



# Community District Education Council 26

## New York City Department of Education

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*President of the Council*

*First Vice President*

*Second Vice President*

*Recording Secretary*

*Treasurer*

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*Council Members:*

Ricky Chan  
Michelle Fields  
Pankaj Kapur  
Daniel John O'Gallagher  
Jeannette Segal  
Susan Shiroma  
Lucy Vieco

Anita Saunders  
Community Superintendent  
District 26

Website: [www.cdec26.org](http://www.cdec26.org)

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### SUMMARY OF COMMUNITY DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL 26 ANNUAL MEETING

TUESDAY, July 17, 2012 at 7:00 P.M.

@MS 74 – 61-15 Oceania Street, Bayside, NY – Room 121

1. Meeting Called To Order – \_\_\_\_\_ p.m. by our ex-1st Vice President, Jeannette Segal

2. Roll Call - Marian Mason, Administrative Asst.

Present: **Council Members** - Ricky Chan, Pankaj Kapur, Jeannette Segal, Lucy Vieco & Michelle Fields

Excused – Susan Shiroma & Daniel O'Gallagher

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

3. Election of **President Pro Tempore** – Lucy Vieco

Nomination presented by \_\_\_\_\_ - seconded by \_\_\_\_\_.

No other nominations - Unanimous vote of all members present.

4. Election of officers – TABLED

5. Minutes - Tabled

Jeanette questions the number of voting members necessary to hold voting of CDEC seats. It states the majority shall always be 6 per by laws as stated on page 6. Council has 5 members present.

Jeanette suggests to keep voting temporary until a decision is made. Michelle recommends that we hold a temporary vote until next time. Positions still available are the ELL parent position and another CDEC member vacancy.

Lucy was elected pro chair and she read the script. The council has decided to wait until next month for the votes, contact Daniel and encourage him to attend so that 6 votes are exercised and a quorum is met. Next meeting is August 8, 2012.

Per Jeannette, Marion will not attend the August meeting.

The previous meetings minutes were discussed.

Michelle's was questioned about her visit to PS 266. Michelle to give a brief description of her visit and will email Marion to discuss.

Jeannette asked Mary to clarify via email regarding teacher evaluations from last month's minutes.

Jeannette asked members to decide on schools they want to represent and be able to voice their decisions at the next meeting. Additionally, she wants the CDEC to do a breakfast with politicians. Anita suggested

that it may be better in the evening. Mary Vaccaro, UFT Rep. to chair the “CDEC Coffee and Dessert” meeting with politicians and parents to be held early in the year so parents can meet politicians and voice concerns. Mary recommended Veranda restaurant. It would have to be a Thursday night so legislators are available. Mary suggested it be in the beginning of October. October 25, 2012 at 7 pm was the suggested date for the legislative meeting for “Legislative Sweets and Greet.” Mary counted 10 legislators for D26: Assemblyman David Weprin, Councilman Mark Weprin, Congressman Gary Ackerman, Assemblyman Rory Lancman, Senator Charles Schumer & Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, etc...

Reservations will be made for 50 people. The meeting will mirror the president’s council meeting. An RSVP will be requested so that CDEC gets an accurate head count.

**Superintendent’s Report**  
**CDEC Meeting**  
**MS 74**  
**July 17, 2012**  
**7:00 P.M.**

- Welcome
  
- Summer School
  - July 9 – August 8 – Students
  - August 6 – Math Test
  - August 7 – ELA
  - August 8 – Make-up, if necessary
  - PS 46 – approximately 75 students
  - MS 172 – approximately 175 students
    - 2 Administrative Interns – Bank Street
    - 1 ESL Teacher – Adelphi
    - 1 ELA Teacher – Adelphi
  
- Hawthorne Summer Camp Program – MS 74
  - 550 Students, K-8
  - Academic, Arts, Physical Education, Cooking, etc.
  - July 9 – August 9
  
- August 27, 2012 – Supervisors due to return
  
- September 4, 2012 – Teachers due to return
  
- September 6, 2012 – School begins for students
  
- Martin Van Buren HS – Interim Acting Principal, Sam Sochet
  
- Awards:
  - Arvind Mahankali – MS 74, Grade 7 - Daily News  
1<sup>st</sup> Place Spelling Bee Winner, NYC  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place – National Spelling Bee Winner, Washington

