



**Community Education Council for District 4**  
240 E 109 Street, Room 104, New York, NY 10029



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<b>President</b> Dr. Kaliris Salas-Ramirez	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Vice President</b> Sophie Oulai	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President</b> Lacey Jordan– D75 Rep	<b>Recording Secretary</b> Lawanda Joyner– MBPA	<b>Treasurer</b> Johanna Domínguez– ELL
<b>Council Members:</b> Elizabeth Soto-Cardona Adriana Tlacomulco Vandana Bonilla– MBPA Tia Jackson IEP Kiera Jerez Alston				<b>District 4 Superintendent:</b> Dr. Kristy De La Cruz
				<b>High School Student Representatives</b> Brooke Howard Kanyisia Crute

**Date:** Wednesday, February 11th, 2026

**Meeting Start Time:** 6:07 pm

**Introduction of the interpreters:** 6:07 pm

**Attendees:** 50

**Calendar Meeting Minutes**

**February 11th, 2026**

**1. Roll call and call to order by Farah Khan-** (6:10 pm – 6:11 pm)

**Members Present:** Dr. Kaliris Salas-Ramirez, Lacey Jordan, Lawanda Joyner, Johanna Dominguez, Elizabeth Soto-Cardona, Adriana Tlacomulco (Zoom), Vandana Bonilla, Tia Jackson and Kiera Jerez Alston.

**Members Absent:** Sophie Oulai (Excused).

• **D4 CEC President:** (6:11 pm – 6:14 pm)

She welcomed everyone for joining the meeting and spoke about the event, Black Lives Matter at School Year of Purpose, to remind people about some of the principles of the Black Lives Matter movement, some of the principles of the Black Lives Matter movement embody restorative justice. Diversity and globalism are key principles of the Black Lives Matter movement, honoring everybody's rich diversity and their identities in our community, and we want to continue to affirm our folks that are part of the LGBTQIA community, part of the Black Lives Matter movement, is that we are trans-affirming, and queer-affirming, and of course, unapologetically Black.

She shared that yesterday she was at the CEC3 meeting, there was some anti-black language being expressed by a parent that participated in the meeting. Those kinds of behaviors are not things that CEC4 will tolerate. If we hear any sort of that language, whether it be ableist language, racist language, xenophobic language, that is not something that we condone in this space, and we hope that everybody, embodies those values and centers the love and compassion and empathy. We want to center, this month and always, black families and black villages to be able to strengthen our leadership and our communities and our community networks.

She informed that on March 4th, we have a Narcan training, important, for everyone in our community, and on March 11th, we have our town hall with our new Chancellor, Kamar Samuels. She said will send out a short survey, because we want to engage community in the questions that you would like to ask Chancellor Samuels, and we can talk a little bit about the format of the town hall, we do want some feedback and want to acknowledge community members that might want to ask a question. We do not have a lot of time, so I cannot promise everybody an opportunity to speak, but we want to get feedback on the kinds of questions that you would like to ask the new Chancellor Samuels.

2. **SPLEX One- Business Development Representative at SPLEX One- Eli Pizarro:** (6:14 pm – 6:24 pm)  
He introduced himself and said that SPLEX One is a media production, videography, photography, websites, maintaining website building, marketing, advertising, and technology. They have already worked with some schools in the DOE.

3. **Creative & UnBothered- Founder & Creative Director- Mel Molinar:** (6:25 pm – 6:30 pm)  
She introduced herself as a creative entrepreneur, and a program founder. She designed programs that help young people build confidence, finish what they start, and help see themselves differently. Not therapy, but through action and through interaction and speaking. Creative and Unbothered is an 8-week after-school pilot program that is based on personal development and creative self-expression for middle to high school students.

She wants to help empower young people with the inner tools, because our inward success determines our outward success, for middle schoolers and high schoolers that can help with their personal development, also life skills and what you want to walk through going into a career.

The program overview is a structured youth self-empowerment program that uses guided creative projects, reflection, and dialogue to help students develop confidence, emotional awareness, self-expression, and real-life moral skills. This is not therapy, and it is not a traditional arts instructional program. It is a creative life skills program.

