

## **Community District Education Council District 26**

**Address:** 61-15 Oceania St, Bayside, New York 11364

**Tel:** 718.631.6927 **FAX:** 718.631.6996 **Email:** central/cec26@nycboe.net

### **MINUTES FROM BUSINESS /CALENDER/ PUBLIC MEETINGS**

**Date:** Thursday, March 22, 2012

**Time:** Business Meeting - 7:00 P.M.; Calendar 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.

## **BUSINESS MEETING**

### **Roll Call -**

**Present:** Vijayalaxmi Hegde, Jeannette Segal, Susan Shiroma, Daniel O’Gallagher, Lucy Vieco  
Excused- Michelle Fields, Ricky Chan, Pankaj Kapur, Meghan Dinegar & Lori Butera Stein (District Family Advocate)

Unexcused – Hong Keng Tan

Also in attendance: Anita Saunders, Community Superintendent

1. Minutes – (January 26, 2012 minutes)-- tabled –**no quorum**
2. President’s Report – Jeannette Segal
  - a. Jeannette stated to the council members that calls and e-mails have been sent to Hong Ken Tan since he has not been attending the meetings (missed three consecutive meetings). Reaching out to find out if he is resigning.
  - b. Reiterated the Town Hall meeting of Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>-Chancellor stayed an extra 35 minutes with us and he was able to get some of the parents questions answered. Very successful and positive feedback received.
  - c. Teacher’s Evaluation letter drafted and read out – will send to council members to have their input and once finalized, it will be sent out to everyone on the mailing list. .

DRAFT

### **Teacher Evaluation Report**

As we approach the upcoming NY State ELA & Math test, the council would like to address the district on the research and information we received regarding the Teacher Evaluations that were recently publicized. The Department of Education under a court order released the 2007-08 through 2009-10 Teacher Data Reports for English and Math teachers in grades 4 through 8. The news media had file a Freedom of Information Law requesting for the documents and the courts ruled in the Medias favor. The reports and data compiled evaluated teachers on how much progress individual teachers helped students make in those two subjects and years. Teachers had been previously informed of their scores, parents and concerned New Yorkers flocked to newsstands to see the scores. This caused an array of questions from parents and educators.

It is important for a person to receive feedback on their performance; every job has some form of evaluation of a person work performance. The children should also be evaluated as a means to evaluate the progress the child has made, how else is a parent to receive feedback at the parent teacher conferences on how their child is progressing. Evaluation is not what is in question; the data is what has to be questioned. The score is based on 20% of the children’s State ELA & Math scores the other areas of assessment carry a lower weight, that even if a teacher has high marks in those areas and children do not receive high score in the state test the teacher will be deemed inadequate (ineffective). This methodology enhances what we as parent have been fighting against high stakes testing and for schools not to teach to the test.

The accuracy of the report is being questioned as well since a few listings had the incorrect teachers and classes naming error were made, but how about when a teacher that has a gifted class with students scoring high 4’s and her score is listed as inadequate. Or the valued teacher in a school who receives a single digit score when parents are attesting to the wonderful result the teacher has made in their child’s progress. A formula or a single state test cannot fairly evaluate a teacher’s performance.

The good thing about this evaluation is that it has been abandoned by the DOE; they have established this evaluation system as a failure. The new evaluation system is under study and being dubbed the “Teacher Effectiveness Project”. We need an evaluation that is both fair to our students, teacher and community. Let’s hope this does not cause the damage the previous evaluation system caused and hopefully we do not lose valuable teachers and families along the way.

Council in agreement. Council will input and Susan Shiroma will have the last edit.

Mary Vaccaro spoke about the schools where the evaluations were inaccurate (see below):

26Q018 Count 6 100%	26Q067 Count 22 100%	26Q074 Count 18 100%	26Q098 Count 6 100%	26Q159 Count 6 100%	26Q221 Count 16 100%
26Q173 Count 16 100%	26Q188 Count 10 100%	26Q191 Count 4 100%	26Q203 Count 12 100%	26Q205 Count 8 100%	26Q213 Count 6 100%

Per Mary – the next evaluations which will be released in the summer of 2012 will not have the teacher’s names attached to them.

d. Jeannette emphasizes school visits to be completed.

Susan Shiroma made a statement asking “if it was mandatory to do school visits?” Jeannette stated “that this gives us a good rapport with the parent coordinators and the principal.”