- Jasmine Shum – PS 173, Grade 4  
1<sup>st</sup> Place Spelling Bee – Queens County  
Elementary School – World Journal
  - PS 186 Castlewood School – Battle of Teachers  
Principal, Dolores Troy-Quinn and Faculty Members compete in front of students on  
different events in gymnasium e.g. hop scotch, hoop jumping, rope jumping, etc.
  - 2012 Golden Apple Awards Winners – Super Recyclers  
MS 74, Nathaniel Hawthorne - \$3,000 – Borough Winner  
PS 188, The Kingsbury School - \$1500 – Borough Runner-up
  - MS 74 – Teacher College Research Study – participation regarding implementation of the  
CCLS – funded by G.E. “school that hums”
  - Blue Ribbon Schools for 2012-2013 – Preliminary Letter  
PS 191, PS 203
- Anita’s Vacation – July 23 – August 3

Quote:

*“The illiterate of the future are not those who can’t read or write, but those who cannot learn unlearn and relearn.”*  
Alvin Toffler, American Writer

Aug 6 is the math test for summer school, August 7th ELA and August 8th is the makeup dates. Martin Van Buren has an interim acting VP who is very warm and welcoming. This is a very different atmosphere than students are used to. A suggestion was made that the principal and AP greet the students in the morning to establish a welcoming atmosphere. They will begin Pre-med program with a partnership with LIJ/North Shore Hospital and Polytech to partner for a Pre engineering program. They are hoping for some athletic programs utilizing the wonderful school grounds. They are considering a parent welcoming night with a student welcoming committee to encourage a sense of belonging and commitment to the school.

We have not received any official information of Blue Ribbon Schools but a preliminary notification that PS 191 & PS 203 may receive official designation.

The NYS grades have been posted and showed an increase in ELA and in Math for D26. Science at 93% and in Social studies grade 11 at 96%. We have several outstanding schools who received very high scores with 97, 98, and 99. Middle schools still need additional work since scores are not as high.

Principals had a luncheon at the end of the year and Anita was asked to speak. She thanked them for being all their efforts and commitment to excellence and for being #1 in NYCDOE.

District 26 is still #1 in NYCDOE for the 2012 ELA and Math scores.. She explained that the progress report is very important because we want to show that the students are making progress. It’s very hard for smart students because they need to be challenged. They must be accelerated.

She visited PS46 and was very impressed at the group work; the teachers have all the data and have placed the children in groups according to skills. There are only 16 days in summer school and the teachers are

trying to move the children who didn't pass in the spring to pass the test in August. Anita explained that teachers are getting support from other teachers to help students who don't get it. Teachers participate in team meetings during the year to improve their practice and feels we need more time for professional development. Next year with the Common Core learning Standards, the state reading and math tests will be more challenging. She explained how a sample question on a state test for 2013 will have questions based on every day experiences such as taking discounts at a store. In ELA, students will read complex texts and need to be able to surmise and explain. Some answers will not be directly stated in the text but need to be inferred. Finland is number one internationally and heavy emphasis placed is on providing extensive remediation. They also use very capable students to teach struggling students to understand how to reach those students.

At PS 74 students got 1<sup>st</sup> place in the spelling bee. They also got \$3000 for a recycling contest and PS 188 got \$1500 as well.

Another event at the PS 186 was the "Battle of the Teachers" where teachers compete and students cheer the teachers on. It promotes a wonderful atmosphere.

The state sent out a memo regarding a ban of ALL electronic devices during testing.

Anita will be on vacation from July 23 through August 3.

**Lori Butera (District Family Advocate)**

Lori had two workshops and a parent orientation, thus far. Today, 25 parents attended the parent orientation stressing how to get involved. She expressed the need for more parents on the council. Another workshop will be Wednesday, July 18<sup>th</sup> showing the film, "Race to Nowhere." On Thursday, July 19, a workshop on "Building Resilience for Children" based on the book will be held for parents. The last workshop will be a "Meet and Greet" to welcome new PTA presidents on August 7 at 10 am.

Anita may provide the presidents with a sample grade 5 math question at a meeting during the year. She explained that some parents were under the impression that a Level 2 is a good mark.

No adjournment voted due to lack of quorum.

Meeting adjourned at \_\_\_\_\_ p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Lucy Vieco, CDEC 26.