4. **Resolution on Reopening the Class Size and Fair Student Funding Workgroups:** (6:31 pm – 6:36 pm)  
**Roll call for motion to vote for Resolution on Reopening the Class Size and Fair Student Funding Workgroups - by Vandana Bonilla seconded by Lawanda Joyner.**

**Roll call for motion to vote Resolution on Reopening the Class Size and Fair Student Funding Workgroups:** *Dr. Kaliris Salas-Ramire (Yes), Sophie Oulai (Absent) (Excused), Lacey Jordan (Yes), Johanna Dominguez (Yes), Elizabeth Soto-Cardona (Yes), Adriana Tlacomulco (Yes) (Zoom), Lawanda Joyner (Yes), Vandana Bonilla (Yes), Tia Jackson (Yes) and Kiera Jerez Alston (Yes).*

**Resolution approved by 9 votes.**

5. **Resolution on the Commission to End Mayoral Control:** (6:37 pm – 6:46 pm)  
**Roll call for motion to vote for Resolution on the Commission to End Mayoral Control - by Johanna Dominguez seconded by Elizabeth Soto-Cardona.**

**Roll call for motion to vote Resolution on the Commission to End Mayoral Control:** *Dr. Kaliris Salas-Ramire (Yes), Sophie Oulai (Absent) (Excused), Lacey Jordan (Yes), Johanna Dominguez (Yes), Elizabeth Soto-Cardona (Yes), Adriana Tlacomulco (Yes) (Zoom), Lawanda Joyner (Yes), Vandana Bonilla (Yes), Tia Jackson (Yes) and Kiera Jerez Alston (Yes).*

**Resolution approved by 9 votes.**

6. **Resolution on Recommendation to Create a Position for the Deputy Chancellor for Integration:** (6:47 pm – 6:50 pm)

**Roll call for motion to vote for Resolution on Recommendation to Create a Position for the Deputy Chancellor for Integration- Tia Jackson by seconded by Vandana Bonilla.**

**Roll call for motion to vote Resolution on Recommendation to Create a Position for the Deputy Chancellor for Integration:** *Dr. Kaliris Salas-Ramire (Yes), Sophie Oulai (Absent) (Excused), Lacey Jordan (Yes), Johanna Dominguez (Yes), Elizabeth Soto-Cardona (Yes), Adriana Tlacomulco (Yes) (Zoom), Lawanda Joyner (Yes), Vandana Bonilla (Yes), Tia Jackson (Yes) and Kiera Jerez Alston (Yes).*

**Resolution approved by 9 votes.**

7. **CEC4 Resolution to Ensure Fair and Reliable Transit Access for All NYC Students:** (6:51 pm – 7:00 pm)  
**Roll call for motion to vote for CEC4 Resolution to Ensure Fair and Reliable Transit Access for All NYC Students Chancellor for Integration- by Lawanda Joyner seconded by Elizabeth Soto-Cardona.**

**Roll call for motion to vote for CEC4 Resolution to Ensure Fair and Reliable Transit Access for All NYC Students:** *Dr. Kaliris Salas-Ramire (Yes), Sophie Oulai (Absent) (Excused), Lacey Jordan (Yes), Johanna Dominguez (Yes), Elizabeth Soto-Cardona (Yes), Adriana Tlacomulco (Yes) (Zoom), Lawanda Joyner (Yes), Vandana Bonilla (Yes), Tia Jackson (Yes) and Kiera Jerez Alston (Yes).*  
**Resolution approved by 9 votes.**

**8. Report of District 4 Superintendent- Dr. Kristy De La Cruz:** (7:00 pm – 7:53 pm)

She started with gratitude and thanked everyone for joining the meeting. She thanked the principals for hosting the meeting.

