

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

Date: Thursday, January 24, 2013
Time: Public Meeting - 7:00 P.M.; Business Meeting - 8:00 P.M.
Location: MS 67- 51-60 Marathon Pkwy, Little Neck, NY 11004-Room-B44A

The meeting of the Community District Education Council of District 26 (CDEC26) was called to order by Jeannette Segal, President at 7:10 p.m.

Roll Call - Ricky Chan, Michelle Field , Jeannette Segal, Susan Shiroma & Lucy Vieco
Excused – Daniel O’Gallagher - Pankaj Kapur
Also in attendance: Lori Stein-Butera, District Family Advocate & Anita Saunders, Community Superintendent.

CALENDAR/PUBLIC MEETING

Jeannette introduced the guest speakers from the School Construction Authority: Monica Gutierrez-Project Support Manager, Gordon Tung-Chief Project Officer & Ken Faustmann-Sr. Project Officer.

Also introduced was Assemblywomen Nily Rozic, the newly elected Assemblywoman for D25. Assemblywoman Rozic stated that she just came in from Albany and was giving invites to the swearing in at Townsend Harris HS on Sunday, January 27th and is looking forward to working with the CDEC and the schools. Assemblywoman Rozic was asked to raise the level on the Yellow school bus strike because many families are being affected and that the solutions posed by the DOE are really unacceptable.

Discussion – Mayoral Forum to be held in April at MS 67.

Monica Gutierrez informed the attendees that every year they attend CDEC meetings to inform the community in what they are getting and to get feedback on what’s there or should be there. Suggestions are taken back and reviewed.

Monica informed the attendees that she would be doing an overview of the Five Year Capital Plan (2010-2014) for D26.

FY2010 - 2014 Capital Plan Overview

- [November 2012 Capital Plan Amendment Highlights](#)
- [Capacity Projects](#)

- Capital Improvement Projects (CIP)
- Resolution A (Reso A)
- Your input and comments

PROPOSED NOVEMBER 2012 AMENDMENT - HIGHLIGHTS

CITY HIGHLIGHTS

Increased the number of funded new seats by 931

Added \$290 million in funding advanced by the City

Identified likely Capital Improvement Projects for the first year of the FY2015 - 2019 Capital Plan

NOVEMBER 2012 AMENDMENT – CAPACITY PROGRAM

District 26 Seat Need - Funded: 416

Project/Building Name	Number of seats	Neighborhood
	Not Sited	
Project #/	416	Bayside/Auburndale
TOTAL 416		

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECTS

43 Capital Improvement Projects totaling \$52 million were awarded for Construction from 7/1/2009 through 10/1/2012.

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS

Project Category	Number of Projects	Approximate Cost (In millions)
2		
1		
Electrical	11	\$9.01
Exterior Masonry	2	\$4.02
Parapets	2	\$1.04
Playgrounds	3	\$3.34
Roofs	1	\$1.59
Windows	1	\$.497

*NOTE: Total number of projects and obligations include High Schools and Special Education Schools.

**2010 – 2014 FIVE YEAR CAPITAL PLAN
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS
2010 - 2014**

Program Category	# of Projects	(in Millions)
Accessibility	1	\$4.88
Auditorium Upgrade	1	\$0.90
Classroom Connectivity	7	\$10.92
Classroom Connectivity	52	TBD
Domestic Piping	2	\$1.73
Electrical Systems	7	\$5.26
Exterior Masonry	5	\$6.52
Flood Elimination	4	\$4.36
Interior Spaces	1	\$0.48
IP Surveillance	1	\$0.37
Lighting Fixtures	4	\$4.87
Low-Voltage Electrical Systems	3	\$3.20
New/Retrofit Telephone/Intercom System	8	\$0.56
New/Retrofit Telephone/Intercom System	4	TBD

**2010 – 2014 FIVE YEAR CAPITAL PLAN
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS
2010 - 2014**

Program Category	# of Projects	(in Millions)
Parapets	3	\$1.23
Paved Area-Concrete	1	\$0.68
Playground Redevelopment	1	\$2.64
Reinforcing Support Elements	1	\$2.65
Roofs	2	\$4.51
Room Conversions/Partitioning	2	\$0.10
Technology	9	\$0.08
Windows	1	\$0.53
Total	120	\$56.47

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

43 capital improvement projects totaling 52 million including electrical, exterior masonry, parapets & playgrounds.

Ex: PS 41 received Masonry Support Repair/Parapets

PS 46 received an Auditorium Upgrade

PS 18 received Exterior Masonry, Parapets & Roof

PS 216 received a Paved Area

RESOLUTION A (RESO A) PROJECTS

Resolution A (RESO A) Projects are school specific capital improvement or enhancement projects that are funded by individual grants, the Borough President's Office or members of the New York City Council.

85 Reso A projects totaling \$10.8 million were allocated for FY 2010, 2011 and 2012. (Air conditioning units are not funded).

