Citywide Education Council

CEC District 75 Special Education

CITYWIDE DISTRICT 75 COUNCIL

400 First Avenue • New York, New York 11101
Email: D75council@schools.nyc.gov • Office: 212.802.1548 • Fax: 212-802-1547

MINUTES
CALENDAR MEETING

The Calendar Meeting of the Citywide District 75 Council was held on Wednesday, **January 23, 2013** at 6:00 pm at PS 009Q@PS268Q, 92-07 175th Street, Jamaica, NY. The following people were in attendance.

*Note: Mr. Williams, President called the calendar meeting to order.
Call to Order at 6:43 PM the Calendar Agenda

1. **Roll Call**

Able Alagbe	Present
Charlene Carroll-Hall	Present
Gloria Corsino	Present
Maureen Dantzler	Present
Diamaris Magarin	Present
Jackie Pierre-Louis	Excused
Gloria Ann Smith	Present
Joseph Williams	Present
Aliya Rasool	Present

Appointment of Time Keeper:
Diamaris Magarin followed by Charlene Carroll-Hall

2. **Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Joe Williams called a motion to accept the May 2, 2012 Working Meeting Minutes, Gloria Smith motioned to accept the minutes, Charlene Carroll-Hall, second and all were in favor.

Joe Williams called a motion to accept the October 17, 2012 Calendar Meeting Minutes, Gloria Smith motioned to accept the minutes with corrections of the attendance, Charlene Carroll-Hall, second and all were in favor.

Joe Williams called a motion to accept the January 9, 2013 Working Meeting Minutes and Public Notice Minutes, Maureen Dantzler motioned to accept the minutes, Gloria Corsino, second and all were in favor.

3. **Report of the President**

Joe Williams welcome the parents and wished them a Happy New Year. The council has focused on getting the parents involved within their child (rens) schools. Every two years parents have the opportunity to run for the citywide councils (CEC's). Parents in District 75 should take the opportunity to run for the seats that will be vacant on the council. This council and district is considered the place to go when you're in need of assistance with special education. The council members have established a great working relationship with different departments within the DOE. We have invite Mr. Mojica from the Division of Family and Community Engagement to provide parents with detail information. We also have flyers that provide detail information. The applications dates are Feb 13th to March 13th and you can download the application by going to www.nycparentleaders.org .

4. **Report of the Superintendent**

Gary Hecht, Superintendent welcomed the parent and mentioned he was aware that parents were having a difficult time with the bus strike. We have 22 thousand who are students and today's attendance we had 12,600 in school. It is having a major impact on the schools and students. Gary informed the parents that he has been in contact with central. He relayed to the principals of District 75 the importance to support the families and provided them with assistance and the resources available to them. Central is providing resource to the district to assist the parents. Parents will be reimbursed if they transport their children to school daily (personal vehicle reimbursement, metro cards for parent/student, car/taxi service). Mr. Hecht also mentioned that there is an expectation that if the student is not able to make it into school that work is provided for them and that activities that are online for parents can access it. The teachers work closely with the parents to help support them during the strike.

5. **Jesse Mojica, Executive Director, Division of Family and Community Engagement**

Mr. Mojica informed the parents that everyone is working around the clock on the issue of the bus strike and the impact on families. Everyone is working around the clock on the issue of the bus strike and the impact on the families. His department like the superintendent has been in conversation directly with the Chancellor and would like to thank the superintendent of district 75 for what he has been doing.
Mr. Mojica proceeded to introduce himself and thank the council for inviting him to the calendar meeting and their leadership. He mentioned the role of the council is very important in raising and representing the issues in the city and thanked them for their dedication.

