



Community Education Council 24

Mosaic Pre-K Center #777
50-15 44th Street, Room 109
Woodside, New York 11377
718-361-3560, ext. 1092
Email: cec24@schools.nyc.gov

December 17th Meeting Minutes at Intermediate School 77

Welcome!

. Roll Call

Connie Altamirano, Matthew Crescio, Mati Gonzalez (Virtual), Juny Adames, Guo Zhou, Manisha Jain, Anna Karwowska, Michael Martizano, Johanna Pineda

. Absent

Veronica Piedra Leon

. Attendees:

Eleanor McNamee, Principal Gina Pluvoise of IS 77, James Leahy, Rachelle Lewis, Jose Jimenez, Kanye Smith, Charlie Vavruska, Phil Wong representative for Council member Robert Holden, Jonathan Betancourt representative for Nydia Valesquez, Danielle Schaaf, School Construction Authority, Elizabeth Kot and Mikail Nahian from School Facilities, Beth Tekverk, Director of Early Childhood Education, Theresa Cottone, representative for Council member Julie Won, Shirley Aubin and Adrian Aviles from PEP; Juan Mayancela, representative from Council member Jennifer Gutierrez office

Since Veronica Piedra Leon is absent, Connie Altamirano, Vice President will be President for tonight's December 17th meeting.

- The January 28th meeting will be held at PS 305. The February Meeting will be held at PS 153, and we will let you know at the January 28th meeting what schools are available for the CEC24 meetings through June 2025.

. Jose Jimenez presented the Superintendent's report for December.



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. Michael Martizano, Recording Secretary has taken care of the CEC24 Elections. The elections began:

Connie Altamirano nominated Matthew Crescio for CEC24 President.

The Voting took place for CEC24 President:

Manisha Jain	Yes	Anna Karwowska	Yes
Guo Zhou	Yes	Matthew Crescio	Yes
Michael Martizano	Yes	Connie Altamirano	Yes
Mati Gonzalez	Abstained	Johanna Pineda	Abstained
Verónica Piedra León	Absent	Juny Adames	Abstained

The Voting for CEC24 President was 6 Yes; 3 Abstained; 1 Absent.

Matthew Crescio nominated Connie Altamirano for 1st Vice President.

The Voting took place for 1st Vice President:

Manisha Jain	Yes	Anna Karwowska	Yes
Guo Zhou	Yes	Matthew Crescio	Yes
Michael Martizano	No	Connie Altamirano	Yes
Mati Gonzalez	Abstained	Johanna Pineda	Abstained
Veronica Piedra Leon	Absent	Juny Adames	Abstained

The Voting for 1st Vice President was 5 Yes; 3 Abstained; 1 Absent.

The Voting took place for Treasurer for Mati Gonzalez.

Manisha Jain	Abstained	Anna Karwowska	Abstained
Guo Zhou	Abstained	Matthew Crescio	Abstained
Michael Martizano	Yes	Connie Altamirano	Abstained
Mati Gonzalez	Yes	Johanna Pineda	Yes
Verónica Piedra León	Absent	Juny Adames	Yes



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The Voting for Treasurer was 5 Abstained; 4 Yes, 1 Absent.

We will continue with the CEC24 Elections at the January 28th meeting.

. Guest Speaker, Danielle Schaaff, School Construction Authority

Ms. Schaaff spoke about the different school sites that SCA has upgraded and improved as per the presentation. Elizabeth Kot, Deputy Director of Facilities, Office of the Chief Operating Officer and Mikail Nahian, Deputy Director of Facilities of School Facilities

Some of the members asked questions about upgrades and improvements for the D24 schools.

. **Resolution 173**

Sponsor: Connie Altamirano and Matthew Crescio
Co-Sponsor: Anna Karwowska

Resolution to Oppose the Proposed Co-Location of Queens International School (Q849) at IS77, the Joseph F. Quinn School

WHEREAS, the New York City Department of Education (NYCDOE) has proposed the colocation of Queens International School (Q849) with Joseph F. Quinn Intermediate School 77 (IS77), located at 976 Seneca Avenue, Ridgewood, NY 11385, for the 2025-2026 school year; and

