

## Community Education Council District 26

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### MINUTES OF BUSINESS & CALENDAR PUBLIC MEETINGS

**Date:** Thursday, April 21, 2005

**Time:** Business Meeting, 6:30 P.M.; Calendar Meeting, 7:30 P.M.

**Location:** MS 74, 61-15 Oceania Street, Bayside, NY 11364

The meeting of the Community Education Council of District 26 (CEC26) was called to order and chaired by Susan Downey, President of CEC26 at 6:40 PM EST.

Roll Call: Susan Downey, Rob Caloras, Jacqueline Montgomery, Rich Olson, John Padden, Bona Sun, Melissa Dorfman & Sandra Gonzales

Excused: Yen Shia Chou & Mona Fabricant

Absent: Xiang Lan Cho

Anita Saunders, Community Superintendent, Lori Stein-Butera, Parent Support Officer and Walter O'Brien, Local Superintendent also attended.

Susan started out by saying she was reminded by John Padden that it was National Poetry month, so she recited a little poetry.

*Reviewing of previous month's minutes* (Monthly CEC meeting- March 17<sup>th</sup>; Quarterly Meeting- 3-24 & Meeting with Judith Chin- April 13<sup>th</sup>) -any comments or correction/additions? Motion to accept minutes by Sandra Gonzales and Robert Caloras seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

*President's Report* – Susan Downey (See Attachment)

1. Received a copy of a letter from Mark Weprin that was sent to the DOT requesting increased traffic control at PS 46. In doing so, they are requesting that speed bumps and four way stop signs be installed. Also received was a letter from Marsha Goldberg requesting traffic control also. Susan would like to send a letter from the Council indicating that they are in agreement with recommendation.
2. DOE evaluations for Anita Saunders & Walter O'Brien maybe reviewed in the office only and this will be announced at the public session. No copies shall be made of this document.
3. Would like to set up a committee for the next meeting to handle the farewell party for Gail & Dave.
4. District 26 will have a CTT class in September. Also Mary Jo Pisacano will speak at the May 19<sup>th</sup> CEC meeting to bring us up-to-date on the CTT accomplishments,
5. Copies of the preliminary FY2006 school budget sent to council members and copies will be sent to the PA/PTA members and responses are needed back by May 12<sup>th</sup> so that it can be reviewed at the May 19<sup>th</sup> meeting.

(4-21-05 (CEC mins.))

All meetings are held at wheelchair accessible sites.



*Superintendent's Report – Anita Saunders (See Attachment)*

Anita stated that she would read her poetry at the public meeting.

1. ELA Citywide Assessments were given in grades 3, 5, 6 & 7. During this testing it was shown that children do not have the stamina to read for a long period of time. These students were given 10 reading passages to work with. It is suggested that children read at least 2 hrs per day.
2. Attended the Second Annual Art Exhibition with Walter O'Brien and there were 11 children from District 26 who participated in this function. Music from Bayside HS (String Quartet). The speakers were from the DOE. There was also a Jazz Band from Dist. 29. Awards were given out. Walter also mentioned that MS 74 was having their Science Fair which is taking place tonight and that we should stop in.
3. Anita & Walter met with Mary Jo Pisacano and the Education representatives regarding the Collaborative Team Teaching Class.
  - a. Five children have already been selected.
  - b. This is the only district that does not have this type of class and they are considering using MS 172 as one of the sites since there is space.
  - c. Walter informed the committee of the mainstreaming process.
  - d. Walter stated that they will be bringing in teachers from District 25 into this program to help with the teaching.
  - e. Anita stated that the children are ready but need extra support & that there will be 2 teachers in each class.
  - f. Susan informed the Council that the teachers feel that there is insufficient training time before going directly into the program.
  - g. Special funding for children with special needs – no longer funded by Board of Education.
  - h. Teachers were interviewed in detail relating to this training program.
  - i. Will hire a Special Ed teacher for the 7<sup>th</sup> graders come next year but justification will be needed.
4. MS 67 – Service League – there will be 2 service programs (Alley Pond Environment & Read A Loud) which will be held on Saturday. Children are involved in the schools and in the community. High Schools will now be required to have service credits before graduating.
  - MS 74 – “BIG”, Drama Club production
  - MS 158 – “Annual Dance Performance – they now have a full time dancing teacher.
5. Gifted Testing – will conduct individual testing next week thru the end of May.
  - Kindergarten children with their parents will submit application & they will be tested and a licensed psychiatrist will be used.
6. There were Math Assessments given to grades 3, 5, 6 & 7 on April 19<sup>th</sup>. Grades 8 will be on May 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>. Grades 4 will be tested on May 10<sup>th</sup> through May 12<sup>th</sup>. Next year all children will be given State tests beginning in grades 3. There will be a lot of problem solving questions with a minimum of 2 step problems. Principals will emphasize problem solving come the next term.
7. Science testing for the 4<sup>th</sup> grade will be May 3<sup>rd</sup> through the 27<sup>th</sup>.
8. NYSELAT – K-12 – May 13, 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>.
9. EPAL2 – Grade 2 – May 16<sup>th</sup> through 27<sup>th</sup>.
10. EPAL3 – Grade 3 – May 16<sup>th</sup> through 27<sup>th</sup>.
11. Social Studies – Grade 8 – June 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>.
12. NYS Science – Grade 8 – June 8<sup>th</sup>.



