

Community Education Council District 22

August Special Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, August 4, 2026

Called to order at 6:17pm

Roll Call

Present: Bridget Kessler, Avi Glickstein, Michael Barth, Kinga Kusek, Tahisha George (Late 6:21pm), Megan Demarkis (Late 6:23pm)

Absent: Zheng Hao Ma, Vanessa Cannistraci

Quorum: Quorum not achieved

- Candidate Interviews – The council interviewed Shazia Mehmood, a District 22 parent.

Community Education Council District 22

August Calendar Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, August 4, 2026

Called to order at 6:37pm

Roll Call

Present: Bridget Kessler, Avi Glickstein, Michael Barth, Tahisha George, Kinga Kusek, Megan Demarkis

Absent: Zheng Hao Ma, Vanessa Cannistraci - Excused

- **Land Acknowledgement – B.K.**
- **Approval of May, June & July Minutes –** Tabled. No quorum
- **President's Report – B.K.**
 - President Kessler thanked community members attending in person and online
 - The president announced CEC22 vacancies and encouraged community members to apply. Open seats include a Parent of an English Language Learner, District 75, a Borough President appointee and two student member seats.
 - School Construction Update: The council received notice regarding elevated VOC (Volatile Organic Compound) in soil near the construction area at PS 134. Remediation and environmental efforts are underway.
 - Superintendent Bove confirmed that construction at P.S. 134 will not proceed until after approvals from School Construction Authority, facilities staff, and health officials.

- Council will continue to monitor the situation
- **Superintendent's Report** – Superintendent Julia Bove
 - Superintendent Bove thanked President Kessler for her leadership and noted that the council is doing well.
 - Superintendent's updates: School construction PS 134 – Construction project delayed while environmental remediation is completed. Safety remains the highest priority. Expansion projects at PS 255 and PS 206 continue with PS 206 scheduled to open for students in September.
 - Superintendent Bove will continue working with high school principals to encourage students to sit on the council to hear their voices and ideas.
 - Complete Summer Rising family survey (closing August 15)
 - Summer meals continue through September 4.
 - Families were encouraged to complete the Family Income Inquiry Form, which helps determine eligibility for school meals and Title I funding.
 - Check our website for a list of school supply giveaways.
 - Summer EBT, the Summer Electronic Benefits Transfer Program, will help low-income families with food for their school-aged children during summer. Each eligible child will receive \$120 in free food benefits. Visit Summer EBT for more information. The deadline ends September 8th.
 - Back-to-school preparation reminders – Schedule annual physical exams, uptake vaccinations, review your child's schedules, transportation planning, school supply resources, parent coordinator outreach, and language access services.
 - Important dates: Labor Day, September 7, teachers return on the 8th and students return on the 10th, first day of school. September 11 will be observed as Patriots Day.
 - Screen time Initiative – Superintendent Bove announced plans for a meeting in the Fall regarding screen time. Participants will include members of the council, parents, teachers, students, administrators and community members.
 - Special Education – Discussion held regarding newly announced citywide investments in D75 and special education programs. District 22 was not included due to space limitations. The superintendent outlined district efforts to provide professional development and support for special education teachers while continuing to advocate for additional resources.
 - School Capacity & Development – the council discussed the continued overcrowding concerns throughout district 22. Members reviewed challenges related to housing growth, school capacity, and long-term planning needs.
- **Report of Committee (s)** – Parent Engagement Committee
 - Megan discussed prioritizing parent engagement and empowerment during the 2026-2027 school year. Budget utilization, committee meeting procedures and Open Meeting Law requirements were also discussed.
- **Vote On Proposed Bylaws Amendment** –No Quorum. Tabled.
- **Election of Interim Officers July – October** – No Quorum. Tabled.
- **Hearing and voting of CEC Candidates** – No Quorum. Tabled.
- **Public Comment** (2 mins/ea. speaker)
 - Dr. Jackie Cody (In person)
- **Adjournment** at 7:25pm

Community Education Council District 22

August Business Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, August 4, 2026

Called to order at 8:16pm

Roll Call

Present: Bridget Kessler, Avi Glickstein, Michael Barth, Tahisha George, Kinga Kusek, Zheng Hao Ma, Megan Demarkis

Absent: Vanessa Cannistraci - Excused

- **Motion** to add two items to the agenda: approval of May, June, and July minutes and the vote on the CEC candidate. No objections. Motion approved.
- **New Business**
 - **Approval of Meeting Dates 2026-2027** – November meeting moved from Nov. 3rd to Nov. 4th due to Election Day. Vote– Approved unanimously.
 - **Approval of May, June and July minutes** – Motion to approve – No objections – Motion approved unanimously.
 - **Hearing and voting of CEC Candidates**
 - Shazia Mehmood – 7 YES 0 NO
 - Shazia Mehmood was welcomed as the newest member of CEC 22.
 - **In-person Meetings Location Discussion** – Motion to hold all our meetings at the district office unless the council agrees otherwise: Motion approved – 7 YES 0 NO - Meetings will continue to be held at the district office by default with flexibility to use other locations as approved. Council discussed hosting an October meeting at a high school, combining meetings with informational sessions regarding high school admissions, exploring student recruitment opportunities and prioritizing locations that are accessible by public transportation.
 - **Check in on School Liaison Assignments** – Council reviewed liaison assignments and discussed redistributing schools to balance workloads among council members. New liaison assignments will be circulated to members.
 - **Council Priorities and Goals for 2026-2027 School year** – the council discussed increasing attendance at meetings, parent engagement and increasing participation. Expanding outreach efforts through surveys to gather parent feedback on council priorities. Participate in PTA and School Leadership Team meetings. Explore parent-centered events and workshops.
 - **Discussion of Draft Resolutions** – Council discussed supporting whole-book reading and literacy initiatives as well as continuing advocacy regarding student screentime use and technology in schools. The council also discussed community outreach. Investigate methods of supporting families through community-based resources. The council will also consider direct engagement projects that support student and family needs.
 - **Mission Statement Plan** – Discussion to be continued.
- **Treasurer's Report** – M.B. – The council approved the FY27 Budget totaling \$25,000.
 - **Fiscal Year 2027 budget approved: Vote: 8 YES 0 NO**

- Budget Allocation: Administrative travel (\$500), Office Supplies (\$2,000), Member reimbursement (\$6,000), President reimbursement (\$2,400), Meeting expenses/refreshments (\$3,550), Advertising (\$4,550), parent outreach & engagement activities (\$6,000).
- Council discussed reimbursements and timelines, utilization of outreach and advertising funds, planning events early enough to meet funding deadlines, and maximizing parent engagement opportunities. Council discussed planning a legislative breakfast during the school year. Avi Glickstein will take the lead on planning efforts.
- Future Planning – Council requested members come to the September meeting with: Parent engagement event proposals, Outreach ideas, Budget spending recommendations, Suggestions for council priorities and resolutions.
- **Adjournment** at 8:57 pm

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- **Election of CEC Officers** – No Quorum at Calendar meeting