

# Citywide Council on Special Education

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

Tel: 718-752-7393 Fax: 718-752-7481 Email: [ccse@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:ccse@schools.nyc.gov)

## 12/19//07 Calendar Meeting Minutes

The regular monthly Calendar Meeting of the Citywide Council on Special Education was held on Wednesday, December 19, 2007 at 6:30pm at P371K: Lillian L. Rashkis, located at 355-37<sup>th</sup> Street, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11232. Prior to the start of the meeting, John Englert introduced Tim O'Donnell, Assistant Principal of P371K and thanked Mr. O'Donnell for hosting the CCSE Calendar Meeting. The meeting was attended by the following members:

### **1. Roll Call**

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

### **2. Secretary's Report - Approval of Minutes dated 11/12/07**

A motion was made by Charles to approve the Meeting Minutes. Tom 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion and the Meeting Minutes were approved by the CCSE.

### **3. President's Report - John Englert**

There were a couple of items that John reported on. They were as follows:

- a. The proposed 2007 Amendment of the Five Year\ Capital Plan has been published and is due for comment no later than 1/15/08. The CCSE requested that each school forward their particular building issues to the Supt. Bonnie Brown so that the District Office (DO) would have a record of it during the planning stages for next year. As of this date, the only feedback the CCSE has received is from the borough of Staten Island.
- b. Last month we mentioned the formation of CEC Workgroups that are being convened by OFEA. The purpose of the workgroups was to discuss policy and decision making. John attended a Facilities Workgroup Meeting this past Monday in which Liz Bergin and Miss Barrett attended from the SCA. The Agenda for the workgroup through the month of February is the design of pull-out rooms for OT & PT for District 75 in new construction.

- c. Lastly, John reminded the public that later in the meeting he will ask that the invited CCSE applicants stand up and introduce themselves and address everyone as to why they want to be on the CCSE.
- d. John wished everyone a joyous Holiday and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

#### **4. Superintendent's Report- Bonnie Brown**

Superintendent, Bonnie Brown, was not able to attend the Calendar Meeting. Ms. Joanna Lichesky, Cohort Leader for District 75, presented the Superintendent's Report for Ms. Brown. She discussed the following:

- a. She thanked everyone for their support and reported that Title IIA funds would be received by the District. Title IIA funds are funds the school receives for professional development.
- b. The Quality Review Report for District 75 is being undertaken by Tweed and England. The reviewers started the process last month by visiting the schools to meet with Principals, Staff, Parents and Students. The process of reviewing the schools should be completed by the end of March 2008.
- c. Spacing issues are being addressed with Tweed on a weekly basis.
- d. Walk-thrus have taken place at the 12 schools that are listed on the "Persistently Dangerous List". The walk-thrus have taken place with the State, Tweed, Principals, Representatives of District 75 and Ms. Brown. The goal is to remove the schools off of the list.
- e. The EPIC Conference will be held Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup> and she mentioned that the District will be looking to the CCSE for their support and attendance at the Conference.

#### **4A. Introduction of CCSE Candidates**

John introduced CCSE Candidate Ms. Khondoker S. Begum, parent of two (2) children attending P223Q. Ms. Begum thanked the council and read from a written speech on how she wished to be part of the CCSE and mentioned a possible employment with the council. Afterwards, Tom Ryan met with her to inform her that the council was a voluntary position not a paid one.

The other candidates Ms. Ivelsse Carter and Saray Mobley did not attend the meeting. Invitations would be extended once more to the January Working Meeting at which time if the candidates did not attend, their applications would be considered invalid.

#### **5. Discussion on Guardianship & Special Needs Trust, Dr. Gretchen Flint**

Guardianship & Special Needs Trust was presented by Dr, Gretchen Flint, Executive Director, John Jay Legal Services at Pace Law School. Attached are the highlights of Dr. Flint's presentation to the parents and council.

**Wishing Everyone a Happy Holiday and a  
Happy and Healthy New Year!**

*Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm*

- Parents of Young Children
  - o Why you need a will
  - o Appointing a standby guardian
  - o Temporary care and custody
- Parents of Older Children and Adults
  - o Guardianship
  - o Special Needs Trusts
  - o Government Benefit Programs
- Working with Lawyers and Other Professionals to Plan for the Future

Helpful websites:

NYS Kinship Navigator: [www.nysnavigator.org](http://www.nysnavigator.org): Has forms for temporary care and custody, designation of standby guardian.

Commission on Quality of Care and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities:  
[www.cqc.state.ny.us](http://www.cqc.state.ny.us): Has forms for guardianship. Other useful information for parents of persons with developmental disabilities.

Presentation by Gretchen Flint, Executive Director, John Jay Legal Services, Pace Law School.