### 3. **Budget** - Vijayalaxmi Hegde

Modifications put through transferring to and from:

General Supplies (XVBE-198) --- \$2700	P-Card – (XVBF-179)
General Supplies (XVBE-198) --- \$130	Stipend – XVBJ-496)
General Supplies (XVBE-198) ---- \$1,170	Local Travel & Food-(XVBL-451)
Water Rental (XVBI-412)-----\$212	P-Card – (XVBF-179)
Computer Equipment (WS07-332)-----\$4	P-card

### 4. **Old Business - none**

## 5. New Business

1. Susan Shiroma- attended the Election process meeting with FACE in February.
2. Attended Helen Marshall's meeting regarding the Turnaround of High Schools in Queens (8 high schools).
3. Attended the CB8 meeting 3-21 asking for support for the Beacon programs. A CB 8 member informed her that if the Beacon closes it means no free summer school at that site. MS 158 will lose its Beacon programming as of July 2012. In attending Susan was given the official list which was provided by a Beacon program manager. MS 158 is in school district 26. Beacon programming is open to everyone in the community (not just the students at MS 158). This means a cutback on free afterschool services, free evening programming and free weekend programming.... leading to "Latchkey children, youth on the streets and old people with no place to go." (my quote used at CB 8 meeting this week).

As many of you know, the latest round of budget cuts proposes the elimination of 7 Beacons as of July 1, 2012 in regions of lowest need. DYCD has contacted the 7 Beacons slated for closure, and the list is below:

<u>Borough</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Provider</u>
Bronx	IS 192	Phipps Community Development
Brooklyn	IS 259	Heart Share Human Services
Manhattan	PS 198	Stanley M. Isaacs Neighborhood Center
Manhattan	MS 414	Hudson Guild
Queens	JHS 190	Queens Community House, Inc.
Queens	MS 158	Samuel Field Y

### School Visits

1. Vijay – School visit at PS 221 on January 31 – crossing guard needed – library needed. Anita proceeded to inform the attendees that after our meeting last year with the Transportation dept regarding crossing and safety, PS 162 got two lights, traffic slowed down to 20 mph in front of the school and anyone caught doing more than 20 mph will get a double violation.  
School visit PS 186 on February 3<sup>rd</sup> – issue of sharing with D75-received RESO grant to do playground. Music and Art teachers are housing in the auditorium. Space needed, classes are getting bigger.  
School visit at PS 18 on March 5<sup>th</sup> – boiler needed - will apply for a storytelling grant- now has two crossing guards.
2. Jeannette read the e-mail from David Kazansky – BE BRAVE AGAINST BULLYING would like for the council to agree to the Draft Resolution on Citywide High Schools to be abandoned regarding turnaround time. All members in agreement.

E-mail received from the Division of Finance to have the CDEC set up a meeting to discuss school budgets. Marian contacted the representative (Juan Rosales) and gave him our next meeting date of April 16<sup>th</sup>. Will confirm date. Anita will give us a quick presentation of the "Overview of the Special Education Reform". Anita asked that the members study the package given "Overview of the Special Education Reform" and bring to the next meeting.

At the Feb. 15, 2012 the Chancellor offered to the CDEC to set up a *special meeting* focused on *Special Education* and reform and that way they can go into more detail. The meeting has been set up for April 16<sup>th</sup>, 7 p.m. at MS 67 in the auditorium with representatives from The Division of Students with Disabilities & English Language Learners:

Lauren Katzman, Executive Director of Special Education; Shona Gibson, Executive Director of Operations; Andrew Hollander, Director of Strategic Planning

Jeannette introduced our guest speaker, Brian Sweeney.

## CALENDAR/PUBLIC MEETING

Public meeting followed.

### **Roll Call -**

**Present:** Vijayalaxmi Hegde, Jeannette Segal, Susan Shiroma, Daniel O’Gallagher, Lucy Vieco  
Excused- Michelle Fields, Ricky Chan, Pankaj Kapur, Meghan Dinegar & Lori Butera Stein (District Family Advocate)

Unexcused – Hong Keng Tan

Also in attendance: Anita Saunders, Community Superintendent

**Brian Sweeney, Literacy Coach at Louis Pasteur Middle School 67** - will be doing a presentation on “Parents as Literacy Partners” - Sometimes it is difficult as a parent to tell how their child is doing with reading and writing. Math assignments often have definite answers, but it isn't always so clear with literacy work. This presentation will discuss strategies for how parents can support their children as they develop reading and writing skills.