13. Regents – June 16<sup>th</sup> through 24<sup>th</sup>.
14. Announced that 8 principals have been given performance increases scoring in the high (15,000), medium (10,000) and low (5,000). The formula can be found on the website. The schools mentioned were: 41, 94, 98, 115, 162, 172, 188 & 216.

### ***Unfinished Business***

1. At the last meeting the CEC Council was to write down all accomplishments/suggestions & recommendations for the new council and give to Marian. Susan asks that they submit by the next meeting.
2. Next meeting (May 19<sup>th</sup>) will be acknowledging Gail Cohen & Dave Pinzon & would like to set up a committee to handle the refreshments. Susan asked for volunteers and Sandra Gonzales & Jackie Montgomery volunteered to chair this committee.
3. Budget – made necessary changes and e-mailed to the Council for feedback. Susan will call Ina Werbelow regarding Dist. 26's budget.

### ***New Business***

#### ***Robert Caloras –***

1. Summary of a study passed out regarding computers at home (see attachment). Sent questions to Kathleen Grimm acknowledged receipt of the questions and will be working on them.
  - a. One of the questions pertains to the expenditure in the 5 Year Budget regarding the spending of \$600 million in buying new technology (laptops). Question: Is there an actual curriculum or a standard use of software for the different grades? Answer: Anita was not sure and will check with David Cohen. Walter stated that computers are under NYSTL (New York State Textbook Law). They teach children how to use the computers and the computers are used for research. Walter stated that by 4<sup>th</sup> grade they will be expected to use the computer (Word, Excel & PowerPoint).

### ***Old Business***

1. Robert Caloras asked about PS 178 being changed over to K-8, is there anything going on? Anita responded that there was a meeting with the parents in the community to see what they thought about it. Nothing is definitive as of now. An official walk through will take place and the community will make the decision. This will be the first step in looking into this being done.
2. Jackie Montgomery brought up the subject about the Wish List for the PTA Presidents. Susan stated that an e-mail was sent to Gail Cohen.

(4-21-05 (CEC mins.)



*Lori Butera*

1. *March 22<sup>nd</sup> - Lobby Day in Albany – Jackie Montgomery, Lori & District 25 met with three Assemblymen regarding “No Child Left Behind”.*
2. *Second Spring Parent Conference (300 parents) the Chancellor also attended.*
3. *Workshops – “Parent Dinosaurs” – 2 more upcoming (basket & doll making)*
4. *Summer Programs – 4 camps (PS 46, 203, 213 & 221) PS 26 will be conducting the Hawthorne Community Center program because MS 74 will be having construction done this summer.*

Susan suggested closing if nothing else and proceeded to the auditorium for the Public meeting. The business meeting ended at 7:40 p.m.

