



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



Phone: 212-360- 4777 Email: cec4@schools.nyc.gov

President Elizabeth Soto-Cardona – MBPA	1st Vice President Mario Medina	2nd Vice President Lacey Jordan	Recording Secretary Rosa Nagovich – MBPA	Treasurer Johanna Dominguez
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Council Members:
Evelis Galarza-Serrano
Gloria Flaherty
Jasmin Benitez
Rafael Lima – D75 Rep
Rosa G. Diaz – IEP

District 4 Superintendent
Dr. Kristy De La Cruz

High School Student Representatives
Genesis Gay
Leslie Galan

Date: Wednesday, January 08th, 2025

Meeting Start Time: 6:01 pm

Introduction of Spanish interpreters: 6:02 pm

Attendees: 35

Calendar Meeting
January 08th, 2025
Minutes

- **D4 CEC President welcomed everyone for joining the meeting.** 6:01 pm

1. Roll call and call to order by Farah Khan- (6:02 pm – 6:03 pm)

Members Present: Elizabeth Soto-Cardona, Mario Medina, Lacey Jordan (Zoom), Rosa Nagovich (Zoom), Johanna Dominguez, Evelis Galarza-Serrano (Zoom), Gloria Flaherty, Jasmin Benitez, Rafael Lima, and Rosa G. Diaz.

2. School Construction Authority- Community Relations Manager- Joshua Adams: (6:05 pm – 6:29 pm)

He spoke about **The Capital Plan- Agenda:**

- **FY 2025- 2029- Five Year Capital Plan Proposed Amendment Total Amount: \$20.5 Billion** (Capacity: \$6.98 Billion, Healthy Schools: \$2.28 Billion, Capacity Improvement: \$7.54 Billion, Mandated: \$3.72 Billion),
- **2025-2029 Citywide Highlights-** (New Capacity \$6.13 Billion, Electrification \$1.40 Billion, Technology \$1.25 Billion, Accessibility \$800 Million, Physical Education Space Upgrade \$40 Million, Cafeteria Enhancement Experience \$150 Million)
- **Capacity Program \$6.98 Billion:** (New Capacity \$6.13 Billion, Replacement Program \$400 Million, Capacity to Support TCU Removal \$200 Million, Playground Redevelopment \$50 Million, Early Education \$200 Million)
- **Capital Improvements**
- **District 4 Capital highlights**

- **CIP Photos**
 - **Reso A**
 - **District 4 Reso A Highlights**
 - **MWLBE**
 - **District 4 MWLBE Highlights**
 - **CEC4 Request Form 2024-2025** (Cost of at least \$50,000)
- **Andrea Bender- SCA:** (6:29 pm – 6:31 pm) She informed that for train noise can be stopped by the window replacement, windows that block the sound very effectively. They have a funding program for window replacement for situations when windows need to be replaced, for whatever the reason is, and she said these 2 buildings are candidate for capital funding.
 - **CEC4 Treasurer:** (6:31 pm – 6:33 pm) She asked, what should we put in the request form, so the job is done?
 - **Joshua Adams:** (6:34 pm – 6:35 pm) Joshua replied that working with your custodial engineer in the building reviewing our capital plan projects and construction and we put in our priority request that would meet the capital eligibility requirements outlined.
 - **Dr. Kristy:** (7:36 pm – 6:37 pm) She said that in District 4, we are constantly collaborating with each other as far as how do we leverage our custodial engineers and our schools apply for Reso A grants, capital plan grants, but the real issue is that they do not get accepted, and we want to know what we can do to increase that they will get accepted.
 - **Joshua Adams:** (6:38 pm – 6:40 pm) The SCA's budget is shared a lot, it is shared throughout the city, and they have limited funding. The maintenance items that are happening in the building with the custodial engineer. What has previously been completed in that building, as well as the capital funding programs in the capital plan, is really going to help inform your decision in that specific school and that specific space where you want to make these requests for.

3. **Office of Pupil Transportation Presentation – OTP- Communications and Engagement executive director: Laquana Chambers:** (6:41 pm – 6:49 pm)

She introduced herself and talked about what is new: Support Hub, NYC Ferry discount, NYC School Bus Caregiver App, Student OMNY Cards and also some OPT contacts.

- **The overview of OPT- Mission Statement:** In accordance with the Chancellor's regulations, A-801, the New York City public schools provides transportation to all eligible students in public charter and nonpublic schools. And this is in partnership with the MTA. And the school age and preschool bus companies, and their mission is to ensure school, students have safe and reliable transportation to and from school.
- **Scope of Student Transportation in NYC:** They have the largest ground fleet in North America, with about 11,000 vehicles, which is twice the size of the MTA. And students receiving busing to schools in New York City. This happens within the 5 boroughs, but also students are bused to Rochester County, Long Island, New Jersey, and Connecticut. Some stats that they have: They have about 11,000 bus fleet, and bus upwards of 145,000 students every day.
- **Support Hub:** If a child, or who takes a yellow bus previously, the only way to call in was to call for issues or concern was to just call their hotline but now you can submit a ticket through support hub and look at your ticket and see it through resolution, or add additional notes to your ticket, or

add, if you have any additional questions, you are able to view information through support Hub, if you do not want to call the hotline, you can now ask your question through Support Hub.

