

Citywide Council for District 75

CALENDAR MEETING MINUTES

Date: August 24, 2020 **Time:** 6:30 PM – 9:00PM **Location:** Virtual Meeting: Zoom

MEETING CALLED BY	Shamel Lawrence and Craig E. Spencer , Co-President
FACILITATOR	Shamel Lawrence and Craig E. Spencer , Co-Presidents
ROLL CALL & NOTE TAKER	Patricia Jewett , Recording Secretary
TIMEKEEPER	Tiesha Groover , Council Member
ATTENDEES	Shamel Lawrence, Sr. , Co-President- Present, Craig E. Spencer , Co-President- Present, Grisel Cardona , Vice President- Present, Amy Ming Tsai , Council Member-Present, Tiesha Groover , Council Member-Present, Debra Altman , Treasurer- Present, Constance Asiedu , Public Advocate Appointee-Present and Patricia Jewett , Recording Secretary and Public Advocate Appointee- Present
MEETING START & ADJOURN	Start: 7:34pm Adjourn: 8:00pm

1. **Call to order and Roll Call:** S. Lawrence called the Calendar Meeting to order and roll call was taken by P. Jewett
2. **Appointment of Timekeeper:** T. Groover
3. **Superintendent Report:** S. Lawrence noted the Superintendent for D75 was not present and asked Jose Rios Lua, Director of Family Empowerment & Communications, Division of Specialized Instruction and Student Support to provide any updates for the attendees.

Mr. Lua informed the members and attendees last week the DOE started sending out a survey to families to indicate their preference around related services. Mr. Lua wanted to remind those in attendance if they haven't filled out the survey to please fill it out. He said it's important to receive parent feedback/preference on how parents would like for their child to receive related services. This will help them to be able to plan and update parents and are looking forward to hearing parents' input through the form of the survey. If parents haven't received the survey and their child receives therapeutic service through related services, please email the special education inbox at specialeducation@schools.nyc.gov.

4. **Open to the public Q&A for Superintendent:** S. Lawrence stated the D75 Superintendent wasn't present and asked if Mr. Lua will help answer parents' questions. S. Lawrence wanted to continue to follow the agenda. He informed the attendees they have one minute and one question to pose to Mr. Lua.

Mr. Gabel, (parent) he and his wife would like to know how they can schedule a virtual tour of the schools his kids are going to attend. They would like to see the classroom set up. They've reached out to the school administration and didn't receive a response. He inquired if there is a school virtual orientation tour for parents especially in a time of COVID. They've opted into hybrid learning, his younger child has hearing issues and he's concerned about that the classroom looks like. Are schools able to provide a virtual tour. Mr. Lua informed Mr. Gabel from his understanding yes they have shared with schools' guidance counselors on how to engage with virtual school walkthrough. Mr. Lua asked Mr. Gabel to email him and he will have someone from his office to connect him to someone at the school.

Celia Green, President of CCHS (D75 parent) congratulated the new board of CCD75 and wish them all well. She pointed out she was a little confused with some things that were occurring during the meeting. She would like to share some of the suggestions she has provided to her council. Sometimes it's difficult connecting via the phone on the platforms. The members may want to create a system where you assign somebody to make sure every certain amount

of intervals, you check the people on the phone, just to make sure that they're getting the same thing those virtually on the platform or virtual seeing/hearing. D75 has a large population and parents don't necessarily have the same equipment to get into the meeting virtually. Also be cognizant if you are chairing a meeting the chair can call for a motions but can't make the actual motion.

C. Cardona informed the co-presidents of CCD75 she posted within the chat the related survey if parents didn't receive it.

Within the chat a parent inquired was the related survey date extended. Mr. Lua informed the parent the official date for submission of the survey is Aug. 24th. He asked the parents to fill out and submit the survey tonight. If you can't access it in the morning email them at specialeducation@schools.nyc.gov but the impression is it will remain open.

G. Cardona asked on behalf of a parent if someone can assist with placement issues. Mr. Lua is happy to forward any questions to District 75 placement team, Patricia or the superintendents off. He informed the parent to send their question to the inbox (email address previously mentioned). Any questions anyone has to send to him and he will send it t

C.S. Spencer asked Mr. Gabels to provide the members with his email address in the chat because he wants to make sure that the situation gets and we will follow up.

Mr. Gabel thanked D.Altman and C.E.Spencer for their help they met previously in Staten Island.

S.Lawrence asked the members if they had a closing remark. The zoom meeting transcript is available upon request.

Note: A.M. Tsai reminded the members previously CCD75 calendars with complete dates for the school year was produced for parents. Currently there are dates not added to the CCD75 calendar for the 2020-2021 school year. TBA should add to the calendar notifying parents future dates added. C.E. Spencer made a motion the CCD75 calendar will be revisited on October 7, 2020

5. Motion to Adjourn