Schools PLEASE POST
Notice of **Public Calendar Meeting**/Agenda

Citywide District 75 Council

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3/16/2011 CALENDAR MEETING MINUTES

The Calendar Meeting of the Citywide District 75 Council was held on Wednesday, **March 16, 2011** at 6:30 p.m. at The Tweed Courthouse Building, 52 Chambers Street, Manhattan, NY.

1. Roll Call

Able Alagbe, 2nd VP; Queens Representative	Absent
Charlene Carroll-Hall, 1st VP; Queens Representative	Present
Gloria Gonsalves, Council Member; Manhattan Representative	Present
Diana Marenfeld, Council Member; Brooklyn Representative	Present
Tom Ryan, Jr., President; Queens Representative	Present
Joe Williams, Public Advocate Appointee; Queens Representative	Present
Dixon Deutsch, Public Advocate Appointee; Manhattan Representative	Present
Gloria Smith, Council Member; Brooklyn Representative	Present
Berangere Pierre-Louis, Council Member; Brooklyn Representative	Present
Jeff Stimpson, Council Member; Brooklyn Representative	Present

2. Secretary's Report: Approval of Meeting Minutes: February

Approval of meeting minutes are table for the February Calendar Meeting.

3. Report of the President

First, I'd like to extend a warm welcome to Mr. Jeff Stimpson. Jeff is the newest member of our Council and will be officially voted in tonight.

The Council has distributed a busing survey to all the schools in District 75. Hopefully, all parents received the survey in their child's book bag. The survey focuses on the quality of service we are receiving from the Bus companies and OPT. If you haven't completed the survey please be sure to do so. The Council is already receiving back completed surveys and will soon commence the process of correlating the data. We will then release our findings at one of our future meetings. Special thanks go out to Diana Marenfeld who spearheaded this project and the rest the Busing Committee who assisted in this effort.

Our terms as Council members will be coming to an end on June 30, 2011. Elections for all the between March 25th and April 9th. The Parent Advisory vote will take place from May 1st

to May 7th. The Selector vote will be held May 10th to may 17th . Anyone interested in running for election to the Council should visit the website: www.powertotheparents.org where more information will soon be available.

There are Rallies being held today and tomorrow to protest Governor Cuomo's proposed budget cuts. Apparently, the Governor wants to cut 1.5 Billion dollars from Education. New York City will lose 565 million dollars on top of last year's cuts. The rallies will be held as follows:

Queens- was held this morning @11 am 92-10 Roosevelt Avenue
Brooklyn-March 17th @ 6:30 pm at Brooklyn Boro Hall
Bronx-March 17th @6:30 pm @Hostos Comm College @149th and Walton (Savoy Bldg.)

Manhattan- March 17th @1:00 pm -steps of City Hall -Clergy/Council Press Conference against all proposed cuts that impact on our communities while millionaires get a tax break.

Our fellow Councilmember, Joe Williams, will be speaking at the Brooklyn rally tomorrow.
I urge anyone who can attend to do so.

On March 28th, all the Education Council Presidents are invited to a Meet and Greet with Chancellor Cathy Black. Both Charlene Carroll-Hall and I plan to attend. Hopefully, we will have the opportunity to talk with Ms. Black and express our viewpoints and concerns.

There is a Charter School proposing to take additional space at P67K. Principal Rudy Giuliani and Phil Sylvester will expand on this later on in the meeting. Welcome to both of you.

The Council would also like to welcome Carmen Alvarez and her team from the UFT who will speak on the "Raise the Bar Campaign".

Thank you everyone for attending tonight's meeting.
This concludes the President's Report for March, 2011.

4. Report of the Superintendent

Gary Hecth, Superintendent of District 75 mentioned on May 13 D75 will have its American Student Idol at Frank Sinatra HS. D75 is repeating the program due to last year success with the student's performance.

The EPIC Fair will be held on May 14th at PSA94M at 276 Battery Park City. It's a great event you will get to meet the parents throughout the five boroughs, hear from the students during the panel program and see the students work as well get to see what programs offered within D75.

May 20th we have the M. Samuel Stern Awards. In the early 1900's Samuel Stern family was very poor; he educated himself and started the CUNY system. Mr. Stern was also very active and involved with unions. Stern felt that students with disabilities need to be recognized and he started an endowment for D75. Every year at D75 we have our schools send in a summary of students who have worked really hard and have persevered throughout the school year. The 20 recipients this year will be presented with a cash award

during the ceremony from the endowment.