- **New York City Ferry Discount:** Which is families with students in grades 9 to 12 can now use the New York City Ferry at a discounted rate. The details can be found on the NYC Ferry website and fill out the application to get this form, if you already have a NYCSA account, you can go into your NYCSA account and Ferry code discount, which is already there for students in grades 9 to 12.
 - **Families can now see the location of their bus:** The New York Schools Bus app is an app that allows parents and caregivers to see bus as it traverses through the city.
 - **How can families use the app?** On the app store and then search New York City Bus App. If you do not have a phone, there is a desktop website link that can used, and you can track your child's bus.
 - **Communication to families:** Families will have additional information about this app. They have sent out backpack letters, emails to all parents who use yellow bus service, everything is on the OPT website.
 - **What's next for the app?** They hope in next iterations, the app will be able to send you email notifications. If the bus is delayed or late families will also be able to eventually use it for attendance.
 - **Student OMNY Cards:** This past September, they were excited to announce that students would be moving to OMNY Cards instead of the metro cards, the exciting thing about the OMNY Cards is it allows 4 free rides each day, which is an additional ride than students previously had, and this includes free transfers between the subway and local and limited and select bus service. the card does not expire. Students can use it all day, every day of the year, even on weekends and vacations. and, during the summer. Some reminders OMNY Card is strictly for the student assigned only and should not be sold or utilized by unauthorized users. If a student has a lost or stolen OMNY Card, they should report that to the school, and if the student OMNY Card is damaged, they should return the card to the school so that they can receive a new one.
 - **Transportation Eligibility:** eligibility has not changed with the OMNY Card it is the same eligibility standards as there were with Metro Cards.
- **Dr. Kristy:** (6:50 pm – 6:50 pm) She asked about in East Harlem we have a few families that are in elementary and middle school that use the ferry and so they made a request to her if it would be possible, if the senior leadership would consider extending that discount to elementary and middle schools.
 - **Laquana Chambers:** (6:51 pm – 6:51 pm) She replied that it is something that has been raised to the New York City Ferry discount to the EDC, which is the corporation that runs the discount that they would like it extended. They are looking into what is possible, but there are no guarantees.

4. **Report of District 4 Superintendent- Dr. Kristy De La Cruz:** (6:51 pm – 7:00 pm)

She thanked everyone for joining the meeting and wished happy 2025.

She said she is hoping that everyone to continue to take care of themselves, and whatever their goals are and that we can continue to focus on the hope and the strength that we have in working together our norms. It is also New York City Scholarship month which ties into our mission. We do make sure that every child has a pathway for career and economic security, and to be a positive force for change which ties into our mission as well as attendance.

She discussed:

- District 4 Community Norms
- New York City Public Schools (NYCPS) Mission

- District 4 mission
- District priorities
- Attendance updates(s): 88.1% vs 90.3% (Citywide)
- Office of enrollment
- Meeting the moment (NYCPS) Stands against hate.
- Upcoming District Four Event
- January 14th: English Spelling Bee at 4 pm @ 4M083/4M182, January 15th: Early Childhood Learning Series at 10 am @ Zoom, January 16th: NYCPS Promotional Policy at 10 am @ Zoom, January 17th: President's Council meeting at 12 pm @ Zoom, January 17th: Café con Kristy at 3 pm @ Zoom, January 23rd: Math Station Rotation at 10 am @ BCNY, January 28th: Community Forum @ Manhattan Science Center for Math & Science.

5. Report of D4 CEC President – Elizabeth Soto-Cardona: (7:00 pm – 7:02 pm)

She thanked the community and the council. She informed that this month the council is focusing on Capital Planning and want to make sure that we prioritize the schools that we can forward with the SCA report.

She asked to reach out to the CEC4 and let us know of any updates that are relevant to this report and how we can advocate for the community.

6. D4 CEC President:

She informed that the next agenda item was the new CEC4 candidate's interview, but the candidate was unable to make it today.

7. Motion to adjourn the Calendar meeting by Gloria Flaherty seconded by Jasmin Benitez (7:02 pm)

Calendar meeting adjourned: 7:02

Business Meeting

January 08th, 2025

Minutes

Date: Wednesday, January 08th, 2025

Meeting Start Time: 7:12 pm

1. Roll call and call to order by Farah Khan 7:13 pm

Members Present: Elizabeth Soto-Cardona, Mario Medina, Lacey Jordan (Zoom), Rosa Nagovich (Zoom), Johanna Dominguez, Evelis Galarza-Serrano (Zoom), Gloria Flaherty, Jasmin Benitez, Rafael Lima, and Rosa G. Diaz

Attendance done: 7:13 pm

Attendees: 20

2. Treasury Report by D4 CEC Treasurer- Johanna Dominguez: (7:14 pm – 7:18 pm)

Johanna read the D4 CEC expenditure report:

CEC4 members reimbursement line 1 had **\$17,400** now remaining amount is **\$12,025**, CEC4 general supplies line 2, had **\$2,300**, we spend on trophies for **\$174.90**, the remaining amount is **\$1,621.05**, CEC4 Website line 3, had **\$2,300**, we did not pay yet for the website so the remaining amount is the same **\$2,300**, and from the P-Card, line 4, we had **\$2,763.38** remaining from **\$3000**, we spent this month, **\$93.59**, for the meeting food, and the remaining amount is **\$2,669.79** in P-Card. This month we spent \$268.49, now the total remaining amount in the budget is **\$18,615.84** from **\$25,000**.

