

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

Date: Thursday, March 21, 2013
Time: Public Meeting - 8:00 P.M.; Business Meeting - 7:00 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, Jeannette Segal, Susan Shiroma, Daniel O'Gallagher & Pankaj Kapur
Excused –Michelle Field & Lucy Vieco
Also in attendance- Anita Saunders, Community Superintendent;
Lori Stein-Butera, District Family Advocate – vacation

Anita Saunders informed the attendees of the death of Mr. James Ambrose, Principal of PS 115 and gave some of the particulars regarding the service.

BUSINESS MEETING

1. Minutes – tabled – no quorum
Jeannette and the council members would like to change the number needed for quorum by amending the bylaws. Jeannette spoke about the process in which to post the amendment in which it would take approximately two months and it would have to be brought up at a public meeting. Jeannette spoke about the process because it is per district. Jeannette ask Susan to look into the wording for this change (using the word “majority of the council”
2. Jeannette also spoke on the “Privacy Act” (A6059) in which the DOE is giving out students’ information and that there is a bill out there.
3. Jeannette received a text from President’s Council stating that they are not doing the Mayoral forum and that CPAC will be doing it in Manhattan.

Superintendent's Report

CDEC Meeting

March 21, 2013

7:00 P.M.

AGENDA

- Welcome
- Specialized High School Acceptances – attachment
- Gifted Magnet Middle School
 - Changes 2014
Every middle school will have Gifted & Magnet – Parents will have a choice of where to send their child - Everything will be done by computer – classes will no longer be sent as a whole, children will be assigned according to 4th grade NYS ELA and Math test scores.
- CCLS: Newly Approved Programs
 - ELA & Math
 - Principals ordering options – Principals not obligated to purchase or buy in – new programs not completely finished or published
- Andrew Kirtzman, award winning journalist joined Chancellor's Team as a Senior Advisor for Communication
- School Awards:
 - PS 203 – Odyssey of the Mind (Grades 4 & 5) teams to compete in Odyssey State Level competition at Binghamton University, March 22nd
 - MS 67 – Science Olympiad – 1st Prize Citywide competition – will represent City in the State competition in May
 - MS 158 – Wellness Poster Contest – Middle School Runner-Up – Alicia Lin; ceremony evening, June 5th
 - MS 74 – Wellness Poster Contest – Middle School Winner & Runner Up – Selina Zou and Francesca LaPinta
 - MS 74 – Software Engineering Pilot Program (SEP) awarded from a competitive pool of candidates
 - PS 173 – four (4) winners in the Morgan book Project – one was 1 of 6 books among 32 of the winning entries –(Elizabeth Tang-Morgan Ong-Vicky Lin-Austin Yeung and for the Outstanding Artwork Award (Vicky Lin)

- PS 115 – Inter School Student Orchestra (ISO)
- PS 115 raised \$1000 through a bake sale for military veterans
- PS 41 – 5th grade Apprentice Group raised \$1600 to give to two (2) Long Island families devastated by Hurricane Sandy.
- MS 74 – National Spelling Bee Winner

Quote - -“Eloquence is a painting of the thoughts.” –

Blaise Pascal - French Mathematician, Physicist, Inventor & Writer

Jeannette congratulated Susan Shiroma for being one of the honorees nominated at the Northeast Queens Branch & Youth Council of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) where several other women were honored for their work in the community on Sat. March 16, 2013 at Queens College.

Jeannette spoke about the 2013 BUS Tour led by the A+ NYC coalition titled “A different School Bus”. The bus was on a seven-day tour which traveled throughout the five boroughs covering issues that parents care about such as smaller class sizes, less testing, more afterschool and a mayor who brings parents to the table. Mayoral candidates invited to attend.

Jeannette informed the attendees that she and Susan Shiroma attended the President’s Council Legislative Breakfast attended by the legislators.

Anita Saunders informed the attendees that Principal Armstrong, MS 74 is coming along after his surgery.

Mary Vaccaro informed the attendees that they will rename the Scholarship after Principal James Ambrose of PS 115. Received two applications for high school. UFT sending out applications again to be distributed. Mr. Slivko stated paperwork given to every child in District 26 to give to their parents plus high schools.

Jeannette presented Jesse Mojica, Executive Director of the Family & Community Engagement Division.