Reading Essentials

- ❖ Time
  - ❖ The “60 minutes” rationale
  - ❖ Set a time/Read with them
  - ❖ Kindle as Motivation
- ❖ Book Choice:
  - ❖ Level / What to do when the Level is Unknown
  - ❖ Interest & “The Classics”
  - ❖ Newspapers/Periodicals
  - ❖ Recommendations from ELA Teachers
- ❖ Reading Space in the Home:
  - ❖ Distraction Free Environment
- ❖ Responses
  - ❖ Ensure Analytical Reading
  - ❖ Build to Writing
- ❖ Talk
  - ❖ Conversing without having read their book

Six Skills to Help Comprehension

- ❖ Environment/Envisioning: what do you picture?
- ❖ Prediction: what will happen?
- ❖ Retelling: what happened?
- ❖ Summary: what are the *most important* things that happened?

- ❖ Inference: a ‘small moment’ analysis
- ❖ Interpretation: a ‘big picture’ analysis

\* **These are skills you can touch upon when reinforcing reading and assessing whether or not they’re reading.**

#### Writing Basics

- ❖ Reading, Reading, Reading
- ❖ Process vs. ‘The Night Before’
- ❖ Model Texts
  - ❖ Independent Reading Books
  - ❖ Exemplary Essays
- ❖ Revision
  - ❖ Reading Aloud
  - ❖ Peer Editing

#### Common Core

- ❖ Argument: an essay
- ❖ Narrative: a story (fictional or personal)
- ❖ Information: research paper (objective)

#### Resources

- ❖ Website for Leveling
  - ❖ Booksource.com
- ❖ Google Books (Search Inside). Amazon.com also allows this.
  - ❖ books.google.com
- ❖ Teacher’s College
  - ❖ tc.readingandwritingproject.com
- ❖ Common Sense Media
  - ❖ Commonsensemedia.org

### Superintendent’s Report CDEC Meeting MS 67

- Welcome
- Specialized HS Acceptances – Chart
- Martin Van Buren High School
- Special Education Reform presentation **attached plus on the DOE website.**
- Winnings:
  - MS 67 – Math Counts Math League, American Math Competition 1<sup>st</sup> Place; 2 students placed first in all three competitions with perfect scores. School to compete at State level – Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup> in Albany.
  - MS 67 – Science Olympiad – 1<sup>st</sup> place in city-wide competition. Represent NYC in State competition in June. Twelve (12) events and MS 67 earned gold in eight (8) and two (2) in silver.
  - PS/IS 178 – “Best Award in Show” – Craft – Arline Thomas, Urban Bird Literary/Arts Contest – Melanie Guardado, Grade 4
  - PS/IS 178 – “Studio in a School” and Office of Arts Special Projects” PS Art 2012 Semi-finalist – “The Chair” by Chloe Lawson
  - PS 173 – “Third Annual Morgan Book Project Award” by the Morgan Library Museum – 3 winners out of 27 total – Kelly Chan, Yifan Wang, Jaime Tuan
    - Kelly Chan’s book = one of Four Best Books and will receive the “Special Award.” Kelly’s book will be featured on the Morgan website.

Award ceremony at Morgan Library Museum

- PS 173 – Arline Thomas Bird/Literary Contest Craft Winners – Ava Chow, kindergarten – 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Gabriel Morales, kindergarten – 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Literary – Read Book Aloud at Ceremony, Nikhil Jaggi – Kindergarten
  - PS 188 - “Third Annual Morgan Book Project Award” by the Morgan Library Museum – 4 winners out of 27 total – Bonnie Guo, Alice La, Jacob Shin and Akaneh Wang
  - MS 74 - NYC Spelling Bee winner sponsored by the Daily News, Arvind Mahankali, 7<sup>th</sup> grade – will represent NYC at the National Spelling Bee Contest in Washington, D.C.
- “Race to Nowhere” – Film – President’s Council, Francis Lewis HS, Tuesday, March 27, 2012 at 6:30 P.M.
  - New Principals visited - PS 133, 159, 213, 221

Quote:

*“He, who is afraid to ask, is ashamed of learning.”*  
*Danish Proverb*

Mary Vaccaro stated that Cathy Cahn will be awarded at the UFT dinner.

Daniel made a motion to adjourn and Vijay seconded, the members unanimously agreed to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Marian Mason, Administrative Assistant, CDEC 26.