

Community District Education Council District 26

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MINUTES OF BUSINESS & CALENDAR PUBLIC MEETINGS

Date: Thursday, August 27, 2009

Time: Calender Meeting, 7:00 P.M.; Business Meeting, 8:00 P.M.

Location: MS 172-81-14 257th Street, Floral Park, NY 11004-Library-2nd Flr.

The meeting of the Community District Education Council of District 26 (CDEC26) was called to order by Robert Caloras, President at 7:15 pm in the Library on the 2nd floor

Roll Call: Rob Caloras, Jeannette Segal, Irene Fennell, Pia Alexander, Ismael Fuentes, Esther Jung & Dina Quondamatteo

Excused: Erik DePaula - Marie Pollicino & Susan Shiroma

Also in attendance was Anita Saunders, Community Superintendent

Business Meeting

Rob Caloras started off by introducing the 2009-10 CDEC officers: Rob Caloras, President; Jeannette Segal, 1st Vice President; Erik DePaula, 2nd Vice President; Marie Pollicino, Recording Secretary & Pia Alexander, Treasurer.

Council advised that due to the lapse in governance that resulted in the termination of pre-June 30th CEC structures, no Oath of Office signed at that time is considered valid. All current CEC members will have to resubmit their Oath of Office for the 2009 through 2011 term.

1. Minutes – June 18th & July 30th minutes – Rob made motion to approve the minutes and council voted unanimously.
2. President's Report
 - a. August 5th – Borough Hall meeting with Borough President Helen Marshall to meet her representative Dennis Walcott.
 - b. Discussion regarding the appointment of Dennis Walcott.

Deputy Walcott informed the attendees of the following:

 1. Superintendent's Role; 90% of time will be in the district and they will be more involved with the principal's curriculum.

Anita stated that she will be given a new role starting Sept. 1st. Anita informed the attendees that the District Family Advocate will report to the superintendent. Anita will inform the council of the other changes after the official meeting takes place.

2. OFEA – is not an advocacy group – function is to engage parents and get them to go to PTA meeting, get them involved in their child's education. They do not advocate any shape or form with a parent.
3. Created 311 for parents complaints and direction
4. Train parents on ARIS
- c. PEP(Panel for Educational Policy) is going to approve all contracts over \$50,000
- d. Alliance for Parents Education

3. Bylaws – no change
4. School Liaisons

Rob informed the council of how the visits would take place. Rob stated that President’s Council would be notified of the schools visits and they would in turn notify the PTA President for that school of that visit. Parent Coordinators will also be notified of the schools visits. Rob informed the members that the Bylaws of the PTA meetings state that a representative from the CDEC can speak with their permission. Rob also emphasize to the members that going to the PTA meetings and doing school visits are essential.

- Pia Alexander ~ PS 133, PS/IS 178, PS 213
- Robert Caloras ~ PS 18, PS 205, PS 221, MS 74, MS 172
- Erik DePaula ~ PS 173, PS 188
- Irene Fennell ~ PS 31, PS 41, MS 158
- Ismael Fuentes ~ PS 186, PS 191, PS 213
- Esther Jung ~ PS 46, PS 162
- Marie Pollicino ~ PS 203
- Dina Quondamatteo ~ PS 46, PS 115
- Jeannette Segal ~ PS 94, PS 98, MS 67
- Susan Shiroma ~ PS 26, PS 159, MS 216, PS/IS 266

Rob requested that the school grid be changed to add the parent coordinator and delete date of visit.

Budget – Pia Alexander (Treasurer)

Budget allocations changed again due to the CDEC co-sponsoring the workshop with Lori Butera, District Family Advocate and allotting more funds to purchase food for these events. CDEC will re-evaluate each event month by month.

TRANSFERRING OF FUNDS				
	<u>Code</u>	<u>Transfer</u>	<u>To</u>	
General Supplies	198	\$500	Code 451 (Food)	Balance \$1266.88--- (Code 198)
General Supplies	198	\$300	Code 496 (Stipend)	Balance \$966.88----- (Code 198)

Council approved the transfer of funds.

Rob made a motion to provide the funding for the food for co-sponsoring the September events, Irene second and Council voted unanimously to accept. Rob also made a motion to co-sponsor workshop events and members voted unanimously to accept.

Old Business

1. Town Hall Meeting regarding the Chancellor – to be confirmed by his office by mid September. Jamie (Mayor’s office) will follow up with me the middle of September.
2. Discussed inviting Diane Ravitch who was the Assistant Secretary of Education and Counselor to Secretary of Education under President Bush’s administration.

Council went directly into the public meeting - called to order 8:10:

Rob acknowledged the visitors:

Jaime Cobham-Queens ISC

Bob Friedrich-Candidate-City Council D23 – spoke about the Glen Oaks High School selection process. Families live 50 feet of the school and children are being put on the bus and shipped to Martin Van Buren. He finds this unacceptable. How can we rectify this issue? Rob stated that Glen Oaks was not a zoned school. Rob informed Mr. Friedrich that the Chancellor stated that the CDEC have the authority to start a zoning change process. The council will have a meeting to

discuss but requests that Mr. Friedrich make a formal presentation to the council giving numbers and documented information as to what is going on.

Bryan Rivera, representing Assemblyman Mark Weprin

Richard Gentiviso, Queens Gazette

Jane Carey, representing Assemblyman Lancman

Mary Vaccaro, UFT Representative who stated that a calendar of events for D26 will be made up and distributed.

Superintendent's Report – Anita Saunders

- Welcome – New Officers and Members
- District Family Advocates (DFA) – New Governance – report directly to Community Superintendents
- PS 188 Annex – Ribbon Cutting Ceremony- September 4, 2:00 P.M.- former American Martyrs School – Official allocation for an Assistant Principal (Ms. Kathy Levine) Pre K, Kindergarten and Special Ed – approximately 240 students
- PS 186 – New York State Education Department extends recognition for successful ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorders) NEST Program with distinction and will be included in the online Statewide Clearinghouse for Effective Practices in Special Education to serve as a model for schools and districts across the State.
- Children First Network (CFN) – 17 schools under Network Leader, Janet Won to have their own 13 member ISC for operations at Linden Place.
- Dr. Dina Koski is recuperating at home after surgery
- Summer School District Academic Program – successful
- August 31, 2009 – Principals report
- September 8, 2009 – Teachers report
- September 9, 2009 – first day of school for students

Anita stated she will be attending a Superintendent's meeting on September 5th. Anita will now meet with Mary Vaccaro, UFT Rep. on a monthly basis.

Rob asked about the Quality Review. Anita stated that she will now be doing the Quality Review in which changes were made due to input from principals. Quality reviewers will be meeting once per month per Anita and she will also be doing the final rating of the principals.

Rob would like to know what Anita's official duties would be once informed.

Rob stated he was in contact with Jennifer Bell-Ellwanger regarding social promotion and discussed having her come to the November meeting.

Next meeting September 24th.

Rob made a motion to adjourn, Dina seconded. Council voted unanimously to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

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