



Community District Education Council 26

New York City Department of Education

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Jeannette Segal <i>President of the Council</i>	Ricky Chan <i>First Vice President</i>	Lucy Vieco <i>Second Vice President</i>	Susan Shiroma <i>Recording Secretary</i>	Vijayalaxmi Hegde <i>Treasurer</i>
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Council Members:

Michelle Fields Pankaj Kapur Daniel John O’Gallagher HongKeng Tan	Anita Saunders Community Superintendent District 26 Website: www.cdec26.org
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MINUTES OF BUSINESS & CALENDAR PUBLIC MEETINGS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2011 at 7:00 P.M.
@MS 67-51-60 Marathon Parkway, Little Neck, NY – Room B44A

- 1. Meeting Called To Order – 7:10 p.m. by our President, Jeannette Segal**
- 2. Roll Call -**
Present: *Council Members* - Ricky Chan, Vijayalaxmi Hegde, Pankaj Kapur, Jeannette Segal, Hong Keng Tan, Michelle Fields, Susan Shiroma & Lucy Vieco
 Excused – Daniel O’Gallagher
- 3. Minutes** – Jeannette asked the council had they had an opportunity to read/review the August 24th minutes. Jeannette ask that a change be made to the President’s Report, Item B (should be PTA President’s instead of parent coordinators). Michelle made a motion to accept the August 24th minutes and Vijayalaxmi seconded. Council agreed unanimously to accept the minutes.
- 4. President’s Report – Jeannette Segal**
 - A. Transportation issues - some kids did not have their transportation waivers (due to budget cuts) in line making it difficult and dangerous as some of our neighborhoods in Queens don’t have sidewalks and we have RR crossing, we had some schools with funding issues, for example MS 67 required funding for an extra 6th grade class and it was not in place during the first week of school they subsequently have received the additional funding for the extra 6th grade class, no afterschool programs.
 - B. Schools did not get the funding they requested (after school programs)
 - C. Overcrowding – MS 67 had wanted funding to open up another 6th grade but did not receive. Parents got together and now another 6th grade will be added.

D. Queensboro Presidents Office held a meeting with the DOE's Division of Portfolio Planning for Queens. Deputy Chancellor Marc Sternberg explained the Seven Divisions in the Department and their focus.

There are seven divisions:

- 1- School development
- 2- New Schools
- 3- Charter Schools
- 4- Portfolio Management
- 5- Admissions & Enrollment
- 6- Early Childhood
- 7- Operations

Also in attendance were Dan Halloran & Mark Weprin.

The DOE claimed to have community /stakeholder input throughout the process. Our Queens team is led by Rebecca Rawlins, Drew Patterson & Emilio Adeo.

They presented the accomplishments for the 2011 – 2012 and claimed to have opened 55 new schools since 2002 in districts 24, 25, 27, 28, 29 & 30, when questioned to provide the school names they could not answer the question. The crowd requested the school names but information not released.

This year DOE is opening 7 new schools again no names were provided and unfortunately when questioned furthered the opening of new school was not completely true as the schools are not necessarily new but have been reconfigured. Again nothing in district 26.

During the conference and by the press release Chancellor Walcott is thinking of adapting the middle school choice model, the DOE is currently providing this model in District 28 & 27. I am concerned that if this happens we might run into problems that our district has in our HS like Francis Lewis & Cardozo (overcrowding)? I hope that the DOE will engage the parents and community before making a decision.

The 2012 & 2013 Priorities were outlined:

1. Rezoning to reduce overcrowding again no mention of District 26
2. Grade Reconfiguration
 - a. Truncation - of District 27 & 28 remaining K-6 turning them to K-5
 - b. Grade Expansion – District 24 & 28 turning schools to K-8

Attendees received the DOE communication of the Chancellors Strategy for Middle School Success. The chancellors aside for the statistical data that can be manipulated to reinforce any debate, he outlined 5 things for a successful middle school:

1. Literacy as a central focus
2. Stable, high quality leadership
3. Team of teachers working together with a responsibility for a group of students
4. Strong culture, discipline, and academic routines
5. Close relationship with its students and works in partnership with their families.
6. I am hoping that all our schools are doing this already, seems MS 67, 74, 266, 158, 172, 216 are all doing this already.

The new DOE strategy:

- New Schools - Leadership & Talent - Turning around or phasing out poor-performing schools
- And channeling resources and attention to MS that have shown promise but need continued support to succeed.

