

Citywide Council on Special Education

45-18 Court Square - 2nd Floor-Room 260, Long Island City, New York 11101

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7/16/2008 Calendar Meeting Minutes

The Calendar Meeting of the Citywide Council on Special Education was held Wednesday, July 16, 2008 at 6:30pm located at Tweed Courthouse, 52 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007. The following people were in attendance.

1. Roll Call

➤ Charlene Carroll-Hall	Excused
➤ John Englert	Present
➤ Charles Henderson	Present
➤ Diana Marenfeld	Present
➤ Ellen McHugh	Excused
➤ Tom Ryan	Present
➤ Patricia Connelly	Present
➤ Robin Murray	Present

3. Secretary's Report- Approval of Meeting Minutes dated 05/21/08 & 6/18/08

The Meeting Minutes were not approved as further updates were required. The Meeting Minutes will be approved at the August Calendar Meeting.

4. Report of the President- John Englert

John reported on the following items:

- a) The CCSE never received any responses to our letters regarding the re-allocation of monies for the Contract for Excellence. Therefore, we have asked Helaine Doran to speak to us tonight regarding the process in which the monies are allocated.
- a) We did receive a response as to why the District did not receive 21st Century Grant Monies which go towards funding programs such as After-School Programs. It's a little complicated so we've asked Bonnie Brown to explain the reason and what can be done in the future so that the grant monies get awarded to the District.
- c) We have not received a copy of the recommendation from the Council on Great City Schools.
- d) We have not received any updates from Sandy Ferguson and Ellen Newman regarding the Middle School CTT placement process (especially in those districts with existing school choice programs.)

This concludes the President's Report.

5. Report of the Superintendent-Bonnie Brown

There was no representation from District 75 at the meeting.

6. Discussion with Helaine Doran, Deputy Director of Campaign for Fiscal Equity

See attached outline.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30pm

**CFE PRESENTATION TO
CITYWIDE COUNCIL ON SPECIAL EDUCATION
JULY 16, 2008**

**2007-08 State Education Budget and Reform Legislation
Contract for Excellence
YOUR ROLE**

3 MAJOR RESULTS OF LEGISLATION

1. MULTI-YEAR MASSIVE INFUSION OF FUNDING

- 4 Year Commitment
 - \$7 Billion Statewide
 - \$3.2 Billion for NYC (City Contribution \$2.2 Billion)
- 2007-08 School Year
 - \$1.76 Billion Statewide
 - \$712 Million for NYC
- 2008-09 School Year
 - \$1.745 Billion Statewide upping the budget to \$21.4 Billion for Education
 - \$644 Million for NYC

2. FAIR AND SIMPLE FOUNDATION AID FORMULA BASED ON NEED NOT POLITICS

- Combined over 30 Previous Formulas into a Single Fair Formula
- Estimates Political Manipulation
- Prioritizes and Drives the Money to the Neediest Students
- Over Time Will Drive the Bulk of State Operating Aid through Formula

**3. CLEAR CUT SYSTEM OF ACCOUNTABILITY THAT FOCUSES ON KEY EDUCATIONAL STRATEGIES:-
CONTRACTS FOR EXCELLENCE**

In 2007-08:

- 55 Districts Required to Do Contract including NYC
- \$\$ Must Predominately Benefit Highest Need: poverty, disability, ELL
- 5 Specific Areas:
 - Reducing Class Size
 - Increasing Students Time on Task
 - Improving Teacher and Principal Quality
 - Restructuring Middle and High Schools
 - Establishing Full Day Pre-K

- C4E Public Participation
 - 2007-08 Districts has to Submit Contract for Public Comment
 - 2008-09
 - ✓ Stakeholders Participating in Development of Plan
 - ✓ Hearings in 5 Boroughs
 - ✓ CECs Review
 - ✓ District Must Submit Transcript with Plan to Commissioner
 - Creating Grievance Process
 - SED Creates Implementation Regulations, Regents Approved

AND – NYC Must Create a Plan to Reduce Class Sizes

- Create 5 Year Plan to Pre-K through 12th Grade
- NYS Commissioner Must Convene Panel of Experts to Determine Class Size Targets
- City Must Develop Plan to Reach Target Over 4 Years
- Prioritize Low Performing and Overcrowded Schools

NYC’S CONTRACT FOR EXCELLENCE

2007-08

Funding

- \$469 Million in Foundation Aid Subject to Contract
- After Allowances for Inflation and Charter Schools Reimbursement Tuition – NYC Contract Totaled **\$258 Million**

Process

- City Issued Plan July 5th and Held Hearings in 5 Boroughs
- Submitted to Commissioner July 18th

CFE Analysis

- Review Distribution of Money on a School Level by Poverty, ELA Test Results, 4 Year Graduation Rates, and How Money Breaks Down Per Pupil
- About 40% of the Funds Distributed to High Performing Schools
- About 158 Low Performing Schools Didn’t Receive Any Allocations

Commissioner’s Approval of Contracts

- Was Convinced by Staff that He Could NOT Approve Contracts on 8/14
- After 4 Months of Negotiations-Approved Contracts on 11/19
- City Distributed Money to more than 1,000 Schools; Moved \$47M to higher need low performing schools
- CFE Conducting Analysis of Approved Contract

2008-09

- 2nd Year of Phase-In = \$528 M in Foundation Aid for NYC
- Executive Budget proposed \$335 Million = \$193 M Cut
- Thanks to KTP: Foundation Aid of \$622 Million around \$385 Million in Contract \$\$

- **Contracts for 39 districts, including NYC:**
- **Maintain Year 1 Contract programs**
- New: allowable programs includes ELL programs
Increased time on task now clearly includes “academic afterschool programs”