

Community Education Council District 22

April Special Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, April 14, 2026

Called to order at 6:21pm

- **Candidate Interviews & Statements**
 - Johanna Neufeld – Interviewed by council
 - Nicole Campo-Lardner - Not present

Roll Call

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

Absent: Vanessa Cannistraci, Megan Demarkis

- **Adjournment 6:31pm**

April Calendar Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, April 14, 2026

Called to order at 6:31pm

Roll Call

Present: Bridget Kessler, Avi Glickstein, Michael Barth, Tahisha George, Kinga Kusek, Zheng Hao Ma, Megan DeMarkis (6:42pm)

Absent: Vanessa Cannistraci

- **Land Acknowledgement – B.K.**
- **Approval of March Minutes – Approved by consensus**
- **President's Report – B.K.**
 - Welcome and provides best wishes for a Happy Spring!
 - Addressed the recent hit-and-run in our community. My heart goes out to the family.
 - Stated that several communities have recently reached out to us regarding concerns about lack of crossing guards and traffic flow issues near their schools. I want everyone to know that I have and will continue to forcefully escalate these types of concerns.

Encourages school staff to speak up and ask for better. If you are aware of any unsafe conditions around your school, I encourage you to reach out.

- If your school has construction or maintenance needs, we are happy to elevate those needs and advocate to push for projects to move forward.
- Thanks to council member Zheng Hao Ma, we have advocated for fixing PS 195 auditorium, PS 109 playground and more. Parents, if you see something that is not being taken care of or safety concern, please do reach out.
- We passed a resolution asking for a two-year moratorium or pause on the use of AI in our classrooms, urging a cautionary approach to allow for a period of deep study, discussion, parent input, and transparency.
- Last month, our very own Vanessa Cannistraci was recognized by Council Member Mercedes Narcisse as a woman of impact for her advocacy relating to dyslexia and literacy in our district. Congratulations Vanessa!
- Thank you to our President's Council President Vanessa, and Heather and Linda from the meeting between President's Council and CEC.
- Our next meeting will be taking place Tuesday, May 5th at P.S. 254 in Sheepshed Bay. It will be accessible by the B/Q trains. We hope to see everyone there.
- **School Construction Authority Community Update Regarding New School Additions** – Erica Porter & Yvette Knight
 - The SCA is slated to build two new additions in school district 22. One is K134 in Community Board 14, and the second school is K255 addition in Community Board 15.
 - Presentation: SCA Update – P.S. K134 Addition 205 Webster Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11230
 - The Presentation provided photographs and a detailed overview of the construction, plans, and timeline for each project. pl
 - Thank You!
- **Fair Student Funding Presentation** – Ira Kerper, Brooklyn South Budget Director
 - School Budgets SY 2026-2027 March 2026
 - Where Does Our Funding Come From?
 - How is the \$46.1B NYC Public Schools Budget Spent?
 - District 22 2025-2026 School Budgets \$629 Million
 - Who Decides How Money Is Spent At The School Level?
 - Fair Student Funding (FSF)
 - What is Fair Student Funding?
 - What's Supported Outside Of The FSF Formula?
 - How Does Fair Student Funding Work?
 - SY 2026-2027 Proposed Fair Student Funding Weights
 - How The FSF Weights Work Per Student: If the Per Capita were \$1
 - How the FSF Weights Work Per Student: At the 2025-2026 per capita of \$4,262
 - Budget Web pages
 - Where Can I Find Information About My School's Budget?
 - Fair Student Funding Details Web Page By School
 - The School Budget At A Glance Report
 - We Welcome Your Feedback
- **Superintendent's Report** – Deputy Superintendent Barros
 - Thanks the CEC for their ongoing partnership and advocacy with our schools, and thanks Principal Olivieri for allowing us to be at P.S. 222

