



Community District Education Council 26

New York City Department of Education

Address: 61-15 Oceania Street, Bayside, NY 11364 Phone: (718) 631-6927 Fax: (718) 631-1347 E-mail: CEC26@schools.nyc.gov.

Albert Suhu President of the Council	Todd Friedman First Vice- President	Cassandra Louie Second Vice President	Adriana Aviles Recording Secretary	Dennis Chan Treasurer
Council Members:			Danielle Giunta Community Superintendent District 26	
Norman Cohn	Dilip Nath			
Jennifer Catherall	Emily Grodsky			
Sulinda Hong				

August 11, 2022

Annual Meeting

Meeting called to order

Present: Al Suhu, Norman Cohn, Dennis Chan, Sulinda Hong, Jennifer Catherall, Todd Friedman,

Absent: Dilip Nath (excused) & Adriana Aviles (excused)

Also Present: Danielle Giunta and District 26 Team

- I. The meeting was Called to Order by Albert Suhu at 7:01 PM.
- II. **Annual Election:**
 - Al Suhu motioned to postpone the election based on the request from Adriana till she returns. Cassandra seconds the motion. No objection. The motion passed unanimously.
 - Council voted to schedule the election for September 8th due to members having conflicts on other dates. Al motion to approve election be held on September 8th. The motion passed unanimously. Jennifer & Sulinda will not be able to attend on September 8th.

August 11, 2022

Calendar Meeting

The meeting was called to order.

Present: Al Suhu, Norman Cohn, Dennis Chan, Dilip Nath, Sulinda Hong, Jennifer Catherall, Todd Friedman,

Absent: Dilip Nath (excused) & Adriana Aviles (excused)

Also Present: Danielle Giunta and District 26 Team

- I. Meeting call to order
- II. Welcome
 - **Superintendent Report:** Introduction of new District 26 team members.
 - Superintendent also introduced Emily Grodsky as the District 26 CEC Student Appointee for 2022-2023.
- III. **Queens North HS Superintendent presentation**
- IV. **Office of High School Enrollment presentation**
- V. **Proposed Resolution on Merit-Based Admissions Policies for Screened HS: (see addendum A)**
 - **Public Comment**
 - **Dennis Chan motioned to approve the resolution. Motion is seconded by Cassandra Louie & Sulinda Hong.**
Community Education Council District 26 approved this resolution on August 11, 2022, at the monthly meeting by unanimous vote. Members Present: Yes: Norman Cohn, Albert Suhu, Dennis Chan, Sulinda Hong, Jennifer Catherall, Todd Friedman, and Cassandra Louie.
- VI. **Proposed Resolution to Award a Merit Raise to the CEC 26 AA: (see addendum B)**
 - **Public Comment**
Community Education Council District 26 approved this resolution on August 11, 2022, at the monthly meeting by unanimous vote. Members Present: Yes: Norman Cohn, Albert Suhu, Dennis Chan, Sulinda Hong, Jennifer Catherall, and Cassandra Louie. No: Todd Friedman
- VII. **President Council update:** Safety concern was raised about locking the front door. PTA is thinking about subsidizing and figuring out a process for locking the door.
- VIII. **UFT update:**
 - The school budget is affected across the board and particularly one of our schools that is impacted by a 23% budget cut.
 - Teachers are being cut.
- IX. **Public Comment:**
 - James Gallagher- There will be bus cuts, particularly in our District. The Q30 bus line no longer will be in effect and be replaced by Q88. The new bus redesign plan has only one bus that runs across 7 schools including Queens College and 4 high schools.
- X. Al motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:03 PM. No objection. Motion passed.

August 11, 2022

Business Meeting

Meeting called to order

Present: Al Suhu, Norman Cohn, Dennis Chan, Sulinda Hong, Jennifer Catherall, Todd Friedman,

Absent: Dilip Nath (excused) & Adriana Aviles (excused)

Also Present: Danielle Giunta and District 26 Team

- I. **Review of minutes from July 14, 2022:** Albert Suhu motioned to approve the minutes and the minutes is approved unanimously.
- II. **Budget: See addendum C .** Dennis Chen motioned to approve the budget. The budget is approved unanimously.

