



**Harlem Community Education Council District 5 (HCECD5)**  
**Wednesday, January 24, 2024**  
**Calendar Meeting Minutes**

**President**  
Schadell Barnhill

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

**Vice President**  
Brian Peters

**Present:** Phoebe Arnold, Schadell Barnhill, Ayishah Irvin, Denise Randolph, Damaris Rodriguez, Toby Vickers and Gina Williams

**Recording Secretary**  
Damaris Rodriguez

**Absent:** Brian Peters (Excused), Joseph Sparrow (Excused) and Honey Walrond (Excused)

**Treasurer**  
Ayishah Irvin

Acknowledgement of Minutes: December 20, 2023

**Members**  
Phoebe Arnold  
Denise Randolph  
Joseph Sparrow  
Toby Vickers  
Honey Walrond  
Gina Williams

Amended Bylaws Vote

A voice vote for the record: Yes: 7, No: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 3

Budget Modification Vote

Motion by: Treasurer Irvin Second by: Member Arnold and a voice vote for the record: Yes: 7

Resolution # 101 Urging DOE to Implement Proposals Class Size Working Group and Comply with the new Class Size Law Vote

Motion by: Treasurer Irvin Second by: Member Vickers and a voice vote for the record: Yes: 7, No: 0, Abstain: 0 Absent: 3

**Borough Appointees**  
Phoebe Arnold  
Honey Walrond

Report of President

- o President Barnhill recently joined the Citywide Wellness Advisory Council to learn about and provide feedback on wellness.
- o President Barnhill thanked the council for attending tonight's meeting.
- o Attended Meetings and Events:
  - o District Book Club the council has been invited to join the book club and conversation of the book.
  - o State of the District Decorating and Committee Planning
  - o DLT, CRASEL/Yoga Parent Institute which was amazing. Our D5 Family Leadership Coordinator, Lizzi Sofge did a wonderful job advertising the event. Her commitment is definitely refreshing.
  - o CRASEL/Morningside Zoom which was intended to assist our CEC. There were only 3-4 members in attendance. This meeting allowed President Barnhill to be in a space to thoroughly express her disappointment in this amazing council. President Barnhill just recently learned that an absence is an absence.
- o President Barnhill shared that it is blatantly disrespectful to her and the community to not show up to commitments that you have agreed to. You show disrespect and disregard by not showing up or saying I forgot or to not show up in the last hour for a commitment that you made. These are covenant positions of leadership. Leaders show up, they lead by example, and they support one another. So, just do better and you do better by your actions. To those of you who make arrangements and keep this council as a priority I see you, others see you and you are appreciated.

**Student Members**  
Vacant

**Admin. Assistant**  
Lisa Kinsey

- o We will be attendance for the Superintendent's State of the District Address. We will move in solidarity as a district. All essential members will be in uniform. A black polo which will be distributed the week prior to the

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event on February 7, 2024. President Barnhill is asking the council to wear black bottoms and shoes of your choice. We will also sit together as the united council that we are. Please do not bring anyone who is not registered or invited. It is disrespectful and distasteful. Council members have to register as well.

- o As Phase 1 of physically imagining CEC. President Barnhill heard the council and they visually wanted something new, but unfortunately were not proactive. We will publicly begin to use the new Harlem Community Education Council District 5 Logo next month (February) which was included in December's folders and emailed for you to view.

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

Dr. Davenport shared a PowerPoint Presentation and answered questions from the council and school community.

- o State of the District: February 7<sup>th</sup> at Frederick Douglass Academy
- o Harlem Reads & Writes Phase 1
- o ELA Implementation Tool Walkthroughs
- o Harlem Community School Instructional ELA Series
- o Science of Reading Educators' Course Club
- o New York State Test Schedule Elementary and Intermediate
- o HIT (High Impact Tutoring) K-2 (Literacy) and 6-8 (Math)
- o MyOn and Harlem Reads and Writes Challenge
- o District Media Recognition
- o Superintendent's Book Club
- o Stat of the District Registration and Additional Information
- o Harlem: From the Met to the MECCA
- o Upcoming Events and Special Projects

#### Presentation: School Construction Authority (SCA), Proposed Five Year Capital Plan Amendment for Fiscal Years 2025-2029 by: Manager External Affairs, Joshua Adams

Mr. Adams shared a PowerPoint Presentation and answered questions from the council and school community.

- o Overview of February 2023 Amendment to FY 2020-2024 Plan
- o Plan Highlights
- o Capacity Program
- o Capital Improvement
- o Reso A
- o MWLBE
- o Proposed 5 Year Capacity Plan for FY 2025-2029
- o Proposed Plan Highlights
- o Proposed Capacity Program
- o Comment Form
- o Questions and Comments

#### Speaker's List

No one for the speaker's list.