MAJOR HIGHLIGHTS

Program Category	# of Projects	Approximate Cost (In Millions)
Auditoriums	9	\$1.37
Electrical	3	\$.385
Libraries	2	\$.422
Playgrounds	5	\$1.11
Science Labs	2	\$.130
Technology	61	\$7.16

*NOTE: Total number of projects and obligations include High Schools and Special Education Schools.

WHO TO CONTACT

NYC School Construction Authority Contact Information

Telephone Number: 718-472-8709

Email: council@nycsca.org

For more information visit the SCA online at

www.nycsca.org

Question and Answer Session

Comments from Jeannette - Concerns that school are targeted for elementary (Bayside/Auburndale) and not HS because of the overcrowding issues.

Monica Gutierrez (SCA) stated that the size of the site was inadequate for HS.

Discussed – sites to put new schools

Question – Superintendent Saunders asked about the site on Little Neck Parkway.

Anita said the Leviton site (59-25 Little Neck Pkwy) has many busing options. It is a large site where the school can go in the middle with a lot of land around it to not bother the neighborhoods. The SCA deemed the site inaccessible. Council brought up the idea of adding another wing onto Cardoza in which the SCA will look into.

Jeannette stated a concern that the site will be used for elementary instead of HS.

Monica said SEA looked into Leviton site and the size did not meet requirements due to size.

Monica will take it back and revisit.

Jeannette asked Monica to respond to our concerns.

Michelle said Mary Gordon said there was a site for a HS but the City council voted that down. Michelle expressed the concern at the advisory board of the need for a new HS.

Anita said it was raised many times in the last 6 years. Another piece of land at 210 and Northern Blvd and that was not selected either.

Jeanette asked about expanding current HS.

Gordon Tung (SCA) stated - NO expansion for high schools have been done.

Willet Points is still a remaining issue because GEO reports came back bad.

Susan asked about school capacity. She was informed that the city's plan for HS has been small models. 400 seats is a small high school per Gordon Tung. He stated that the mayor has created many HS under the new initiative with a small number of seats. Attendees informed that an acre or more would seat about 1100 students and would be as long as they could buy the land.

Discussed TCU's

Question - "What is happening with removal of TCU"?

Attendees were told that as part of the capital budget there is a small allotment that is run past many offices. If all offices approve then they are removed. They must be in the worst condition and a place must be available to move the kids. The cost to remove the TCU costs more than what it costs to be put in.

It was also stated that the TCU is getting to the end of their life.

Gordon Tung (SCA) reiterated that it's expensive to remove because of underlying work that needs to be done.

Discussion – Capital Plan

Principals use their electrical upgrades for technology

Question - does Reso money have flexibility for schools to use it the way they want?

Response - it depends on your Council members and Assembly members' original intentions for funds.

The Robin Hood Foundation funds libraries which is another avenue other than council/assembly member funds.

Question – does Reso A money goes only to our NYC DOE public schools? Yes.

Question - asked about the CEC 26 request form and its priority status and was informed that the top 5 are really the most important.

Monica will look into the PS system at PS 188 request from last year and advise us of the status.

Discussion – Security in Schools

Question raised about the concern of security in our schools

Gordon Tung stated that he received emails for security and camera emails and they were forwarded to Robert Weiner. If anyone has any concerns to contact Mr. Weiner.

Superintendent Saunders stated that schools are getting cameras outside (MS 67).

This would be considered a Capital budget project for IP surveillance.

Superintendent's Report
CDEC Meeting
January 24, 2013
7:00 P.M.
AGENDA

- Welcome

- Bus Strike – 150,000 students affected
 - Pre-K receiving busing – different contrast
 - Special Education handicapped difficulty
 - Attendance – sickness mostly
 - Job Security – issue

- Lottery PS/IS 266 – Kindergarten-Central
- Contract for Excellence – funding delayed
- District 26
 - Priority District - Martin Van Buren HS
 - Must write District Comprehensive
 - Instructional Plan for Martin Van Buren to improve student outcome/achievement
 - All other schools have achieved Annual Yearly Progress (AYP)
- Testing Schedule 2013-2014 – Handout
 - New tests ELA and Math – Grades 3-8 more rigorous with questions being more qualitative. Choices more logical, higher level thinking
- New Schools to open Fall – 52 Citywide
- Teacher Evaluation/Performance – no agreement between:
 - DOE & UFT
 - NYC Schools to lose 250 million dollars
- High School Graduation Rate – Rising in NY State
61% to 76% between 2009- 2010 – just under national average of 78%
- Special Honors/Accomplishments
 - MS 158 – Ms. Schechter, Band Teacher – overwhelmingly and unanimously selected by the Nassau County Music Educators Association to conduct the 2013 Division 2 Band at LIU-Tilles Center on January 20, 2013; Ms. Nappi attended.
 - PS 115 – Richard Guimond invited to attend Green Schools National Conference in West Palm Beach, Florida. He was instrumental in transforming school grounds from weed and dead bushes to flowering bushes, shade trees, children garden, and benches.
 - PS 188 – Student Art Work displayed on Morgan Library Facebook page. Students went to Morgan Library to view Beatrice Porter's exhibit and created artwork based on her work. Teacher took photos and sent to Morgan Library. Educational Director was so impressed and put on Facebook. Website: <http://www.facebook.com/morganlibrary>