The Community Education Council Elections: The selection process happens every two years, new members of the councils are selected to represent and there are 36 council (32 councils / 4 citywide). We are responsible for the regulations that govern the process and reviewing the applications that come in. Critical Dates: Feb 13 the applications will be available and application process is from Feb 13th to March 13th. After that we have the Candidate Forums it is an opportunity for the general public to meet the candidates and for the candidates to be able to present themselves and why they want to run for their perspective council. The selectors for the council are the president, secretary and treasurer of the PTA. Mr. Mojica provided booklets of the overview of the selection process for the CEC. He mentioned that he has partnered with Borough Presidents offices on information sessions. The Brooklyn session will be at Brooklyn Borough Hall Thursday, January 24th. Previous council members will be at the sessions to speak on their experiences.

Parents As Partners Week: A week of events throughout the city of New York that focused on parents and families. He thanked Joe Williams for co-hosting the event of Fathers with Special Needs. It was important to encourage fathers to talk about their experiences. During the week of events the Chancellor announced the Parent Academy. The Parent Academy was launched in October at Long Island University and has two main functions: provided borough based workshops throughout the city on different topics and school based training (examining best practices in the city and nationally).

6. **Ramon F. Garcia, Director of Patrol Operations, School Safety Division, N.Y.P.D**

Mr. Garcia wanted to inform the council and attendees he felt that his division was missing an important component within school safety; a relationship with schools, parents, teachers the school community at large. His main objective was to start a dialogue and outreach by contacting the PTA's, CEC councils, parents, CBO's and community to build a relationship. He believes that we have the safeties schools within the nation. He mentioned his team is reaching out to C-PAC, CEC's, and Schools to build a bridge with the community. Mr. Garcia spoke on the role of school safety, procedures and protocols. Mr. Garcia introduced Lt. Gaby Celiba, C.O. Community Outreach Unit with School Safety. He talked to parents and council about gang prevention and terminology used by kids in a gang, prescription medicines and bullying. Assistant Chief Brian Conroy was in attendance as well.

7. **Mary Mason Simpson, Regional Safety Administrator, Office of School Safety, Positive Behavior Interventions & Support and Suspensions, District 75 Division of Students with Disabilities and English Learners and Dr. J. Findling, Senior Administrator of Schools Services and Security from the Office of Safety and Youth Development**

   Mr. Williams reached out to Ms. Mason and School Safety because of the senseless acts in New Town, Conn.

   Ms. Simpson introduced co-speaker Dr. Jay Findling, Senior Administrator of School Services and Security from the Office of Safety and Youth Development. He provided a history of School Safety, partnerships along with the numbers of school buildings and DOE sites they patrol. After 911 the federal government provided monies to school districts but there were certain conditions and mandates. The DOE enhanced school safety plans, every single school has a specific plan that has a lot of information and the school safety committee in schools was formatted. We strengthen our team the 1300 buildings that make-up our 1700 schools everyone has BRT: Building Response Team. They will take appropriate actions until the first responders arrive. Unfortunately we had to test it a few times since hurricane Sandy and recently after the Newtown Shootings. We want for the schools to share their best practices when dealing with emergency preparedness.

   Ms. Simpson informed the attendees provide the council and parents print outs and posters of what is supposed to happen with the three focal points in the GRP: General Response Protocol. What do we do in the event when one of these three things happen if there is a lock down, shelter in or maybe an evacuation. Ms. Simpson informed the council that her department produced a lesson plan that was field tested to prepare students and conduct the drills. Principals and Mr. Findling and Ms. Simpson was on site when the drills took place. After the drills discussions and debriefings of what went well, what needs improvement and testimonials. What's important is how the school staff and schools safety respond before the first responders arrive.

8. **Alexandra H. Robinson, M.Ed., CDPT, executive Director, Office of Pupil Transportation, NYC Department of Education**

   The Office of Pupil Transportation called to cancel Ms. Robinson attendance during the meeting due to illness.

9. **Ariana Jaffee, Special Ed. Compliance Liaison, OPT**

   The Office of Pupil Transportation called to cancel Ms. Jaffee's attendance during the meeting due to illness.

Note: Leroy Comrie, Council Member 27th District, Queens was in attendance during the meeting. He introduced himself to the parents and council and mentioned he was glad to be in attendance to receive the information presented tonight.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30 pm