

Community District Education Council District 26  
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**MINUTES OF OUTREACH COMMITTEE PUBLIC MEETING**  
**JANUARY 10, 2006**

Meeting was call to order by Rob Caloras, President at 6:40PM  
Attendance: Robert Caloras, Susan Shiroma, Edward Fallacaro, Carol Gomez,  
Jacqueline Montgomery & Adam Amit

**Outreach Committee Agenda Topics Discussed**

**School Visit – PS 115**

- Carol and Shakira visited PS 115
- Noted that the school has some projects underway such as window replacements and AC installs
- Met with the PTA President and Parent Coordinator
- Computers – internet and wireless were mentioned as the school currently only had capabilities in a lab
- School received 200K in grant from Weprin for improvements such as carpeting and furniture
- School has a music program with Guitar; Principal recorded a CD of the children's performance and a copy will be presented to the Chancellor

**Safety – PS 26**

- Susan mentioned that PS 26 is trying to get speed bumps installed in front of the school
- CB8 opposed the speed bumps
- Susan is going to inquire as to whether DOT is involved
- Susan advised PS 26 is reaching out for CDEC 26 support on the issue

**Thank You – Recognition**

- Susan publicly acknowledged thanks to the Weprins for invites to Holiday parties for CDEC 26 members; also a thank you to Helen Marshall for invites to her inauguration for CDEC 26 members as well
- CDEC 26 members thanked Jackie Montgomery for coordination of the CDEC 26 holiday dinner – a good time and good food was had by all in attendance

### **School Visit – PS 18/46**

- Melissa gave updates on PS 18 including concern over VH1 music grants being in jeopardy due to the funding coming at middle of year without teachers
- Melissa mentioned upgrades are also in place at both PS 18 and PS 46
- Melissa mentioned some concern over “Parents as Art Partners” grant money due to the UFT contract and 37 ½ minute implementation that could affect many schools; also contract could impact many self-sustaining programs

### **School Visits – Upcoming**

- Jackie advised PS 221 – Jan 23<sup>rd</sup>; PS 94 and PS 98 – Jan 22<sup>nd</sup>

### **Website**

- Discussed member review of the website and overall content
- Ed reminded all in attendance that pictures and bios could easily be updated; contact Ed via email and submit your picture/bio and it will be updated
- Ed reminded everyone that we are always looking for additional content; when submitting/emailing articles, ensure you include the link on the web (as most articles cannot be copied directly due to Copyrights involved)
- Discussed marketing the website; discussions included:
  - Press release to market the website to send to press/media, schools, civic groups, other public places (public library, etc.); follow-up next meeting
  - Ed will look into enhancing search ability via search engines (Google, Yahoo, Lycos, etc.); follow-up next meeting
  - CDEC can also solicit groups to include a link on their page to the CDEC 26 website (PTA’s, civic groups, etc.)
- Website will have a new email address for feedback – [feedback@cdec26.org](mailto:feedback@cdec26.org); Ed will maintain and send updates as they come in to entire CDEC 26 membership

### **CDEC Presentations**

Discussion centered on the type of communication CDEC 26 members should use when communicating to larger groups about the CDEC (PTA meetings, etc.)

- Agreement that the PowerPoint presentation as prepared by Ed and Susan would be an effective tool/option members can use when talking about the CDEC
- Details who we are, how we function as a group, our role in the educational community, contact information, etc.
- Agreed to continue discussion at next meeting; also agreed that use of PowerPoint presentation is not required but should be used as a guide

**Public Hearing**

Those in attendance briefly discussed the upcoming public hearing on PS 159. Ed gave a brief update with still no answer to PS 159 from the DOE. It was agreed that we should keep the session open as a fact finding session to ensure the issues with PS 159 are understood by all. Future Public Hearings will be organized and coordinated as necessary with all interested parties advised as appropriate.

**Administrative Assistant Review**

Rob advised that he received feedback from CDEC 26 members and will submit the review as required.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm.

Respectfully submitted by Ed Fallacaro, Treasurer, CDEC 26.