Spoke on two initiatives – CEC Selection Process

- a. Held every two years – did not plan properly for the 2011 selection of the CEC – listened to parents to see what the problems were & what recommendations they gave– worked with the CEC Task force which offered their input – eliminated the Advisory Board
- b. Roles and responsibilities needed to be outlined in more detail as to what is expected of them
- c. Get previous members to talk about their experiences on the CEC

- d. 2013 - Get information out to schools earlier – website – cards – ads – posters and etc. – partnered with organizations to get information out to all parents in different languages.
- e. Applications being taken from Feb. 13 thru March 27th
- f. FACE conducted robo-calls to all parents informing them of the CEC Selection process that would be taking place.

Feb. 13-March 27: Apply to serve on an Education Council

April 8-April 25: Candidate Forums

May 1-May 14: Selector's Vote

Spoke about **The Parent Academy** which is a collaborative citywide program dedicated to supporting student achievement by creating and enhancing partnerships within school communities and strengthening parent involvement. Through free, community-based workshops, parents can find out what their child is learning in school and how they can support their child's learning at home. There will be three events (2 on Saturdays and 1 during the school week in each borough during the 2012-2013 school years).

What Will Parents Learn?

- How to get the most out of parent-teacher conferences
- Strategies for working within a team (IEP, school leadership teams, one-on-one mentoring)
 - Identifying resources to support your child's learning and developmental needs
- Understanding Common Core learning standards, standardized tests, and response to intervention
 - Learning how to help your child be ready for college and careers
 - Understanding special education and how to support your child's ability to learn
- Technology training, including basic computer skills, social media, and cyber-bullying awareness
 - and more...

Why Should Parents Participate?

- Free Workshops – Learn how to become an active and effective partner in your child's education. Workshops will be offered in every borough at no cost.
- Network and Collaborate with Other Parents – Network with other parents to share examples of family engagement initiatives at schools and exchange ideas on how to get involved.
- Access to Community Resources – Learn about local community organizations that provide students with extra help.
 - Next workshop in Brooklyn at PS 156

To date, the Parent Academy has conducted the following workshops, and the material is available for your use:

Workshops that will be presented in the future:

Strategies for Working within a Team (i.e., IEP, school leadership teams, one-on-one mentoring)
 Identifying Resources/Local Organizations to Support your Child's Learning and Developmental Needs
 Understanding Common Core Learning Standards, Standardized Tests, and Response to Intervention
 Encouraging Resiliency and Self-efficacy and Understanding Positive Behavioral Supports
 Understanding how to Support Your Child so S/He will Graduate Ready for College and for a Career
 Supporting Students in Transitional Grades
 Technology Training (i.e., basic computer skills; social medial awareness about cyber bullying, etc.)
 How to Find Resources for Your Child Inside and Outside of School for Success in Math/Science/Arts
 March 21, 2013 mins

Identifying Federal Funding that Supports your Child's Academic Success (e.g., Title I, and Title III)

Wellness Issues

Question asked – Are there a lot of Queens's schools joining the Parent Academy? Mr. Mojica stated they will be extending to all schools.

- a. Schools will be asked to designate a school base team and work with the academy. Jeannette is requesting more information on joining an academy.

Discussion on the Selection Process –

- a. Council wanted to know how many applied to D26 compared to other districts – Mr. Mojica will get the information and pass it on. To date there are only 10 applications for D26. Council wants to see how they compare to other districts.
- b. Question – Were there any role changes for the CEC council members? Mr. Mojica informed attendees that there were none and parents needed to be informed of their role and responsibilities. Parents were concerned about quorums, where parents start out but later drop out.
- c. Council feels they are not represented at the Chancellor's table when discussing issues of interest and they have no say. Feels that nothing gets changed or resolved.
- d. Disclosure forms – parents were not disclosing all their children and their schools making it hard to appoint parents of different schools to be on the council. Council concerned about putting their employers name. Randy informed the council that they don't want to have a "Conflicts of Interest" in case that employer is working with the DOE.
- e. Council member stated "that some parents feel they do better being a PTA rep compared to a CEC council member".
- f. Council member recommended the DOE use the public libraries to promote the Selection Process. In response to being asked if DOE used the public libraries to promote the postcards or flyers, Mr. Mojica said "no".

Speakers:

1. Alan Ong – PTA President - PS 173 – informed the council that they received a violation for having extension cords. PS 173 was put on the Capital Plan Priority Listing as #2 for an Electrical Upgrade. Marian will contact the School Construction Authority and advise them of this issue and get an update.

Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Minutes submitted by Marian Mason

Meeting adjourned at 8:45

March 21, 2013 mins