

Community District Education Council District 26
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MINUTES FROM BUSINESS /CALENDER/ PUBLIC MEETINGS

Date: Thursday, November 25, 2014
Time: Business Meeting - 7:00 P.M. - Public Meeting – 8 p.m.
Location: MS 67 – 51-60 Marathon Parkway, Little Neck, NY – B44A

The meeting of the Community District Education Council of District 26 (CDEC26) was called to order by Ricky Chan, 1st Vice President at 7: 15 p.m.

BUSINESS MEETING

Roll Call -Susan Shiroma (Borough Appointee), Alan Ong (Borough Appointee), Leslie Rubenstein, Anastasio Politidis, Ricky Chan, Roy Menendez & Aman Luthra (student)
 Excused - Jeannette Segal
 Also present: Danielle Giunta, Community Superintendent & Lori Stein-Butera, District Family Advocate and guest Sara McPhee (Student Enrollment)

Business Meeting

1. Minutes

Anastasio moved to approve the October 30th minutes. Alan Ong seconded the motion. Council voted unanimously to approve the October 30, 2014 minutes.

2. President's Report - tabled

3. Budget

Alan Ong presented the budget.

INITIAL BUDGET SCHEDULE – AS OF OCTOBER 2014

EXPENDITURE CATEGORY	QUICK CODE	OBJECT CODE	ACTIVITY CODE	LOCATION CODE	BUDGET:	\$17,000	
					AMOUNT SCHEDULED	AMOUNT EXPENDED	REMAINING BALANCE
General Supplies	062641	198	QYUZ	QS26	2,053		2,053
Procurement Card	062641	179	QYV2	QS26	4,700		4,700
Lease of Copier	062641	433	QYV5	QS26	1,872	1,872	0
Rental of Water Cooler	062641	412	QYVD	QS26	175	174.48	.52
Member Reimbursements & Parent workshops	062641	496	QYVF	QS26	3,000		3,000
CONSULTANT	062641	686	QYVG	QS26	1,200	300.00	900.00
Meeting Expenses (Travel & Food)	062641	451	QYVH	QS26	4,000	1,373.90	2,626.10
TOTALS					\$17,000	3,720.38	13,279.62

Anastasio asked about buying a copier rather than renting. Marian explained that we had to use the DOE vendors according to DOE regulations. Anastasio said that he would look into it.

4. New Business:

- December 8th is the deadline for capital plan recommendations from principals.
- Anastasio reported on his visit to 159. There was a discussion regarding alarms being installed in schools and the responsibilities of principals. There was also a discussion of the responsibilities of custodians regarding changing light bulbs. Danielle Giunta will check in with the facilities manager for District 26 to get a clear understanding of the process.
- Discussion regarding an e-mail sent by a parent regarding SP programs in 158Q. Danielle Giunta explained that currently individual schools have the ability to set their own criteria for admissions to SP programs. She also explained that principals had committed to discuss creation of a more consistent process by the end of this school year. Ricky will schedule a visit with Mrs. Nappi, the principal of 158Q and discuss the issue with her at that time.
- Susan and Alan reported on the meeting at the Queensborough President's office. There will be a meeting for principals and parent leaders regarding the Reso A process. They are in the process of setting up parent committees at the QBP Office to address issues such as overcrowding, gifted and talented, etc. In a discussion of G&T at that meeting, several schools complained about the lack of G&T programs in their schools or poor quality of the programs. Information regarding parent workshops was also presented.

5. School Visits

Ricky and Leslie announced that they had visited PS 203 on November 6th

Leslie made a motion to adjourn the Business Meeting and Roy seconded the motion. Council voted unanimously to adjourn the Business meeting.

Public Meeting

Roll Call -Susan Shiroma (Borough Appointee), Alan Ong (Borough Appointee), Leslie Rubenstein, Anastasio Politidis, Ricky Chan, Roy Menendez & Aman Luthra (student)

Excused - Jeannette Segal

Also present: Danielle Giunta, Community Superintendent & Lori Stein-Butera, District Family Advocate and guest Sara McPhee (Student Enrollment)

Superintendent Report

- Danielle Giunta opened a discussion of G&T programs. Sara McPhee from the Office of Student Enrollment at DOE was also present to discuss the issue.
 - Process for new student entrants to G&T (not related to those students who were already grandfathered in).
 - Multiple measures proposed:
 - 4th Grade ELA Score - 17.5%
 - 4th Math Score- 17.5%
 - Final 4th Grade Report Card - 35%

- 4th Grade Attendance - 20%
 - 4th Grade Performance Indicators, (ex. work habits, effort, participation, homework, study habits- rated on a 5 point scale) - 10%
- Sara McPhee explained the history of the development of these criteria. Composite scores are converted to a 100 point scale and then seats to G&T will be allocated according to highest score first. There are differences in the criteria in districts across the city since they were arrived at by each community and its superintendent. A summary sheet of new admissions policies in various districts was distributed by Ms. McPhee.
 - The criteria were established in discussion with the previous superintendent.
 - The CDEC was not consulted and had not been informed of the criteria agreed upon for this process.
 - Parents have not been informed of the criteria 115 and 186 had communications.
 - Susan and Leslie both asked that the process be slowed down so that parents can be informed of the criteria. Leslie commented that it would be better to implement the procedure next year.
- Danielle Giunta explained the new report card procedure.
- Sara McPhee provided a timeline for the middle school application process. Generation of letters regarding middle school placement are sent out in early May. An appeals process begins at the same time in May.
- Ricky polled parents in the room to see if parents had been informed about the new criteria. Parents shared comments regarding some of the criteria.
- Former President of CPAC reported that DOE only made a vague reference to multi-criteria process being used but that there were no specifics provided. Nor was information provided to community boards or the Queensborough President's Office.
- Jim Gallagher, from Community Board 8 also shared that they were not informed.
- Mary Vaccaro also expressed concern that teachers would not have enough time to provide the feedback necessary by December 12th. Ms. McFee explained that the program was open in September and some schools were already entering that information. The Principal of 115 explained that they had already been entering much of the information.
- Danielle Giunta will contact Kim D'Angelo regarding having a co-meeting with President's Council at their scheduled meeting on January 21st.
- More discussions around the issues of attendance, punctuality, participation, etc. continued.

- Danielle Giunta presented the Superintendent's Report.
 - Welcome
 - G&T Multiple Criteria Assessment for 2015-2016
 - DOE Accountabilities Tools
 - School Quality Snapshot
 - School Quality Guide
 - School Visits, PPO's & Quality Reviews
- She announced that the School Quality Snapshot and School Quality Snapshot are now public and available on school websites.
- School Quality Snapshot is a family facing report.
- School Quality Snapshot informs whether or not school is meeting instructional targets –no letter grades. This report is intended to guide school leadership and parent leadership teams.
- Superintendent Giunta has officially begun school visits, meetings with UFT Chapter Chairs, parent coordinators, etc. to gain an understanding of communities prior to beginning Quality Reviews, which will begin in two weeks.

Wishing you and your family a very happy and healthy Thanksgiving!

- Lori Stein-Butera announced a series of parent workshops in December and January. She also announced that she will be working with principals to develop a training program for parents in January.

Leslie made a motion to adjourn the Public meeting and Anastasio seconded the motion. Council voted unanimously to adjourn the Public meeting.

Meeting adjourned 9:45 p.m.