E. Sounds very familiar – undertones about school closing since the DOE can't seem to find land to build new schools. Our district as a top performer might not need to worry about closures but how about overcrowding. I wonder if DOE will support promising schools I would love to see that and would love to hear the financial support they will be channeling our way.

Next month the Chancellor will outline his plan on how the DOE will engage families – funny I thought that was why the CDEC was formed.

Let's hope that we can get the chancellor to our district since we were not successful last year.

F. Attended Presidents Council meeting where they elected its officers but are seeking co-officers to share the responsibilities.

Elected Officials: President, Kim D' Angelo; Recording Secretary, Linda Lovett; Treasurer, Kitty Azhar

Meetings will be held at PS 172 on the 2nd or 3rd Tuesday of the month. Principal of PS 172 requested Presidents Council if they could help with the traffic situation at his school, he stated that he has been hit twice and is afraid for the children's safety along the adjacent avenues.

Anita stated that at PS 162 they installed 2 traffic lights, double speed zone in front of school (20 mph), if ticketed it goes against your license. All schools having the same problem.

G. Read article about CEC 31 trying to have cameras installed in school buses.

H. Attended a UFT Community Conversation with Michael Mulgrew and was informed that they will be holding the UFT Borough wide Parent Conference in Queens it is slated for November 5th from 8:30 – 3:30 pm at the Sheraton LaGuardia (this is still tentative). Rosa Walker Yates is our boro rep.

The Dial – a- Teacher is all set and running it has been an extremely successful program and they want us to get the word out. We should think about having them come to one of our meetings.

The UFT also provides approximately 1 million dollars (from the member dues) into College scholarships as well as some master programs. Parents and kids can go to the website for opportunities.

5. Budget

a. Budget reviewed by Vijay

EXPENDITURE CATEGORY Bal. as of August 31, 2011	QUICK CODE	OBJECT CODE	ACTIVITY CODE	LOC CODE	AMOUNT SCHEDULED	EXPENDED TO DATE	BALANCE
General Supplies	062641	198	XVBE	QS26	5,000	-----	5000
P-Card	062641	179	XVBF	QS26	7,000	-----	7000
Local Travel & Food Exp.	062641	451	XVBL	QS26	4,795	417.34	4377.66
Stipend Reimbursements	062641	496	XVBJ	QS26	800	-----	800
Maintenance of Copier	062641	433	XVBH	QS26	995	995	0
Other Admin. Consultants	062641	686	XVBK	QS26	1,200	300	900
Water Rental	062641	412	XVBI	QS26	210	208.68	1.32
TOTAL					20,000	1,921.02	18,078.98

New Business

a. Marian introduced the letter requesting their school events, PTA dates and PTA Executive Board members be sent to her. Letter will be sent to D26 principals and parent coordinators.

Old Business –

1. The August PEP meeting (Panel for Educational Policy)
Jeannette spoke about the approval of the contract. Unfortunately the minutes don't give us a good picture of the items discussed. The resolution of the estimate from DOE's operations cost was approved however, the amendment to add 29 million to the estimate was defeated.
2. "Beyond the Bake Sale-Essentials Guide to Family-School Partnership"-helps with the CDEC being involved with the parents and schools. Spoke about purchasing books for the parent coordinators. Marian will look into it. The cost is running between \$16-\$23.
3. Contracts for Excellence presentation that was scheduled for September was cancelled by TWEED and will be rescheduled for the October meeting at 7 p.m. and business meeting thereafter.

New Business

1. Discussion - MS 172 & 67 have their PTA meetings the same time/day as the CDEC meetings. Some parents would like for us to consider shifting some to a Wednesday. Jeannette requested the PTA dates of all schools in D26 and will review at the next meeting.
2. Teacher Data questioned - will it be distributed? Mary Vaccaro, UFT Rep. stated that it will not be distributed and the report had errors and it is meaningless.
3. **PTA Meetings**
 1. Vijay attend PTA meeting at PS 186
 2. Michelle spoke about going to the PTA meeting Sept. 27th
 3. Hong – no contact
 4. Ricky – attended PTA meeting Sept. 21 at PS 203
 5. Lucy – PTA meeting Sept. 21st-problems with parking illegally-proposal to collaborate with police department and ticket drivers-notices going out to parents-1st day of school backpacks were heavy-PTA - \$500 to hire a babysitter for the PTA meetings-do not have a strong budget (\$3,000)-workbooks costing \$11 for grades K-5 (some feel it's too costly)-forum regarding Charter Schools and spoke about ELA.
 6. Pankaj-Attended back to school night (PS 191) and was taken around the entire school-no after school money
 7. Jeannette
 - a. Attended President Council's meeting where requests to change the CDEC meeting dates. Jeannette requesting PTA dates from each school to review.
 - b. Received an e-mail from Alliance of Quality Education (meeting held Sept. 21st) - survey being sent out to the principals (services lost-budget-programs-dollar amount of budget reduction and etc.). CDEC would like to do a survey of schools- Jeannette will reformat the survey and distribute at the next meeting. Council agreed unanimously.
 - c. Article "Center of American Progress" for examining the expanded time in schools. Pilot program held in Chicago and kid did not score any better.
 8. Anita spoke about the HS student opening for the CDEC. Anita stated she spoke to her Superintendent Juan Mendez who will send e-mails to schools.

Lucy made a motion to adjourn the Business meeting, Vijay seconded and council voted unanimously to adjourn.

Public meeting followed

Public Meeting

Meeting called to order by Jeannette Segal, President.

Roll Call - Ricky Chan, Vijayalaxmi Hegde, Pankaj Kapur, Hong Keng Tan, Michelle Fields, Susan Shiroma & Lucy Vieco
Excused – Daniel O’Gallagher

Jeannette Segal, CDEC President introduced the Superintendent, Anita Saunders.

Superintendent’s Report **CDEC Meeting** **MS 67** **September 22, 2011** **7:00 P.M.**

- Welcome
- National Blue Ribbon Schools – PS 159, 173
- DOE Instructional Priorities Goals – 2011-2012
- SAT & PSAT Scores – NYC
- Cluster Networks – District 26 = 3
 - Charles Amundsen – N.205
 - Mary Jo Pisacano – Network Leader
PS 18, 31, 41, 46, 98, 133, 159, 173, 178, 188
191, 213, 221, MS 67
 - Debra Maldonado – N535, 534
 - Mae Fong – Network Leader 535
PS 26, 94, 115, 203, 205, MS 74, 158, 172
 - Ben Waxman – Network Leader 534
MS 216
- Title I School Allocations
- Educ. Law 3012C – Comprehensive evaluation system for teachers and principals – pending collective bargaining agreement
- Progress Reports – September 23, 2011
- New IEP Form – Parent Information Meetings:
 - October 25, 2011 – 6:00 – 8:00 P.M.
28-11 Queens Plaza North, LIC, Room 510
 - October 27, 2011 – 9:30 A.M. – 11:30 A.M.
28-11 Queens Plaza North, LIC, Room 510
 - SESIS – errors
- Quality Review – October 17, 18 – PS 162
- Chancellor’s Address – NYU Middle Schools Reform – 50 new Middle Schools in next 2 years (Literacy, Leadership, Teacher Teams, Culture/Discipline Academic Routines)
- High School Fairs – see handout – parents can apply to any High School

Quote:

“Intelligence is the ability to adapt to change.”

Stephen Hawkins
British Theoretical Physicist & Cosmologist

Lori Stein-District Family Advocate

1. Queens UFT Parent Education Conference
2. 1st PTA Orientation training workshop held on Sept. 21st
3. Parent Coordinator workshop
4. Looking to do a high school workshop with high schools students giving information to the 7 & 8th graders.

Speakers

1. Mr. Ross – BELL (Building Educated Leaders for Life) created in 1992, a non profit organization. Their belief is that all children can excel. One important task is to increase academic performance and focus on core reading, writing and math skills. They have 13 public schools, 1 charter school, and four locations. They have NYC licensed teachers. Mr. Ross would like to reach out to the principals and expand their summer program. Director – Timothy Coleman (timothy.coleman@experiencebell.org)
2. Cathy Cahn – attended a PTA meeting and stated that they have an Inter-acting Principal and that two assistant principals & principal retired at the end of June and that there is no budget. Cathy spoke on the issue of MS 74 not having a dedicated 7th grade Assistant Principal due to budget cuts and feels that an Assistant Principal is needed.
Anita stated that Ms. Dapolito put in three appeals to get a third assistant principal and they are still working on it.
Anita stated that PS 162 also doesn't have an Assistant Principal due to a budget cut and cannot excess any teacher.

Jeannette made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Vijay seconded. Council voted unanimously to adjourn.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Submitted by Marian Mason, *Administrative Assistant, CDEC26*