Quote:

“What we see depends mainly on what we look for.”
John Lubbock

British Banker, Politician
Naturalist, Archeologist

Speakers

Mary Vaccaro distributed the “Open Letter to Parents” from Michael Mulgrew relating to the agreement for teacher evaluations. UFT stated that they are still willing to negotiate. The \$250 million allocated for schools is gone.

Richard Guimond was nominated for the green schools award. He will have an article written about him and PS 115. Jeannette would like to have him honored at the Ballroom Dancing ceremony.

Lori Butera – district family Advocate

Held many evening workshops such as:

Refresher of how to talk and kids listen- 50 parents attended

Siblings Without Rivalry- is going on now

Building Resilience in children and Teens (just for dads) a series of 3 dates: Feb. 13, 20 and 27.

Time Management for Kids- for parent and children (March 1st)

Your Children Are Listening - Feb 7th

Lori stated that the evening workshops attendance is not as high as in the morning.

Lori thanked the CDEC for their support. Anita publicly thanked Lori for all her efforts!

Ricky asked about the camp fair and was informed by Lori that it will not be done this year but every other year.

BUSINESS MEETING

Roll Call - Ricky Chan, Michelle Field , Jeannette Segal, Susan Shiroma & Lucy Vieco

Excused – Daniel O’Gallagher - Pankaj Kapur

Also in attendance: Lori Stein-Butera, District Family Advocate & Anita Saunders, Community Superintendent

1. No Quorum for business meeting.

Jeannette feels that bylaws should be modified so we can hold a business meeting with majority not 6 attendees.

2. Jeannette said bus strike is affecting many parents.

Last bus strike lasted 14 weeks. NYC pays more than other cities to bus students. Local 1181 who represent drivers said they are in it for the long term.

3. UFT and DOE evaluation issue - If by Feb 14 the DOE hasn't provided a plan for the evaluation process they will lose Title 1 money and other monies as well.

Mary Vaccaro stated that the UFT signed but the Mayor didn't.

Michelle attended a meeting (DeBlasio, Public Advocate) and stated that he has a problem with teacher evaluations.

The Sunset Clause is the issue. Sunset Clause is that they would agree for 2 years and then it would come up again for renegotiation. UFT Rep stated that the Mayor doesn't want a Sunset Clause. Most districts around NY had a 1-2 year clause.

4. Discussed having a Town Hall meeting either April 29 or 30. Mary Vaccaro, UFT Rep will advise the CDEC of the best date after speaking to her contacts.

5. Tentative date (May 30th) given which conflicts with the UFT Scholarship Dinner. Marian will look into other days for the Ballroom Dancing.
6. Question asked - if the DOE might identify MS to continue dual language? Anita stated it will go to a locally zoned school which is PS 216.

Audience questions:

- a. Is there an official policy about locking doors in schools?

Anita said that first responders need to have access. Funding is an issue to have buzzers and cameras installed for our schools. Every school has a building response team. Schools have various drills including fire, lockdown and others that are done monthly.

Michelle said the NYS Fire code dictates the doors being open.

Jeannette told audience member she could contact SEA.

- b. Lucy's report on school visit to PS188 on 12/4/12

The PA system requested last year was never installed. Instead they received an auditorium upgrade with theatre lighting. Theatre lighting was never requested.

Dr. Caraisco expressed that if the school year is extended then the AC needs to be put in to the school. She also mentioned that the 2014 test will be online.

PS 188 are offering test prep targeting children they feel really need it. Her ESL teacher Colleen Chan is using "juicy sentences" to understand complex text and prepare her students.

I also visited PS 18 on 12/7/12 and met with the PC and Mrs. Peknic. Mrs. Peknic said the library just got new tiles and the masonry outside the building was being worked on. The PreK playground will hopefully be refurbished under the Reso plan. So far 4 Common Core State Standards have been offered to the parents. She is hoping to offer test prep but is waiting for budgeting.

The G&T classes are not currently in grade 3 and 4 only in K, 1, 2 and 5.

Transportation continues to be an issue that was raised last year. Senator Avella visited the school and the information was shared with him. The light at the corner of the school on Hillside Avenue is an extremely long light so all the traffic gets backed up. This hinders the flow of traffic and the bus flow.

She wanted to know if they can change the timing on the light so the buses don't back up. Even though the office of transportation said it's adequate for now. Another suggestion is to make 235 Court a one way street.

Lucy and Jeannette visited MS67 on 12/12/12.

Minutes submitted by Lucy Vieco

Meeting adjourned at 8:40