

Community District Education Council District 26

Address: 61-15 Oceania St, Bayside, New York 11364

Tel: 718.631.6927 **FAX:** 718.631.6996 **Email:** central/cec26@nycboe.net

MINUTES OF BUSINESS & CALENDAR PUBLIC MEETINGS

Date: Thursday, September 25, 2008

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

Location: MS 67, 51-50 Marathon Parkway, Little Neck, NY -Rm B44A

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 Room –B44A. Members informed that since no quorum has been met there will be no voting and that this would be a discussion meeting only.

Roll Call: Rob Caloras, Irene Cheung, Erik DePaula, Irene Fennell & Marie Pollicino

Excused: Patrick McShane - Jeannette Segal – Vincent Tabone

Unexcused Absence- Mike Kaleda

Also in attendance was Anita Saunders, Community Superintendent & Lori Butera, District Family Advocate

Business Meeting

Rob Caloras started off by introducing the 2008-09 CDEC officers: Rob Caloras, President; Jeannette Segal, 1st Vice President; Irene Fennell, 2nd Vice President; Marie Pollicino, Recording Secretary & Erik DePaula, Treasurer.

Rob informed the attendees that it has come to his attention that the business meetings be separated from the general public meeting and since D26 has been openings it's meetings to the public, it will remain the same. No issues have come up so it will remain the same.

1. Approval of minutes tabled – no quorum

2. President's Report

1. School visits not scheduled as of yet.
2. Phone call from producer of ABC News wanted thoughts regarding "Great Expectations" program - brochures being circulated. Rob E-mailed his comments back to ABC.
3. E-mail regarding the public advocate's reports (everyone given a copy). Article in Queens Chronicle also.
4. Progress reports distributed – copy given to council members (Anita Saunders will outline). District 26 – all schools that were "C" went to an "A".
5. Community Boards are doing their yearly budget requests. A Wish List (Capital Budget Priority Request) is sent to the Mayor's office. D26 asked for computer, electrical upgrades & A/C's in auditoriums and public classrooms. Electrical upgrades needed more clarification. Requested to expand Beacon programs. Senator Padavan donated \$54,000 to PS 94 for A/C's. Anita will e-mail all principals to find out who received electrical upgrades. Once information is received from Anita, Rob will submit to the Community Board & SCA as a separate proposal.

6. Crossing Guards – procedure – assigned by the precincts. Principals, community boards and parents need to put pressure on the precincts.
7. Review of Bylaws tabled – no quorum
8. Reviewing of scheduled meeting dates discussed and dates changed due to testing & PTA meetings. To be voted on at the next meeting.
 - a. October 23rd changed to October 22nd for public forum
 - b. November 20th changed to November 13th
 - c. February 19th changed to February 25th
 - d. June 18th changed to June 10th
 - e. Rob requested Marian to draft a letter of invitation to the elected officials, public advocate Betsy Gotbaum, Chancellor Klein & Mayor Bloomberg and etc, inviting them to the School Governance/Mayoral forum on October 23rd. (See Attachment of attendees) Send draft letter to Rob for review and comments. Upon finalization, individuals will get an e-mail plus a hard copy of the invitation. Will ask principals if parent coordinators could print out the flyer & distribute to the students (backpacks).
9. Reviewing budget allocations - tabled – no quorum

Superintendent's Report – Anita Saunders

- Progress Reports 2007-2008
Progress Reports 2007-2008 Progress Reports have been issued. All schools in the District received either an A or a B.
- Quality Review (consists of Environment-Performance & Progress) – Only PS 205 and PS/MS 178 which have new principals will be receiving a Quality Review for the year 2008-2009.
- NCLB Blue Ribbon Schools which will be going to Washington: PS 162 & PS/IS 178
- Legislature Grant for Enrichment given by Senator Padavan (\$100,000) \$50,000 – PS 94 – Air Conditioners by Senator Padavan
- Campaign for Middle School Success
 - Blueprint – best practices, extra credit to middle schools offering Regents level courses
 - Finding grants for underperforming schools
- City Council Resolution “A” FY 2009 Grants

School	Brief Project Description	Allocation
PS 18	Communications Upgrade	\$200,000
PS 46	Technology	\$95,000
PS 115	Library Upgrade	\$200,000
PS 133	Computer Lab	\$100,000
PS 159	Computer Lab Upgrade	\$200,000
PS 178	Air Conditioning – Auditorium & Cafeteria	\$125,000
PS 178	Wiring Upgrade for Air Conditioning	\$150,000
PS 203	Electrical Upgrade	\$500,000
PS 221	Computer & Technology	\$150,000
MS 216	Computer Upgrades	\$200,000

Upon Senator Toby Stavisky entering the CDEC meeting, Senator Toby Stavisky informed the council that the Senate Majority Task Force of School Governance will be holding a meeting on October 2nd at Queens Borough Hall from 5:30-8:30. Rob informed her of the School Governance/Mayoral forum date (October 23rd) but Senator Stavisky informed the council of other commitments of the elected officials and that would not be a good day so it was changed to Oct. 22nd.

Guest Speaker introduced by Rob:

Pete Maddaloni – Queens Borough Custodians Union

- a. \$18 million budget cut as of July 1st.
- b. Union negotiated a budget cut of \$11 million
 1. incinerators (\$7,000 additional cut)
 2. spoke on kindergarten feeding – cleaning before & after feeding (1/2 of the budget taken away)
 3. supplies cut back (hand towels – soap)
 4. elementary & middle schools have lost full time personnel & they were made part time.
 4. cleaning & maintenance will not be performed as frequently. Allotment for supplies will be reduced also.
 5. work will be outsourced to other companies.

Matt Wilde, VP, Local 891 outlined the following:

1. Outlined further budget cuts: years, 96, 97, 2000 and now. Spoke about reallocation.
2. Spoke about custodians take pride in the exterior of their schools (planting of flowers & taking care of the grounds).

Ms. McGrath, MS 67spoke on the custodial cuts and states that she will support them.

Rob stated he will send a support letter.

Lori Butera – District Family Advocate

1. UFT Citywide Parent Conference Workshop – Nov. 8th, 8 a.m. – 2:30 p.m., NY Hilton
2. Scarecrow Contest – NYC Parks
3. HS Process – Citywide HS Fair was Sept. 20th & Sept. 21 at Bklyn Tech (HS Directories will soon be distributed).
4. Information at “insideschools.org”.
5. Memo to apply for “Free meals”
6. OFEA brochure

Rob made a motion to adjourn, Irene Fennell seconded, voted unanimously.
Meeting ended at 9:15 p.m.

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

Distribution

Honorable Tony Avella
Honorable Ann Margaret Carrozza
Honorable Helen Marshall
Honorable Frank Padavan
Honorable Anthony Weiner
Honorable David Weprin
Honorable Mark Weprin
Honorable Toby Stavisky
Honorable Rory Lancman
Honorable Catherine Nolan
Honorable Anthony Weiner
Honorable Michael Bloomberg

Anita Saunders, Community Superintendent

Betsy Gotbaum, Public Advocate

Dennis Walcott, Deputy Mayor for Education & Community Development

Robert Jackson, Chairperson of City Council Education Committee

William Thompson, Jr., City Comptroller

Chancellor Joel Klein