A. The 2021-2022 FY full budget was shared with the council.

- B. **2022-2023 proposed budget:** Discussion took place regarding FY2021-22 Todd reimbursement. *Council also amended the motion to add \$500 to the printer, and \$350 for PTA Meet and Greet & Todd reimbursement. The motion passed unanimously. (see addendum C).*

III. **President Report:**

- A. FACE brief w/DC Blackburn and Dr. Melendez @Tweed 2 weeks ago
- B. DC Blackburn talked about bringing his experience as Brevard County superintendent to the DOE. The main takeaway is that he and the chancellor eliminated the executive superintendent roles so that the district superintendents will report to him directly so as to increase accountability. At the same time, district superintendents are given more autonomy to manage the district.
- C. Dr. Melendez announced that the role of the FACE liaison will be undertaken by the district Family Leadership Coordinator, who will receive training from FACE on how to support CECs. For those who are unaware, the district Family Leadership Coordinator is our wonderful Kim D'Angelo. Juliana will provide a few more details on this when she speaks.
- D. D26 PTA Meet n Greet last Friday - I was able to listen to each parent individually talk about their concerns. School safety was the top issue. So we'll need to address school safety in upcoming meetings.
- E. As I announced on Monday, Teo found a better job in Chicago and is busy getting his family to move. He was the ELL rep and the vacancy will need to be filled by another ELL parent. Article VII of the bylaws describe the procedures for filling the vacancy. Farjana will post the vacancy on the website and send out flyers to all the schools about the vacancy.

- IV. **FACE Updates:** Juliana proved updates on motion procedures and parliamentary procedures for the CEC.

V. **New Business:**

- A. **Survey:** Survey on vaccination status as an effect on class size reduction –I spoke with the District office, President's Council, and FACE. They are requesting written details of the survey to describe the scope, purpose, type of data collected, and safeguarding of data. FACE will submit the proposal for review by legal counsel. Then we'll proceed if we receive the green light.
- B. **Class size reduction bill:** As a reminder, the state finally agreed to fully fund Foundation Aid, which means an increase of \$1.6 B annually to NYC that should be used to cover shortfalls in Fair Student Funding. The governor has not signed the bill. There were several petitions sent to the governor urging a veto claiming that it was not feasible. There was a NY Post story last month stating that the governor, Mayor Adams, and state legislators are negotiating changes to the bill. The Mayor is on record stating that he would like the bill amended so that class size reduction is prioritized for low-performing schools. What does that mean for D26? It will be unlikely that we'll see any of that funding. I think we need to take a position on the class size bill to ensure that D26 gets a fair share of the \$1.6 B the state is sending to DOE. The main idea we should take is that the class size reduction should be prioritized on utilization rates in a district and not student performance. Therefore, changing the criteria to focus on utilization rates will place D26 near the top of the list. The funding should be used to build capacity in our schools – either new schools or expansions of existing schools. And this could include building a sorely needed specialized HS in Queens. I think we should form a committee and come up with a proposal.
- C. The **District Planning meeting** is set for September. They provided a link to a questionnaire. If you have any questions, we can forward them in advance.
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScV8OPzRfxqVzo2MGaOdGYFB8_oy3hsQLn4tJey16-PhGr4A/viewform
- D. Does anyone have suggestions for speakers for upcoming meetings?
- E. Al had a conversation with Norm a few weeks ago, and they think inviting the Bayside HS principal is necessary. They discovered that on average 400 or more freshmen have been dropping out or transferring out every year for the past 6 years. There's something wrong with this situation because these seats should be offered to students who want to and are capable of graduating from the school. FYI, Bayside HS is not under the supervision of Queens North Superintendent Tu. Instead, it falls under New Visions Superintendent Richard Cintron. Perhaps we should invite both. Any thoughts?
- F. A parent in the community sent an e-mail asking the CEC to write and pass resolutions:
 - Support lawsuit against school budget cuts
 - Calling for transparency on the Fair Student Funding Working Group
- G. Todd Friedman requested a discussion of unethical behavior and policy violations on the part of the AA but Mr. Friedman left due to a family emergency and Cassandra motioned to add it to the next month's agenda due to Mr. Friedman leaving the meeting early. The motion passed unanimously.

Al Suhu motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:35 PM and the motion passed unanimously.

Absences:

Dilip Nath & Adriana Aviles notified to Al Suhu & Farjana that they will be not attending the meeting due to a planned vacation.

Addendum A:



Resolution on High
School Admissions Cr

Addendum B:



Resolution to Award
a Merit Raise for the C



220714 Proposed
budget 2.docx

Addendum C: