



Community District Education Council 26

New York City Department of Education

Address: 61-15 Oceania Street, Bayside, NY 11364 Phone: (718) 631-6927 Fax: (718) 631-1347 E-mail: CEC26@schools.nyc.gov.

Alan Ong <i>President of the Council</i>	Todd Friedman <i>First Vice- President</i>	Cassandra Louie <i>Second Vice President</i>	Adriana Aviles <i>Recording Secretary</i>	Albert Suhu <i>Treasurer</i>
<i>Council Members:</i>			Danielle Giunta	
Norman Cohn	Sulinda Hong		Community Superintendent	
Dennis Chan	Dilip Nath		District 26	
Jennifer Catherall	Taeho Hwang			

December 16, 2021 Meeting

Calendar Meeting

Meeting called to Order and Roll Call at 7:05 PM by Alan Ong.

Present: Alan Ong, Albert Suhu, Dennis Chan, Cassandra Louie, Norman Cohn, Taeho Hwang, Dilip Nath, Adriana Aviles, Todd Friedman, Sulinda Hong, and Athena Gavros

Absent: Jennifer Catherall (excused due to prior commitment)

Also, Present: Danielle Giunta, Superintendent Tara Davidson, Deputy Superintendent District 26, and District 26 Team

- I. Welcome
- II. Superintendent Report: (See addendum A)
 - Admission update: The middle school application will open the week of January 10, 2022, and the deadline to apply will be the week of February 28.
This week, middle school welcome letters will be available! This personalized letter includes information on how to access your MySchools.nyc account. When you're logged in to your account, you can use MySchools to explore your child's middle school program options and save favorite programs. When the application opens, you will also use MySchools to apply. All current fifth grade public school families will receive their child's welcome letter in the mail. You can also get a copy from your current school counselor. Private and parochial school families can request your child's welcome letter from a Family Welcome Center.
The DOE will continue to pause screening (using students' academic records in admissions) for students entering middle school in fall 2022. For middle school programs with more applicants than seats, offers will be made using admissions priorities and random selection. This year, arts-based programs will resume holding auditions. MySchools will reflect these updates within the coming week. We will provide more details around admissions when the application opens in January. Right now, you can read more about middle school admissions at schools.nyc.gov/Middle and learn about specific schools at MySchools.nyc.
Superintendent Giunta also shared information about open houses and choice programs dates for the lottery program.
 - High School Admission: The high school application will open the week of January 24, 2022, and close during the week of February 28. In response to feedback from community leaders, families, and schools, borough- and zone-based admissions priorities will remain in place this year. This means that some high school programs will continue to prioritize zoned applicants and/or applicants who live or currently attend middle school in a specific borough. District-based admissions priorities were eliminated last year and will continue to not be used in high school admissions.
 - For high school programs that screen applicants, multiple measures will be used to evaluate students this year. These measures will include submissions of work samples from last year, such as essays or reports, and first-semester grades from this school year. MySchools will reflect these updates within the coming week. **The application will be reviewed centrally rather than at individual schools.**
 - Updated information about TikTok Challenge which children are lodging threat against schools.
 - Computer Science in D26 schools updates

- Alan asked about if our schools are prepared for Remote Learning in our schools. Superintendent mentioned that we have a checklist that we regularly go through to prepare for our schools.

III. **School Construction Authority Presentation-**

Discussion took place regarding boiler, electrical upgrade, bathroom, and scaffolding. Also question raised was regarding PS 203 air-conditioner complication.

IV. **Resolution to Reinstate Academic Screening for District 26 Middle School Programs proposed by Albert Suhu and Dennis Chan.** (See addendum A)

- Public Comment:
- Alan Ong motioned to approve the resolution- Cassandra and Teo seconded the motion for approval. Motioned passed unanimously. **CEC26 approved resolution to Reinstate Academic Screening for District 26 Middle School Programs.**

V. **Proposed letter for Class Size reduction and supporting reducing class size.**

- Alan proposed to approve the letter.
Yes: Todd Friedman, Cassandra Louie, Alan Ong, Norman Cohn, Sulinda Hong
No: Adriana Aviles
Abstain: Albert Suhu, Dennis Chan, Taeho Hwang & Dilip Nath

The proposed letter is not approved due to not having 6 votes.

VI. **Public Comment:**

- Sara- question about health screening
- Cathy Grodsky- students being marked absent due to covid.
- Taeho Hwang- vaccination rate for students in D26 schools- do we have any number regarding it.
- Dave Waltzer- updates
- Jim Gallagher- Community update
- Alan Ong updated about regents in District 26 schools. He suggested that if we can make it available for everyone.

Alan Ong motioned to adjourn Meeting at 8:36 PM. Motion passed.

Submitted by Farjana Faruk

Business Meeting Minutes

Business Meeting: 8:40 PM

Meeting called to Order and Roll Call at 8:33 PM by Alan Ong.

Present: Alan Ong, Albert Suhu, Dennis Chan, Cassandra Louie, Norman Cohn, Taeho Hwang, Dilip Nath, Adriana Aviles, Todd Friedman, Sulinda Hong, and Athena Gavros

Absent: Jennifer Catherall (excused due to prior commitment)

Also, Present: Tara Davidson, Deputy Superintendent, and District 26 Team

I. **Welcome**

II. **Minutes** are reviewed October 21 & November 9th, 2021, meeting, and a motion was made by Norman Cohn to approve the minutes. Motion passed unanimously for approval of minutes.

