



CEC 5 Calendar Meeting Minutes Wednesday, December 16, 2020

Pamela Stewart
President

Schadell Barnhill
Vice President

Shaqua Randle
Recording Secretary

Ayishah Irvin
Treasurer

Members
Dr. Sanayi Canton
Tanesha Grant
Sonia Mendoza
Gina Williams

Borough Appointee
Pamela Stewart

Student Member
Vacant

Admin. Assistant
Lisa Kinsey

Superintendent
Danika Rux

Meeting called to order by President Stewart at 6:42 PM. Roll call taken by Lisa Kinsey, which resulted in the following:

Present: Schadell Barnhill, Sanayi Canton, Tanesha Grant, Ayishah Irvin, Sonia Mendoza, Shaqua Randle
Pamela Stewart and Gina Williams

**Approval of June 24, 2020, July 22, 2020, September 30, 2020, October 28, 2020 and November 18, 2020
Calendar and Business Minutes**

Motion by Treasurer Irvin to accept the minutes with amendments second by Member Williams voice vote for the record: Yes: **7** No: **0** Abstain: **0**

Acknowledgement of Elected Officials

- **Manhattan Borough President, Gale Brewer**
 - Stated once the CEC is finished with their capital plan list. The principals write/reach out to her office for assistance as well.
 - DOE should be paying for most of the items on the capital plan list.
 - Congratulated the council for all of their hard work.
- We will keep working together whether on budget/devices more or less conquered DOE in terms of getting the FY 2020 money out the door.
 - **Manhattan Borough President's Office, Education Policy Analyst, Shawn Jean-Louis**
 - Really excited to be here to work with all of you, hear about your community and see how I can help make an impact or work with you to make an impact. Thank you for having me, I really appreciate it.
 - **Senator Robert Jackson's Office Director of Community Affairs, Porfirio Figueroa**
 - Thank you President Stewart and your membership for allowing me to be here.
- Last Thursday, we did a Food Give-Away at Pediatrics 2000 at the corner of 135th Street and Broadway. We fed over 150 people fresh produce boxes.
- We just completed the last of our six Flu Drives in Upper Manhattan in Washington Heights at Dyckman and Sherman. It was very successful and it is part of our initiative to continue to track and trace, to give out PPE Equipment, hand sanitizer, mask and give out information to the community on COVID and do our part as an office educate the public and make sure that we keep our constituents healthy and informed.
- Our office remains open answering in real time 212.544.0173. We help with issues housing, flu insecurities, any referrals that you may need, HRA, education issues, grab-n-go, all that information is available through our office as well. Senator Jackson remains a champion of education. He sends his regards.
- I am always pleased and honored to be a part of this meeting. Thank you so much for sharing with the community. With the holidays approaching, we want you to be safe. Wear a mask, wash your hands and get tested it is a part of the love we have for each other. My warm-heart felt wishes for the holidays much love be well.

Capital Plan

President Stewart opened the discussion of the capital plan with the Council members and the priority order of submission. The mandatory first 5 priority selection was completed by the Council. In an effort to save time, President Stewart stated that the Council can follow-up with a special meeting to finalize the priority beyond field #12.

Shawn Jean-Louis, Gale Brewer – Manhattan Borough President Office shared the following information with the council. If technology needs are urgent, principals who made a request on the 2020 or 2021 RESOA application can reallocate that funding towards technology. He was not sure how urgent these particular technology needs are, but it does not necessarily have to wait until 2022. This money is reminded. The 2020 money is still being reminded unfortunately, because of bureaucratic mix-up. That technology can be purchased sooner if you are pushing thru-out this allocation.

CEC5 Website Discussion and Vote

Community Education Council (CEC5)
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New York, N.Y. 10027-5002
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President Stewart introduced the CEC 5 Website to the Council for discussion again, to vote to hire eChalk to re-design the CEC5 website and to vote to move the invoice balance of 1,500 to the Website Design Budget Line. A Motion was made by Member Williams and second by Vice President Barnhill to move forward with the cost of \$4,500.00 for eChalk and to process the budget modification to move the remaining balance of \$1,500 to the Website Design line to cover the full cost of the invoice for FY 2020-2021. A voice vote for the record: Yes: 6 No: 0 Abstain: 1

Report of Superintendent by Deputy Superintendent Robin Davson

- **Presented a PowerPoint Presentation: December 2020 District Updates**

- **District Priorities**

- Health and Safety
- Teaching and Learning
- Social-Emotional Needs of the Community
- Communication with Stakeholders

- **Hot Topics**

- o **Weekly random COVID 19 Testing**

Schools across the city have mandatory weekly testing. To ensure that schools remain safe and a healthy place to learn all schools will have 20% of students and staff tested on a weekly base. Principals are being contacted ahead of time to choose students and are able to know what the 20% threshold means for teachers, students etc. Student consent all students are required to provide consent for testing by December 7th or by their first scheduled in person learning day. If a student arrives on their first day of in person without consent slips parents or a medical exemption, the parent will be contacted immediately to sign a consent slip. Students who do not have consent slips will transition to full remote learning. Any student who is a part of blended who shows up in school has to consent being part of the weekly random testing. All staff are required to provide consent by the first day they report to their school building. If there are school safety agents, school aides, cafeteria workers or individuals at a tested site can ask for a test.