WHEREAS, a similar co-location involving Bushwick Leaders High School (grades 9 through 12) temporarily occurred at IS77 for two years during building upgrades, causing significant disruption to IS77 students, and creating traumatic experiences for the IS77 community which is reflected in recent enrollment numbers at IS77;

WHEREAS, the proposed co-location will introduce grades 6 through 12 into a building originally designed to accommodate a single school, which includes facilities such as a



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cafeteria with a maximum capacity of only 500 students at a time; having to break up lunch periods for IS77 and Q849 would allow 13 minutes for each student to eat lunch , it is not logistically possible without expanding the current lunchroom;

WHEREAS, the co-location will create logistical challenges, and safety concerns due to shared spaces such as hallways, cafeterias, and restrooms, including the lack of adequate facilities—notably, only one men’s lavatory on the fourth floor and no female lavatory on that floor; and

WHEREAS, IS77 staff and students, during public hearings, expressed that the previous colocation caused numerous families to leave the school, reducing enrollment, and that the proposed co-location could further decrease enrollment as Q849 actively recruits students from IS77’s feeder schools, despite public statements claiming otherwise; and

WHEREAS, IS77 has a long history of warmly welcoming and educating newly arrived immigrant students without issue, demonstrating its ability to serve diverse populations effectively as this colocation will diminish their efforts to assimilate newcomers to the district and welcome to their new community.

WHEREAS, a Joint Public Hearing was held on November 13, 2024, at IS77, with another virtual hearing scheduled for December 9, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.; and

WHEREAS, despite these hearings, the NYCDOE has not provided sufficient data or detailed information regarding the potential impact of the proposed co-location on IS77 students, staff, and the broader school community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Community Education Council (CEC) 24 opposes the proposed co-location of Queens International School (Q849) with IS77; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the CEC urges the NYCDOE to reconsider this proposal and explore alternative locations better suited to house grades 6 through 12 without adversely affecting existing schools and communities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that CEC 24 requests that IS77 be given the opportunity to rebuild its enrollment and programs in the wake of recent challenges, with no additional collocations considered until at least the 2026-2027 school year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that CEC 24 advocates for the implementation of



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programs at both the school and district levels to increase IS77's enrollment, including expanding the district's dual-language program (currently serving grades K-5) into middle school grades, as well as other innovative initiatives to serve the community and strengthen IS77's role as a cornerstone of District 24.

Adopted and approved this 17th day of December 2024, by the Community Education Council 24. CEC24 Members, Connie Altamirano, Yes; Juny Adames, Yes; Matthew Crescio, Yes; Mati Gonzalez, Abstained; Manisha Jain, Yes; Anna Karwowska, Yes; Veronica Piedra Leon, Absent; Michael Martizano, Yes; Johanna Pineda, Yes; Guo Zhou, Yes.

CEC24 Voting for Resolution #173: 8 – Yes; 1 – Abstained; 1 - Absent
December 17, 2024

Public Speaking Session

Many parents, teachers, and students expressed their concerns about the IS 77 Co-location. They are not happy. Some of the teachers and parents were disappointed that Veronica Piedra Leon was absent from this month's CEC24 meeting.

Theresa Cottone is a representative for Julie Won and is interested in helping with Reso-As for District 24 schools

- . Adjournment of the Calendar Meeting.
- . Business Meeting began with the roll call.
- . School Visits
 - . Most of the members visited their schools. There are a few that need to visit one or more of their schools. The members need to send in their reports to CEC24 and Eleanor McNamee.
- . Discussion of having Police Precincts at the CEC meetings to report safety measures for the community
 - . The August, September, October, and November CEC24 Minutes were approved.
 - . The Administrative Assistant asked for supplies and the members were all in favor.
- . Member Reimbursements
 - . Discussion of Member Reimbursements not getting their reimbursements back on time.
- . Five-Year Plan



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- . We need to discuss with Veronica the Five-Year Plan which is due in January 2025.
- . Committees
- . Some of the members discussed having committee meetings, Michael and Juny discussed having a Parent Engagement Workshop. Johanna and Anna are having separate ELL workshops. Connie and Matt discussed having another IEP meeting.

The first IEP Meeting on November 14th went very well at PS 239. Over 25 parents, with the help of interpreters expressed their concerns about not getting services for their children.

The meeting ended at 9:30 pm.

Janet Kregler
Administrative Assistant
CEC24