III. **Budget:** Albert Suhu shared the updated budget and motioned to approve the budget. The budget passed unanimously for adding funds to purchase technology for an in-person meeting. Approved purchasing of iPad (10).

IV. **Iready data:** Shared data we received from Iready data.

V. **Member's report:**

- Dilip Nath: Children who comes in late are marked absent even though they are present if they miss first period and there is no way changing it.
- **Discussion of Chancellor Regulation D210 –**
- Al shared information and proposed that we should consider 7th

VI. Alan Ong motioned to adjourn Meeting at 10:15 PM. Motion passed.

Addendum A:



Community District Education Council 26 New York City Department of Education

Address: 61-15 Oceania Street, Bayside, NY 11364 Phone: (718) 631-6927 Fax: (718) 631-1347 E-mail: CEC26@schools.nyc.gov.

Alan Ong <i>President of the Council</i>	Todd Friedman <i>First Vice- President</i>	Cassandra Louie <i>Second Vice President</i>	Adriana Aviles <i>Recording Secretary</i>	Albert Suhu <i>Treasurer</i>
<i>Council Members:</i>				Danielle Giunta <i>Community Superintendent District 26</i>
Norman Cohn	Sulinda Hong	Athena Gavros		
Dennis Chan	Dilip Nath			
Jennifer Catherall	Tacho Hwang			

Resolution to Reinstate Academic Screening for District 26 Middle School Programs Approved on December 16, 2021

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic caused the New York City Department of Education school system to shut down on March 16, 2020, and shift to a remote-learning model for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year: and ¹

WHEREAS, New York State English Language Arts (ELA) and math assessments were canceled in March & April 2020, following the announcement of waivers permitted by the U.S. Secretary of Education ²; and

WHEREAS, only “pass/fail” grades were permitted for the school year 2019-2020 final marking period ³; and

WHEREAS, the New York City Schools Chancellor suspended middle school screened programs for the school year 2021-22 due to the unavailability of 2019-2020 numerical grades and state assessment scores for use as screening criteria: ⁴ and

WHEREAS, District 26 implemented middle school screened programs 10 years ago to meet high demand from our parents for a rigorous curriculum for high-achieving students; and

WHEREAS, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, District 26 middle school screened programs were made available in each of our middle schools and open to all students to apply to: and

WHEREAS, over 2,000 fifth graders have been applying to District 26 screened middle school programs every year ⁵; and

WHEREAS, on November 9, 2021, parents at a Community Education Council District 26 (CEC26) feedback forum overwhelmingly demanded middle school screened programs be restored; and

¹ <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/15/nyregion/nyc-schools-closed.html>

² <https://ny.chalkbeat.org/2020/3/20/21196092/it-s-official-new-york-state-calls-off-exams-due-to-coronavirus-closures>

³ <https://www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor/news/297-20/mayor-de-blasio-chancellor-carranza-adjusted-k-12-citywide-grading-policy-2019-20>

⁴ : <https://nypost.com/2020/12/18/nyc-ends-academic-screens-for-middle-schools-but-keeps-them-for-high-schools/>

⁵ www.myschools.nyc

WHEREAS, numerical report card grades were issued in the school year 2020-21 and New York State ELA and math assessments were given in Spring 2021 that can once again be used for middle school screening criteria,⁶ and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Community Education Council District 26 (CEC26) demands the New York City Schools Chancellor to lift the suspension of our middle school screened programs.

Community Education Council District 26 approved the resolution on December 16, 2021 monthly meeting with a uniramous vote. Members Present: Norman Cohn, Dilip Nath, Todd Friedman, Adriana Aviles, Albert Suhu, Dennis Chan, Sulinda Hong, Taeho Hwang, Alan Ong and Cassandra Louie. Member absent: Jennifer Catherall.

Budget

Jennifer Catherall: Childcare expense & Internet service from September- December

	Allocated	October	December	Total & Committed	Balance
Non Contractual Services(Copier) Object Code 433	\$1,548.00			\$0.00	\$0.00
Member Reimbursement Object Code 496	\$5,000.00	\$325.00	\$500.00	\$825.00	\$4,175.00
P-Card/Office Supplies	\$1,000.00			\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Supplies General (Workshops) Object Code 198	\$2,052.00			\$0.00	\$2,052.00
Food for Meeting & Transportation of Staff	\$2,500.00			\$0.00	\$2,500.00
Website	\$700.00			\$0.00	\$700.00
Vendor Payment for Workshops	\$6,000.00			\$0.00	\$6,000.00
Supplies Water	\$370.00			\$0.00	\$0.00
Equipment	\$5,800.00			\$0.00	\$5,800.00
Water rental	\$30.00			\$0.00	\$30.00
Total	\$25,000.00				
Total Spent	\$825.00			\$825.00	
Balance in Budget	\$24,175.00				

Page 2 entail details:

Jennifer Catherall	9/1/2021	\$125.00	CEC26 meetings childcare reimbursement and internet service September
Jennifer Catherall	10/1/2021	\$125.00	CEC26 meetings childcare reimbursement and internet service October
Jennifer Catherall	11/1/2021	\$125.00	CEC26 meetings childcare reimbursement and internet service November

⁶ <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/04/06/world/nyc-standardized-testing.html> ; <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/docs/default-source/default-document-library/update-for-families-october-26-2020>