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## PUBLIC MEETING (held in the Auditorium)

Susan Downey called the CEC26 Calendar Public Meeting to order at 7:55 PM EST on April 21, 2005 and led all present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Susan welcomed everyone and stated that this was a special night because we were acknowledging newly appointed Assisted Principals and introduced the CDEC Council and turned the mike over to Anita Saunders.

*Anita Saunders presented her Superintendent’s Report (See Attachment). Upon completion of her report, Anita read a poem by Roger Kipling “IF” since it was Poetry Month.*

Susan started off by introducing the Assistant Principals (MS 74 – Mr. Anthony Armstrong, MS 74 – Ms. Suzanne Scalcione, PS 203 – Ms. Leslie Axman, MS 172 – Ms. Maureen Rodriguez, PS 173 – Mr. Ira Zaretsky, MS 216 – Mr. Michael Levine & MS 216 – Ms. Daphne Van Dorn and stated that District 26 has high standards for Principals, Asst. Principals, teachers and etc. District 26 hold children very close to their hearts and these individuals are being acknowledged for their love of children. These individuals were presented with a bouquet of flowers by Susan Downey (CEC President) & Sandra Gonzales (First Vice President).

Susan Downey, President of the CEC proceeded to call the speakers for: ***Ira Zaretsky***

1. Molly Wang, Principal PS 173
2. Dolores Troy Quinn, PS 186
3. Patrick Klocek, UFT Representative
4. Deborah Globus, PTA President
5. Anita Saunders stated characteristics: gentleman-a learner & good listener – knows when to take action and a caring person with children.



Susan Downey, President of the CEC proceeded to call the speakers for ***Anthony Armstrong & Suzanne Scalcione***

1. Diane Hobbs - Principal, PS 178
2. Mary Taylor, Teacher, PS 178
3. Dina Mayer, UFT Representative
4. Janice Fulgieri, PTA President
5. Andrea Dapolito, Principal, MS 74
6. Barbara Hessler, Literacy Coach, PS 133
7. Anita Saunders stated characteristics about Mr. Armstrong: cautious, follows up on all matters and multi-talented  
Anita Saunders stated characteristics about Ms. Scalcione: always working, rushing and running around.

Susan Downey, President of the CEC proceeded to call the speakers for ***Daphne Van Dorn***:

1. Laurie Kingsberry-Ford, Region 8, MS 143
2. Reginald Landeau, Jr., Principal, MS 216
3. Susan Shiroma, PTA, MS 216
4. Anita Saunders stated characteristics: good ELA coach and a caring person

Susan Downey, President of the CEC proceeded to call the speakers for ***Leslie Axman***:

1. Carole Nussbaum, Principal, PS 203
2. Denise Balabushka, UFT Representative
3. Leslie Sussman, Region 3
4. Janice Lau, Parent, PS 203
5. Debra Halpern, Parent Coordinator, PS 203
6. Anita Saunders stated characteristics: team player and an instructional person

Susan Downey, President of the CEC proceeded to call the speakers for ***Michael Levine***:

1. Reginald Landeau, Jr., Principal, MS 216
2. Susan Shiroma – PTA President
3. Anita Saunders stated characteristics: dedicated-conscientious, always learning, he’s a “Going to it AP”-team player and a good listener

Susan Downey, President of the CEC proceeded to call the speakers for ***Maureen Rodriguez***:

1. Dolores Troy Quinn, PS 186
2. Anita Saunders stated characteristics: she’s a technological expert – learner – ambitious and love to help the other teachers.

In closing Susan “thanked everyone for coming out” and ask that all the Assistant Principals come up and get their certificates.

Susan informed the audience that the CEC meets every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month and all are welcomed to attend.

The calendar public meeting ended at 9:20 PM EST.

Respectfully submitted by Marian Mason, Administrative Assistant, CEC 26.



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