**She discussed:**

- ❖ Black History
- ❖ District 4 Community Norms
- ❖ Chancellor Kamar Samuels- \* Safety \* Academically Rigorous \* Truly Integrated
- ❖ District 4 East Harlem Mission
- ❖ District Priorities
- ❖ Important Updates & Celebrations
- ❖ Upcoming District Four Event
- ❖ Enrollment Updates
- ❖ Meeting the moment: NYCPS Stands Against Hate

• **D4 CEC Council Member & President of the President's Council:** (7:53 pm – 7:54 pm)

She updated about the President Council's meeting, that they have officially filled the parent association vacancies. She had the honor of seeing their hydroponic lab, that is truly incredible and gives kids a real inside look and how to grow green, and how to nurture life.

She reminded for the President Council's meeting that will be via zoom on February 27th at 12 noon.

• **D4 CEC Treasurer:** (7:54 pm – 7:54 pm)

She said the CCELL meeting was on February 3rd at 6:30 pm, and there is not much updates on that meeting, as they did not have quorum, so it was just not even an informational meeting, and it ended in 20 minutes and they have vacancies.

• **D4 CEC Council Member:** (7:55 pm – 7:57 pm)

She said that the meeting was on January 15th. She attended half of it, because they had some difficulty getting in, but now they have put the actual link on the website, so for anyone who wants to join, the next meeting is tomorrow, February 12th. At the meeting, they discussed a new subcommittee that was created called Virtue Talk with the Communities and Outreach. They talked about busing, which has been a topic for those with IEPs. Parents are still having issues for not receiving buses, or buses being late, or not showing up at all. They will have Legislative breakfast on March 13th and they have an open seat.

• **D4 CEC 2nd Vice President:** (7:57 pm – 7:59 pm)

She informed that the next district 75 meeting will be on February 19th. D75 Fathers Alliance provides fathers with an opportunity to connect, share and build meaningful relationships with others who can genuinely understand their journey. There will be a guest speaker, Peter Coleman, outreach and engagement Manager, on February 23rd. There will be a zoom info session on March 3rd, about how to sign up for New York City Schools account, on March 7th, in the district office at 401st Avenue, there will be a family peer group, March 11th, there will be a PTA, PA elections overview, they will be letting people know the process of how to properly, join the elections and the, campaign process. When you go to SLT meetings you learn about school safety, school data, and get engaged with what is going on in your kid's school. March 18th, there will be District D75 10th Annual STEM Fair from 10 am till 1 pm at the Museum of Natural History.

• **D4 CEC Council Member- Community Board Youth and Education Committee:** (7:59 pm – 8:02 pm)

She said in January, they passed a motion to provide a letter of support to Manhattan East for ADA-compliant elevators and she had the pleasure of seeing at Patrick Henry, PS171, yesterday, which was when our meeting

for February, we will be giving them a letter of recommendation of support, rather, for them to upgrade some of their spaces, specifically the athletic and creative spaces via various grants. They had Nightingale Bamford, which is a private school on 92nd Street, they are using NYC Build Bonds \$100 million and some change, they are building an athletic complex, which means that they have an obligation to some level of facility sharing with public schools in the district. Community Board Youth and Education Committee need the support of the CEC4 and whoever to make sure that we can come up with a tangible, written agreement, community support agreement.

**9. Report of D4 CEC President –Kaliris Salas: (8:02 pm – 8:08 pm)**

She informed that tomorrow at 4 pm at Tweed, Dignity in Schools is launching their campaign supporting a democratic school governance. Dignity in Schools is a coalition that is fighting for restorative justice and police-free schools, but they are also taking on school governance because it is composed of a lot of young people that feel like their voice is not heard at 4 pm at Tweed, 52 Chamber Street.

CECs are concerned about the School Construction Authority, noted by our meeting with the School Construction Authority, she is focused on instruction and delivery of outcomes of our children. This week, there was a meet and greet with the president of the UFT. There was a significant focus, and District 4 have been ahead of that in terms of supporting our immigrant students and having the hands-off NYC training. Another organization called MASA, that has been contracted to provide Know Your Rights training, to schools for free. The City Council is paying for that, so that is another venue that schools can use to support their school communities. There is a paraprofessional bill in City Council, that the UFT would support for, and they came out saying they do not support mayoral control.

