



## Citywide Council on Special Education

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### 12/10/2008 CALENDAR MEETING MINUTES

The Calendar Meeting of the Citywide Council on Special Education was held on Wednesday, December 10, 2008 at 6:30 p.m at P169M, 110 East 88<sup>th</sup> Street, NY, NY.

#### 1. Roll Call

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

#### 2. Secretary's Report – Charles Henderson

The Meeting Minutes dated 11/12/08 were approved.

#### 3. Report of the President – John Englert

John reported on the following topics:

- a) We have received a response regarding the grievance that was filed concerning the distribution of C4E funds. We've asked SED to give us some advice and will keep you posted as new developments become known.
- b) There still has been no formal response by Central DOE on the Council of Great City Schools Report and the District's response from late August.
- c) As noted last month, this year marks the beginning of a new Proposed Capital Budget 2010-2014. The proposed budget has been published and can be found on the DOE website. It is broken down by borough and by school. John urged all SLT's, PTA's and schools to review the proposed budget and provide us with your comments no later than the end of the year so that we can prepare our response. We had a hearing at LaGuardia Community College last Wednesday where members of the School Construction Authority and Deputy Chancellor Grimm were in attendance to answer questions.

- d) The Panel for Educational Policy (PEP) Meeting is scheduled for Monday, 12/15/08 at Juan Morel Secondary School on 215 Heyward Street in Brooklyn, New York. John urged that as many special ed parents as possible show up for this meeting. This represents the first time that the PEP has placed Special Education on their Agenda and this provides you with an opportunity to speak to the Chancellor.
- e) At the Special Education Advisory Group Meeting this Monday, 12/8/08, chaired by Linda Wernikoff, the draft revision of the Parents Guide to Special Education was reviewed. The Guide is aligned to the Standard Operating Procedures Manual which was recently issued and State and federal regulations. Please note that this is a first draft. The final document will need to be professionally edited to ensure it is in parent friendly format and language. We, as well as, the rest of the District are in the process of reviewing the Guide to ensure that all information pertaining to District 75 is included. The District will have their comments over to the Office of Special Education Initiatives no later than 1/9/09. John reported that once this review is completed, the OSEI will send the information out for editing and final review.
- f) The next public forum on Mayoral control sponsored by the Parent Commission on School governance is next Friday, 12/19/08 at 6:30 PM at Judson Church Assembly Hall at 239 Thompson Street in Greenwich Village. Flyers are at the table when you came in and as many parents as possible are invited to show up.

#### **4. Report of the Superintendent – Bonnie Brown**

Topics included:

- Epic Fair: April 25<sup>th</sup> at 811X
- Social Emotional Learning: Dr. Robin Stern of Columbia University and Mark Brackett, of Yale University will partner with District 75 to work closely with Staff and Schools on social and emotional learning.
- Get Ready To Learn: Bonnie introduced the guest speakers for an innovative program in district 75 to the audience.

#### **5. Teaching Children in Alternative Assessment**

**Barbara Joseph**, District 75 Network Leader for Network2: Supporting Students with Communication, Cognitive, and Socialization Challenges and **Ann, Buckley- Reen**, OTR,RYT, Consultant spoke about current programs for teaching children in Alternate Assessment.

Get Ready To Learn Program prepares students daily, first thing in the morning to wake up the brain and body. To provide the connections necessary for attention and retention; and help each student begin the day feeling safe, calm, comfortable and ready to learn.

- Program Rationale: Improve alertness, Orient students to themselves and the environment, organize responses, focus attention, improve behavior, and enhance learning.

- Readiness Focuses on Three Areas: The degree of emotional well-being, the degree of physical alertness and the level of accessible involvement.
- Organizing For The Program:
  - ✓ Environment Preparation
  - ✓ Team Preparation
  - ✓ Team Facilitation of Student Participation
  - ✓ Team Placement
  - ✓ Scheduling

## **6. Resolution #007 - Make A Better Capital Plan**

- John introduced, read and presented for a vote Resolution # 007: Make A Better Capital Plan. The Resolution is not posted on the CCSE Website for viewing; however, a request for a copy of the Resolution will be forwarded to those who wish to view the Resolution.

Meeting adjourned at 9pm