3. D4 CEC- Calendar & Business Meeting Minutes, November 13th, 2024, and December 11th, 2024: (7:19 pm – 7:20 pm)

Roll call for motion to vote to approve D4 CEC- Calendar & Business Meeting Minutes, from November 13th, 2024, and December 11th, 2024, by Gloria Flaherty seconded Jasmin Benitez

Roll call and call to order to vote to approve D4 CEC- Calendar & Business Meeting Minutes, from November 13th, 2024, and December 11th, 2024: Elizabeth Soto-Cardona (Yes), Mario Medina (Yes), Lacey Jordan (Yes) (Zoom), Rosa Nagovich (Yes) (Zoom), Johanna Dominguez (Yes), Evelis Galarza-Serrano (Yes) (Zoom), Gloria Flaherty (Yes), Jasmin Benitez (Yes), and Rafael Lima (Yes).
Rosa G. Diaz (Abstained)

Minutes approved by 9 votes.

4. Capital Planning Report- (7:21 pm – 7:48pm)

CEC4 members discussed top five facility priorities for the capital planning.

Roll Call for Motion for the top five facility priorities to provide, Window replacements to minimize noise interruption resulting in interruption to class instruction, **at 4M108 and 4M375 (housed in 101)**, Auditorium and Gym updates located in basement with no windows and proper ventilation including AC updates urgently at **4M007**, Auditorium and Gym updates including AC updates urgently at **4M155 and 4M377**, by Gloria Flaherty and seconded by Jasmin Benitez.

Roll Call and Call to Order for the top five facility priorities to provide, Window replacements to minimize noise interruption resulting in interruption to class instruction, **at 4M108 and 4M375 (housed in 101)**, Auditorium and Gym updates located in basement with no windows and proper ventilation including AC updates urgently at **4M007**, Auditorium and Gym updates including AC updates urgently at **4M155 and 4M377:** Elizabeth Soto-Cardona (Yes), Mario Medina (Yes), Lacey Jordan (Yes) (Zoom), Rosa Nagovich (Yes) (Zoom), Johanna Dominguez (Yes), Evelis Galarza-Serrano (Yes) (Zoom), Gloria Flaherty (Yes), Jasmin Benitez (Yes), and Rafael Lima (Yes) and Rosa G. Diaz (Yes).

Motion passed by 10 votes.

- **CEC4 Members:** (7:36 pm –7:36pm) Members informed that everyone is welcomed to join the CB11M Environment Open Space and Parks Committee meeting on January 9th, 2025.
- **David Giordano:** (7:49 pm – 7:50 pm) He announced the renovations, tomorrow at Open Space and Parks, the renovation of East River Playground at PS 146. The information about the design that is attached to that playground and how they are going to landscape it, at 6:30 at the Board Office, on zoom meeting as well.

- **CEC4 Member:** (7:50 pm – 7:52 pm) He asked to submit a request to expand the program in District 4. As CEC needs to put a proposal to help the schools, and the community. The special education, especially the autism, they are increasing every day, every year. We have 280,000 students in special education, and there are not enough seats to accommodate those children, some children that go to special education in District 4, they need to go to district 5 or district 6, or to other districts, because there is no room for them here. He emphasized to write down a proposal request to increase the special education seats in D4. He said it takes a time for the process, because they need to train the staff, hire the licensed teachers, and need to create the classrooms, etc.
- **Dr. Kristy:** (7:53 pm – 8:01 pm) She informed that the district 20 has written a resolution, and we can connect with District 20 to see what their resolution template looks like to make it our own to include our data to request with the city to expand the number of seats and programs. She added that every district has a horizon program, not every district has a dual language nest program, we are the 1st to have a dual language nest program, and we have the path program at PS 146. But we do need more based on the needs, and we just added the horizon program at PS 007 as well.
- **Future Planning- D4 CEC President:** (8:01 pm – 8: 02 pm)

She informed that PS 497's Principal has asked the CEC4 to interview the candidate for the Parent Coordinator position for PS 497, Central Park East. CEC4 have to coordinate a time to meet with this candidate on zoom meeting.

6. Motion to adjourn the business meeting by Gloria Flaherty seconded by Jasmin Benitez. (8:02 pm)

6. Business meeting adjourned: 8:02 pm

Prepared & submitted by:

Farah Khan

Administrative Assistant

Next D4 CEC Calendar and Business Annual Meeting will be on February 12th, 2025.