Yesterday, Vice President Jordan and she participated in a hearing held by Education Chair Eric Dinowitz, had roundtables the previous week to prepare for this hearing. They asked about contracts, what the transparency is around contracts, budget, curriculum, the chancellor said that because of mayoral control, he was able to pivot to remote. There was testimony from about 12:30 till 2:30, from advocates, parents, former teachers, because teachers were in classrooms and could not testify, and a couple of students. People can still submit their testimony, at [citycouncil.nyc.gov](http://citycouncil.nyc.gov). You have about another 48 hours to submit your testimony and your feelings around mayoral control.

CEC4 is looking forward to seeing everybody on March 11th for Chancellor's town hall, please expect an invitation email from us, where there will be a brief survey attached in terms of what topics you want us to cover, and specific questions that you might want to ask, we will ask you to provide your information, because we might call on you to show up in the space and ask your question in person, because we do want to make sure that we create space, not just for us as council members, for our students, as well as our community members.

• **D4 CEC 2nd Vice President:** (8:09 pm – 8:09)

She informed that there will be a D75 Film Festival on March 24th, at the MoMA, from 10:30 am.

• **Motion to adjourn the Calendar meeting by Tia Jackson seconded by Lawanda Joyner (8:10 pm)**

**10. Calendar meeting adjourned: 8:10 pm**

## **Business Meeting Minutes**

**February 11th, 2026**

**Date:** Wednesday, February 11th, 2026

**Meeting Start Time:** 8:16 pm

### **1. Roll call and call to order by Farah Khan 8:16 pm**

**Members Present:** Dr. Kaliris Salas-Ramirez, Lacey Jordan, Lawanda Joyner, Johanna Dominguez, Adriana Tlacomulco (Zoom), Vandana Bonilla, Tia Jackson and Kiera Jerez Alston.

**Members Absent:** Sophie Oulai (Excused), and Elizabeth Soto-Cardona (Excused).

**Attendees:** 29

### **2. Treasury Report by D4 CEC Treasurer- Johanna Dominguez: (8:19 pm – 8:35 pm)**

She talked about the D4 CEC expenditure report for the month of February. And she talked about the website vendor who can cover social media for our website, on teams and on zoom meetings, that they record. The meeting can be live on YouTube, and the link can be on the website.

- **CEC4 Budget Modification: (8:35 pm – 8:45 pm)**

Treasurer discussed the CEC4 budget with the members and members voted on the budget modification, they agreed moving \$1,510 from Line 1 (members reimbursement) and adding to Line 4 (CEC4- P-Card).

- **Motion to approve CEC4 Budget Modification by Tia Jackson seconded by Lawanda Joyner.**

**Members voted:** *Dr. Kaliris Salas-Ramire (Yes), Sophie Oulai (Absent) (Excused), Lacey Jordan (Yes), Johanna Dominguez (Yes), Elizabeth Soto-Cardona (Absent) (Excused), Adriana Tlacomulco (Yes) (Zoom), Lawanda Joyner (Yes), Vandana Bonilla (Yes), Tia Jackson (Yes) and Kiera Jerez Alston (Yes).*

**CEC4 Budget Modification approved by 8 votes**

### **3. Approval of D4 CEC- Calendar & Business Meeting Minutes, for December 10th 2025 and January 14th, 2026: (8:45 pm – 8:47 pm)**

**Motion to approve CEC4 meeting minutes by Tia Jackson seconded by Johanna Dominguez.**

**CEC4 meeting minutes were approved unanimously by the members.**

- **D4 CEC President: (8:48 pm – 8:52 pm)**

She discussed about the Chancellor's town hall planning that will be on March 11<sup>th</sup> with the members. She said that we will also develop some questions for the chancellor.

- **Motion to adjourn the business meeting by Tia Jackson seconded by Vandana Bonilla. (8:52 pm)**

### **4. Business meeting adjourned: 8:52 pm**

**Prepared & submitted by:**  
**Farah Khan**  
**Administrative Assistant**

*Next D4 CEC Calendar and Business Meeting will be on March 11th, 2026.*