



Citywide Council on Special Education

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1/21/2009 CALENDAR MEETING MINUTES

The Calendar Meeting of the Citywide Council on Special Education was held on Wednesday, January 21, 2009 at 6:30 p.m at P.S. 077K, 62 Park Place, Brooklyn, New York.

1. Roll Call

Charlene Carroll-Hall	Present
John Englert	Present
Charles Henderson	Present
Diana Marenfeld	Excused
Ellen McHugh	Present
Tom Ryan	Excused
Patricia Connelly	Present
Gloria Gonslves	Absent

2. Secretary's Report – Charles Henderson

Meeting Minutes not approved due to No Quorum

3. Report of the President – John Englert

John reported on the following topics:

- a) Though there has been no formal response by Central DOE on the Council of Great City Schools Report and the District's response from late August, we have been advised that Garth Harries will serve as the Chancellor's representative and begin an effectiveness and efficiency initiative to look at Special Education across the DOE. As some of you may know, Garth has had the lead role in the Office of New Schools for the past few years. He will be meeting with D75, as well as other constituencies, to look at places where there may be redundancies and duplications of service for special needs students within the DOE as per the Council of Great City Schools Report. We look forward to meeting with Garth in the very near future.
- b) The CCSE submitted the Priority Request for the NYC Department of Education Proposed 2010-2014 Five Year Capital Plan. We will keep you updated as developments become known.

- c) The Panel for Educational Policy (PEP) Meeting is scheduled for Monday, 1/26/09 at Tweed. I urge as many parents as possible show up for this meeting. On the Agenda for this meeting will be a discussion on the Special Education Student Information System. This was the announcement that was made last week by the DOE of the \$55 million contract to Maximus, a Virginia company to increase the accuracy of the data of approximately 190,000 students with disabilities.
- d) As noted last month, the draft revision of the Parents Guide to Special Education was distributed for comment. The Guide is aligned to the Standard Operating Procedures Manual which was recently issued and State and federal regulations. The District provided their comments over to the Office of Special Education Initiatives prior to the 1/9/09 deadline. I'm sure that once this review is completed, the OSEI will send the information out for editing and final review.
- e) The next CEC meeting with the Chancellor is scheduled for Wednesday, 1/28/09. We will update you at our next meeting on all issues relating to special education.
- f) The NYS Assembly Committee on Education will be holding hearings in NYC about the governance of the NYC School District. There will be five hearings, one in each borough. It is imperative that you testify at one of these hearings.

4. Report of the Superintendent – Bonnie Brown

Topics included:

- 1st National Online Conference: “Educating the Disruptive Child”. People from Australia, England and the United States subscribed to the conference.
- 10 schools within District 75 are participating in the “Get Ready to Learn Program: Parents response to the program has been positive.
- 2 schools within District 75 are participating in the “Emotional Literacy Curriculum.
- The LSO’s will be moving under the administration of Eric Nadlestern and District 75 will remain under Dr. Lyles Deputy Chancellor of Teaching and Learning. Garth Harries, former Chief Executive of the DOE’s Portfolio Department will be coming aboard to work with D75 and Special Education initiatives to reline things, less repetition and duplication of services.
- Regent Merryl Tisch asked the question to Ms. Brown, “From your prospective the impact of this move internally what should they be working towards (three examples and what would they accomplish)?

Ellen, CCSE responded: **1) Equipment:** Teachers and Staff
2) Curriculum: That helps bring kids along in their education
3) Access: Education to support that currently exists so those good practices can be replicated.
Ms. Tisch asked what will Garth's role will be and Ellen responded to review special education.

5. Transition:

Louise Maisello, Transition Coordinator, P077K

Ms. Maisello, of P077K provided parents of a time line regarding transition services. Transition Services at age 12 with the Level 1 Vocational Assessment consists of a three part assessment that includes the students, parent interview and teacher report. Transition Planning Time Line: please see attachment.

Raphael Rivas, Youth in Transition Coordinator, Brooklyn Center for Independence of the Disable, Inc.

The Youth in Transition program serves H.S. students with disabilities who attend H.S. in the boroughs of Brooklyn and district 75 Schools in the borough of Brooklyn. Youth participants of the program would be ideally from the ages of 16 to 21 with an emphasis on serving the minority population. Students who participate in the program, the transition coordinator services provide:

- Peer mentoring
- Attending IEP/CSE Meetings as requested
- Attending Parent-Teacher Conferences and requested
- Any other youth related services that are needed.

BCID other services that are offered:

- Housing
- Benefit's Advisements,
- Advocacy Assistant and the opportunity to be involved in BKLYN Systems Change Network

Meeting adjourned at 9pm