- Congratulations to JHS 78 Roy H. Mann for the 2026 Middle School Volleyball League Champions. Congratulations to every school and student athlete for a wonderful season of growth, learning, and competition.
- District 22 Elementary Basketball League and Championship games will be held in May. Congratulations to all of our schools on an incredible and historic season.
- All school comprehensive education plans and parent family engagement policy for Title I schools are available to view on the iPlanportal.com
- To view the district CP and parent-family Engagement Policy on page 186 in the link provided.
- Kindergarten offers are now available to schools and families. Families have until May 1st to accept or decline their offer.
- April 14th to April 24th, the New York State Grade 3 to 8 ELA English Language Arts exam. Schools will provide dates.
- Frequently asked questions for student participation in these grades 3-8 year-to-day tests are available in the Family Guide, and on our D22 website.
- We encourage you to join the district 22 Parent Guardian Gardening Club. First meeting in on April 15th at 1pm.
- April 15th Middle School offer release in the afternoon.
- April 17 is the extended deadline to complete the New York City School Survey
- Now through April 17th, students, staff and parents are invited to take the annual New York City School Survey. Available at NewYorkCitySchoolSurvey.org
- April 20th, Upper grade Gifted and Talented applications opens. G and T programs offer accelerated instruction to eligible elementary school students in the city. If your child will be in grades 1,2,3,4 during the 2026-2027 school year and meets report card requirements, they can participate in Fall 2026 and admissions via Myschools.nyc. Families of eligible students will receive an email and/or mailed letter inviting them to apply for G and T. Applications close May 8th
- April 21st, Summer Rising offers are released.
- April 22nd from 1pm to 3 pm, Carol Pino Learning Farm, 7124 Ave. N, Community Plant Giveaway, one per family. It is also Bird Day.
- April 22nd, Office of Multilingual Learners will host its Annual Family Conference from 10am to 12pm at Fordham University.
- May 8th is the deadline to complete the AI Guidance Stakeholder Survey
- **Responses to additional questions from Town Hall**
 - **Question:** The Mississippi Miracle drastically improved student academic performance by 4th grade by forcing academics, going from 49th to top 10 in a decade. With its high child poverty and low education spending, it has become one of the best places for a poor child to get education. New York City's scores are below the national average with interracial gaps. Would you consider using any methods used in Mississippi to improve New York City student performance? And is not, what is your alternative plan to ensure high-quality rigorous, and equitable education for New York City students? **Answer:** So the Mississippi Miracle, there were a few factors that allowed for it to be so successful. Two really important ones. One, that it was based on the science of reading, which is, dragged in a lot of evidence-based research. Two, there was teacher training on the side for all teachers that would be teaching students at all levels, and there was follow-through and accountability for them. So, in New York City Reads, which we launched here in New York City, that is also based on the science of

reading. In simplest terms, what does that mean? That means that I really want to make sure students are proficient readers at whatever grade level they are, we need, in the foundational skills, we need to really focus on phonics and fluency. And when we talk about later grades, we need to focus on vocabulary and comprehension. Those are the tenets of the science of reading, which we share with what Mississippi did. So I just wanted to offer that, in terms of what the initiative that is taking place here in New York City.

○ **Question:** Would you consider updating the chancellor regulations for PA PTS reimbursement to enhance flexibility for PA PTAs to receive and to make payments, for example, to include venmo? **Answer:** Here at the district level, we cannot speak before Chancellor's regulations and change therein. However, I do offer that this be shared at President's Council, if it has not been, so that it can be lifted up to the Chancellor and the team.

- **Report of Committee (s)**
- **Public Comment** (2 mins/ea. speaker)
 - In Person - Nicole Job (FACE)
 - Zoom - Mark Young (PTA 315)
- **Council Vote on Candidate Applications for Open General Seat – Tabled**
 - Council interviewed Nicole Campo-Lardner
 - Council went into executive session
 - Tabled
- **Adjournment** at 8:08pm

Community Education Council District 22

April Business Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, April 14, 2026

Called to order at 8:09pm

Roll Call

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

Absent: Vanessa Cannistraci

- **New Business**
 - Mission Statement – Council agreed to explore developing a mission statement over the summer.
 - Business Cards – Council will send feedback via email
- **Old Business**
 - SCA/Reso A Tracking and Follow Up Project – Tabled
 - Magnets/T-Shirts – Council to create promotional items. About 1000 magnets and 100 T-Shirts, Laminated posters
 - Potential Future Council Events (discussion & scheduling)
 - Beach Cleanup - Discussed
 - Documentary Screening – Discussed documentary on Dyslexia
 - Family Listening Event – Will continue at the parent engagement committee meeting
- **Treasure's Report** – M.B. Updated council on current budget
 - Motion to approve \$600 for Office Supplies – **Vote:** 2 YES 0 NO
 - Michael updated council on current budget
- **Adjournment** at 8:28 pm