* Chronic Absenteeism
  + - We continue to work on chronic absenteeism and want to see an increase. We are still at the bottom of the city in our attendance. Although, we did see improvement. We met our 5% improvement from the previous year, but now we want to try and get to 93% of good attendance across the schools. We also want to have a 50% proficiency rate in ELA and at least a 35% proficiency rate in math. This would be up 30% from last year across the district and 70% in math. It is big gains we are expecting, but we are going to do everything we can.
* Special Populations
  + - Students with Special Needs, English Language Learners, we have received many Asylum Seekers in the spring and during the summer. Our goal is to make sure that their needs are also met.
* College and Career Readiness
  + - We want to increase that to 92% of high school students with a high school graduation rate.

                We also want to do more with our families. Dr. Davenport mentioned this last meeting that this was a piece that we didn’t

do enough of in terms of the district. We did not have enough of a touchpoint with the families. We want to do better with

        that this year.

* Enrollment
  + - This one is new, we had one before, but the DOE wants us to formalize this goal. In this district before the pandemic, we had over 8,000 students and there were 6,200-6,800 students. We are looking for an increase of 5% increase which would mean about 600 students. We are already getting a lot of students with asylum seekers. We have two upcoming events that will help us to reach this goal.

**Upcoming Events**

* Harlem Reads and Writes
  + - Our version of New York City Reads. Dr. Davenport always wants the district to be different and unique. It is our spin on New York City Reads. At the same initiative all our k-5 schools will be using the same ELA Curriculum.  They are all going to get professional development. Their teachers are going to get in-class coaching on this new curriculum with the goal of increasing our proficiency across the district. In addition, to that we as a district want to promote the love of reading. We want all adults to also model this, Dr. Davenport talked a little bit about this last time, wanting to have a book club and wanting the CEC to be a part of that book club. We want all the principals, assistant principals, teachers, and parents that want to join our book club to do so, and right now we are going to look for an interesting book to read. If anybody has any recommendations, they can share them with us. This is reading for pleasure. Not that we do not want to learn. This is reading for pleasure, and we want to have a book talk, about ½ hour once a month via zoom to talk about the book, finish that book and go to the next book. We also want all the kids to have library cards because there are many digital books online. We want to have books for the month for the schools. We want to have a podcast. We talked about a student led podcast. Where the students will be reviewing books, and we have the launch event on Saturday, September 23, 2023, between 9am-4pm at PS 154. We will distribute 40,000 books to the community in collaboration with UFT, AFT and some sponsors. We will give out books until we run out. We are also going to launch the Harlem Reads Initiative and keep promoting it across the district. Dr. Davenport wants all the kids to walk with a book that they love, just for the love of reading. We want to see that jump out when we visit the schools. We hope that when you visit schools as well that you will be able to give feedback on whether this jumps back out at you that the community is really promoting the love of reading.
* Culturally Responsive Social Emotional Learning Grant
  + - A (1-million-dollar) grant from Senator Schumer. On Saturday, September 30, 2023, we have another launch event Representative Adriano Espaillat, also part of this grant, will present this check at this event. We expect the Chancellor, Senator Schumer, Representative Adriano Espaillat and Dr. Hazel Dukes from the NAACP to attend this event. We want to make that a big event too. All of you are welcome of course if you want to volunteer, if you just want to attend. There will be a variety of tables. We are also giving out Culturally Responsive books.  The Black Studies Curriculum folks are going to be there. It is a big event, and we want to celebrate something positive about our district and community. We have a press release. We want everyone to come out and celebrate since there is so much negative press about our district. We want to celebrate when something positive happens, and this is about the wellness of the school community.

President Barnhill shared with the council and community that Dr. Sandye Johnson will be presenting at our Wednesday, September 27, 2023, Calendar Meeting to share information about a new partnership.

**Speaker’s List**

        No one for the speaker’s list.

          President Barnhill adjourned the calendar meeting at 6:42PM

                         Submitted by: Lisa Kinsey, Administrative Assistant



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Schadell Barnhill

**Vice President**

Vacant

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**CEC 5 Business Meeting Minutes**

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Meeting called to order by President Barnhill at 6:30 PM. Roll call taken by Lisa Kinsey, which resulted in the following:

**Present:** Schadell Barnhill, Ayishah Irvin, Brian Peters**,** Honey Walrond, and Gina Williams

**Absent:** Phoebe Arnold (excused), Denise Randolph (excused), Damaris Rodriguez (excused), Joseph Sparrow (excused),

and Toby Vickers

**New Business**

* Committees: Tabled until our Wednesday, September 27, 2023, Meeting when we will have quorum.
* Parent Associations
  + - President’s Council Chair Ayishah Irvin our bylaws state that we are supposed to meet quarterly with the Parent Associations. The Executive Board (President Barnhill) and I have chosen dates to meet with the parent associations. The dates are not final because we wanted to share the dates with the council to ensure the dates work for you. We tried to choose quarterly dates and will share the dates via email, get your feedback before the finalizing, but we want to make sure we are meeting with them because we have not met with them in a long time. We want to make sure we are meeting with the president’s council quarterly.
* Council Email Addresses
* Administrative Assistant asked the council to email and let her know if they wanted their personal email addresses shared with the council and community. Member Williams suggested that council members create an email account just for CEC communications. President Barnhill thought that was a good idea.

President shared the next meeting date: Wednesday, September 27, 2023

President Barnhill adjourned the business meeting at 6:42pm

Submitted by: Lisa Kinsey, Administrative Assistant