- o **Pivoting to 5 Days of Learning**

All 3k-5 schools are closely at their programming models, staffing updates, and space usage to determine if they can safely increase in-school learning time for their students. There was a meeting with the chancellor and the mayor and the mayor wants students to have more opportunities to attend school in person. Of course, this is contingent upon many things. Schools cannot just stop what they are doing and open in five days. There are many factors to determine if this can happen especially in our district. We have been faced with major staffing issues, school closures and when schools make that decision alongside the district we have to take into factor all of the different issues that may potentially arise if they do decide to open for five days. Transitions will occur on a school-by-school bases contingent upon if schools have the capacity staff etc. Then they can pivot to five days. Many of our D5 schools have opted to transition after the holiday break. MS and HS school we still have not been given an official date when they will be returning. School communities will continue to review data to inform decision-making. We have really been working closely with our schools and before they make the decision we ask if one staff member is out is it going to be havoc. Will you be able to operate regularly? We have been going through different scenarios and diving deep with them in order to make this decision. We await guidance on whether or not we will transition to five days of in person learning when MS and HS students return to blended learning model. We do have to create a plan/space for them in case the chancellor and the mayor make a decision for our MS and HS to return. If schools cannot pivot to five days, we have been helping schools prioritize how they can come up with more opportunities for students to come in. You have staffing to accommodate the most vulnerable students meaning Special Education and English Language Learners can we service those students for five days. If not, service those students for four days. What opportunities do we have to bring in students more frequently in order to have more impactful learning opportunities? Students learn best from teachers when there in-person. Remote learning for some of our students with special needs and most vulnerable students is not the best option for them, but we want to provide them with all opportunities and options.

- o **Admissions Process**

Applications for middle/high school students are still not open, but family letters are in the mail. We are definitely suggesting that all families create a schools account if they have not already. Underline word links in the PPT Presentation are live. In addition, you can sign-up for middle/high school emails from DOE to get updates on the admissions process. The other two links at the bottom are for general information.

- o **College and Career Readiness Updates**

Average CUNY Application Completion 2019-2020 end of the year 85.25% and FAFSA (financial aid form) Completion 68% as of December 13, 2020 FAFSA completion 55.32% and Average CUNY Application Completion as of December 13, 2020-2021 2.20% is not low students have up until June 2021 to complete the application. We will keep track of the percentage application completion. We can only track CUNY has a connection with NYCDOE. We cannot get information on out of state schools, private schools etc. This is great data for us to have as a district, as we continue to monitor the data application process for CUNY schools.

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o Early Childhood Updates

The big topic for today and the next three weeks is going to be the kindergarten application process. If your child was born in 2016 and you live in New York City, your child can start kindergarten this coming September 2021. All families, including current pre-k students, students with disabilities, and English Language Learners, should submit an application. A child currently in a pre-k program they still need/must apply in order to attend that same school for kindergarten. Applications process is open you can apply at the [myschools.nyc](https://myschools.nyc.gov) account. There are many languages online to choose from it is open 24 hours a day because it is online. Apply by calling 718-935-2009 M-F 8:00am - 6:00pm over 200 languages available. If you need further support you can contact the family support center by visiting schools.nyc.gov/welcomecenters. Excited to say this year due to covid-19 we will not be having an in-person kindergarten fair. We will have a Kindergarten Virtual Fair Week! Tentative kick-off date January 11 to introduce the process because the week after the application is due. We are expecting to get 100% of school involvement during that week to be able to present their kindergarten programming to families in this remote space. Shout out to Member Canton and President Stewart for their continued support of the Early Childhood fairs in past years and for their continued support. Pre-K families now typically go to kindergarten in the same school. The families we really need to capture are families in NYCHA's and CBO's. As you know, we have a heavy charter presence in D5. We really want to get the word out there, excitement and encouragement to those families to attend our district schools for kindergarten. Email will go out to principals and assistant principals tomorrow. It is going to be a great week of events.

- o Deputy Superintendent Davson wished the community a happy holiday season and New Year.
- o Thanked CEC5 for their amazing work/time volunteered spent for the amazing children in Harlem.
- o Working on the link to distribute 500 toys to our D5 families in collaboration with UFT, CEC5, Emblem Health and Harlem Boys and Girls Club. The drive is supposed to be Friday. We may reconvene because of the snow.

Time allotted for the speaker's list.

No one for the speaker's list

- President Stewart shared that Dr. Hazel Dukes, Senator Brian Benjamin's Office, C. Virginia Fields and Assemblywoman Inez Dickens mentioned that they will contribute to the toy drive as well.
- President Stewart ask councilmembers to sign-up to volunteer for the toy drive distribution. A great way to show that we are working together and helping our community.
- President Stewart commended our D5 principals on their pivoting. President Stewart sent virtual hugs to our D5 Principals as they talked about the capital plan. President Stewart ensured the submission of our D5 schools on the capital plan.
- Enjoy the holiday season with your family, wear your mask, exercise and be safe.

President Stewart cancelled the business meeting that would have followed the calendar meeting due to no new business.

President Stewart adjourned the calendar meeting at 8:31PM.

Submitted by: Lisa Kinsey, Administrative Assistant

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