

COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 3

154 West 93rd Street New York, New York 10025 - Room 204 Tel (212) 678-2782 Fax (212) 678-2804 Email: CEC3@schools.nyc.gov

Kamar Samuels District 3 *Superintendent* Deputy Superintendent Mariela Graham

Jill Rackmill
Co-President

Kristin Savov
Co- President

Michelle Lee
Vice President

Jonathan Zacks, IEP
Treasurer

Vacant
Secretary

Council Members: Ana Maria Quinones Greenfield Noah Odabashian Felicia Reese Amos- ELL, Wendy Liz Martinez
Yael Denbo D75-Vacant Student Rep-Vacant

CEC 3 August Hybrid Business Meeting Minutes

Tuesday August 5, 2025, at 6:30pm

M.S. 333 Manhattan School for Children – 154 W 93rd St, New York, NY 10025

Joan of Arc Campus, Room 117

BUSINESS MEETING

- ❖ Call to Order -6:34pm
- Roll Call of Members - Noah Odabashian, Felicia Amos Reese, Yael Denbo, Jill Rackmill, Kristin Savov, Wendy Liz Martinez, Jonathan Zacks, Ana Quinones Greenfield
- Zoom- Michelle Lee
 - ❖ Old Business -N/A
 - ❖ New Business –N/A
 - ❖ Deputy Superintendent Graham overview of D3 initiatives-
 - ◊ **Overview of Schools in District 3**
Deputy Mariela Graham details the structure of schools in the district:
 - ❖ **K–5 elementary schools**, some with 3K and Pre-K.
 - ❖ **K–8 schools** – 4 of them, highlighting a shift from prior configurations (PS 180 and 76 used to be K–8).
 - ❖ **Middle schools** – schools like 243 (Center School), which begins at grade 5.
 - ❖ **Secondary schools** – emphasized as often overlooked because they don't fit the standard mold.
 - ❖ **West End Secondary**: 6–12, 700+ students.

- ❖ **Special Music School:** K–12 with small class sizes (15 per grade K–8, 50 per grade in high school).
- ❖ **Mott Hall II:** Moving towards becoming a 6–12 school.
Deputy Graham explains the district’s evolving **vision for high school education**, aligning with:
Transdisciplinary learning
International Baccalaureate (IB)
New York State’s "Portrait of a Graduate" framework (graduation requirement reforms) here is the link to look back on from Deputy Superintendent Graham
- ❖ Meeting Schedule 2025-2026-

Co-president Jill shared that the **regular meeting schedule** is set for the **third Tuesday of each month**. Which example dates were mentioned: **July 15, August 19**, etc. Council member **Jonathan Zacks** created a **Google Calendar** that members can subscribe to ensure council members can look at and are up to date. Meeting schedules will be updated with **meeting dates and locations** as finalized.
- ❖ Role of the liaison- Co-president Jill explain the role of a liaison to all council members and the importance it brings. Council members are to visit their assign schools and SLT meetings as frequently as they can, council members are allowed to sit in the SLT meeting as an observer. Getting to know liaisons school PTA -Presidents and Presidents Councils to build relationships to welcome the liaison to D3 school events. CECs have responsibilities that require school visits to build relationships and collect data.
- ❖ Month by month overview of the year- Co-president Jill listed some mandated presentations that takes place where Supt. Samuels and Dept. Supt. Graham will have to read information about State Funding issues and in January the SCA will come out and make they’re presentation about district 3. CEC 3 will present to SCA the ideas for capital improvements for the district planning.
- ❖ Mandated Presentations /speakers and invited guest- Inviting Division of School Facilities, giving guest speakers enough time to present and answer questions and give answers in a timely fashion.
- ❖ Liaison assignments- Were given out to council members. The schools that weren’t assign will be assign to the newly elected BPA at the September 19, 2025, Joint Calendar & Business meeting.
- ❖ Resolutions- Co-president Jill address how resolutions are added to the agenda and which CEC 3 bylaws. If a council member has a resolution, the member can bring it to a business meeting .
- ❖ Hybrid Meetings- Co-president Jill stated that the last council wanted to stay with the hybrid meetings because it’s a different accessibility for the D3 community and public, childcare etc.

Council members are to bring laptops and headphones while online via zoom, also council members can join hybrid meetings. Seven council members must be in-person and if quorum is achieved, remaining council members can be online.

- ❖ Website- Council member WendyLiz and Jonathan have volunteered to assist AA Lloyd with the WIX that runs the cec3 website. AA Lloyd will continue to maintain flyers of CEC3 meetings and send out notices to the D3 community.
- ❖ Working with our AA -Responsibilities are the logistics of CEC meeting locations, putting in permits for the locations that have been selected by the council and sign-in sheets. Communicating the meeting notices, getting the agenda out and the minutes. Co-president Jill added the need of a recording Secretary is good to have to work alongside with AA Lloyd to ensure minutes are taken and prepared.
- ❖ Parliamentary Timekeeper, Notetaker- A Parliamentary timekeeper is very important to have so all guest and council members can stay on a time frame and keep the meetings moving smoothly. No one has volunteered to be a Parliamentary timekeeper currently. Council members will discuss on hiring a Parliamentary Timekeeper.
- ❖ Committees- Here are some of the committees that council members have spoken on bringing into the school year of 2025-2026

Infrastructure Committee, Desegregation Committee, Class Size Committee, Middle School Committee, Curriculum Committee.
- ❖ Priorities-Class size issues and supporting Harlem schools is a priority. Engaging with D3 parents and supporting parents and making sure that they're voices are heard. Co-president Jill stated that robust enrollment is a priority in D3 schools.
- ❖ Bylaws -Council Member Noah spoke on having a bylaw committee to change the cover page which is outdated and updating
- ❖ Norms of behavior -Respectful communication and encouraging participation

Adjournment Business Meeting 9:02PM