President Barnhill adjourned the calendar meeting at 7:45PM

Submitted by: Lisa Kinsey, Administrative Assistant



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**Business Meeting Minutes**

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Brian Peters

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Damaris Rodriguez

**Treasurer**  
Ayishah Irvin

**Members**  
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Phoebe Arnold  
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**Student Members**  
Vacant

**Admin. Assistant**  
Lisa Kinsey

Meeting called to order by President Barnhill at 7:45 PM. Roll call taken by Lisa Kinsey, which resulted in the following:

**Present:** Phoebe Arnold, Schadell Barnhill, Ayishah Irvin, Denise Randolph, Damaris Rodriguez, Toby Vickers and Gina Williams

**Absent:** Joseph Sparrow (Excused), Brian Peters (Excused) and Honey Walrond (Excused)

New Business:

Committee Report

Education Policy Chair: Member Williams

- o Would like the council to discuss, vote and pass a resolution in Support of Sustaining Key Education Programs Funded with Expiring Federal COVID-19 Relief Sponsors.
- o Attended a Governor Kathy Hochul Announcement regarding Mental Health Funding going into schools to eliminate parents taking students out of school for services. There is no implementation plan per district yet. Most importantly how much funding will District 5 receive. Suggested the council to consider an early resolution to be on the front line instead of last online.

President Barnhill suggested that Member Williams would get additional information and the council may have to write the resolution collectively. Being at the forefront of anything is always great and we can use this momentum that District 5 is having now.

- o An Agency is willing to present a 2-Hour Training on What Human Trafficking looks like. Thought it would be educational for the entire District 5 Community. Students would not fall prey.

President Barnhill suggested that maybe it would be a good idea and it would start at the President's Council level. It will be in the school's first and PA's can have workshops. Yes, it is an important topic and there are many black and brown children who are not necessarily missing that are being trafficked. So, that would be excellent.

- o The How Many Stops Act the bill was introduced by the Public Advocate, but City Council Members are backing Yusef Salaam is the Chair of Public Safety. The bill is extremely important because it's asking NYPD to detail of their Levels 1-3 stops transparently accountable. At the end of the month the targets go up and they are mainly targeting our children of color. Especially if they see 2 or more children together particularly males. They stop them for no reason and that creates the Prison Pipeline. NYPD have smartphones already. Why and the level of are people being stopped. The mayor did veto. Member Williams will share her City Council Resource information with the council.

President Barnhill shared that Member Williams report on falls under her committee and it was a prime example of what a committee report is. As we move President Barnhill would like to see/hear committee reports. The council can hold events and have committee meetings.

February we will be displaying our new logo.

President Barnhill will be speaking at the State of the District. During President Barnhill's speech she will speak about developing 2-4 parent workshops based on literacy. President Barnhill's idea is based on Literacy Throughout the Generations. President Barnhill has been looking thru and trying to find ideas that coincide with the district and the initiative with what they're learning like phonics. You have individuals that learn through memorization and not learn phonic sound. That would be one of our workshops. Ideology the beginning and

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ending of a word and give the whole meaning of a word. President Barnhill would like feedback. This is a collaborative council. Let me know in an email another 1-2 parent workshops that we could develop. As we're being seen as a breath of fresh air to continue in that momentum. Collaboration and working together was just as we went through those votes. Everybody knows how they're going to vote. We don't have to sit here and spend 10 minutes debating back and forth unless there really is an inquiry being that you receive the information beforehand. You can send in a question, and it may need research behind it, and I don't have that question and you ask during the meeting what it does is sets us back.

President Barnhill asked that the council continue to check your emails, show up for your commitments she knows that things happen. Please don't send an email 20 minutes before the meeting. It is very disrespectful for what we're doing and how much effort that we're putting into things.

President Barnhill challenged the council to bring one person the meeting with you next month if you can.

#### Suggestions for improving CEC Meeting Attendance

Member Williams: suggested going back to the survey asking parents what they need and want.

President Barnhill: has asked our D5, Family Leadership Coordinator, Lizzi Sofge to assist with parent attendance at our CEC meetings. She is excellent at getting parents to show up. At the CRASEL Yoga event All of the parent coordinators except two were in attendance and they brought 2-3 parents along with them.

Member Arnold: suggested that it's a good idea communicating with parents, but parents need to see the council first as being people of the community. Let's strategically target the parent coordinators that brought 2-3 parents to the CRASEL Yoga event and let them know what the council is up against. That we really need their support for February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024, and we definitely need their support starting February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024. The parent coordinators are our actual eyes and ears at the school. The bigger the flyer the less attention maybe a headliner.

President Barnhill adjourned the business meeting at 8:18pm

Next meeting date: Wednesday, February 28, 2024

Submitted by: Lisa Kinsey, Administrative Assistant