May 27th we are having our Unity T.V. it will be held at St. Francis College. Students will present their work as though they are newscasters. They will also have a debate and present information on the current events.

June 3rd D75 is having a spelling bee based on the success of last year we wanted to repeat the spelling bee. Parents are invited to attend and we look forward to your participation.

June 10th at D75 we have our story telling event. The students present a story and perform it on stage. The location will be announced at a later date.

School leadership team we know in the past it was difficult for school leadership to be trained. After speaking to the DOE; the parents and school leadership teams will attend a webinar training instead of traveling all over the city.

Today we had the opportunity to attend a travel training celebration. Today is the 50 years of travel training with HHRC and it's the 40th year of collaboration with HHRC. We heard many success stories from those who received travel training service.

Special Education reform that is taking place currently we are 360 below or March 30th register. The same time this year we were 700 students over register. The reform is going well with students remaining in their home zone schooled.

STOPP: Strategies, Techniques Options Prior to Placement. The former superintend and I saw their was a large number of students from gene d coming into d75. This was a concern for us and we along with Laura Rodriguez formulated the STOOP Team to provided intervention training and other needs regarding special education.

EIS Statements: Education Impact Statement will be published soon.

5. **Charter School Expansion@OffsiteP67K: Rudy Giuliani, Principal and Philip Sylvester, Teacher at 75K369**

Principal Giuliani, thanked the parents and staff for attending the meeting. Mr. Giuliani largest off-site at PS67 started in 1998 and currently houses 19 classes. Twelve classes (elementary school) students are on the artistic spectrum, seven classes are children with severed emotional disabilities. Located on the first and second floor is the Community School @ PS67. About five years ago a charter school located on the third floor called Community Roots was placed in PS67. Community Roots was approved by Portfolio (Giuliani was informed by Portfolio via a telephone call) and who received on their Progress Report an F to expand in September K5 to K-8. The directive came to 67 meet with Giuliani, Ms. Collins, Asst. Principal and the Principal of the Community School and went over the footprint for the two and half years. Mr. Giuliani explained they want two large classes from us as well as office space. Now with 19 classes we have a number of speech teachers (4 to 5 in a room), a number o f PT Teachers, Vision Teachers and if we give up the office and classrooms we will be teaching in the staircase. All artistic students are mandated to receive Speech, OT, PT etc. It's a beautiful site and we have a waiting list for the chosen to go to this site. The problem Giuliani has with data folio, there is no space

allocation for district 75 schools. If I was a principal for a regular Jr. H.S. with 600 kids I would be allocated a science room, administrative room, a therapy room. In D75 if I received a call from Gary who told me to open up a class at PS 100 for kids of autism there is no allocation for a therapy room an administrative room or anything. So if there is no formula how do they know that we have to give up the rooms? Presently the school is 97 percent utilized in two years it will be 116 percent utilized. The charter school starts lunch at 11 o'clock when they expand they will have lunch at 10 o'clock. Lunch, Gym all shared spaces it has always been an issues with our lunch we eat at 12:40 pm and we always get cold food and this was brought to the attention of Food and Nutrition. We had shared space of the library and it was taken without asking or communicating with us. Now there is no community library. It is to us a huge issue, we have been there for over 12 years and the charter school was given a rating of an F and they are under the gun. I know in our district if a school is rated an F Gary will give the school support and help the school to improve. They get a right to expand with an F there are hearing scheduled for April 11th @ 67 and the vote PEP is April 28th. I am asking parents and this committee to get involved. We are on the 4th and 5th floor and there is no plumbing on the 5th floor bathroom (children have to use the 4th floor bathrooms) are not working, the elevator are not working and the building is about 114 years old. Joe Williams and I had a meeting with the parents at the school and over 100 parents attended to inform them what was happening within the school.
We ask for your help in talking to the people a Tweed.

6. **Discussing Raising the Bar Campaign: Carmen Alvarez , U.F.T. Vice President, Special Education**

Ms. Alvarez, presentation focused on the following:

Are Students Receiving their Services?

- Do Parents and staff have mandated copies of IEP's?
- Are students receiving their mandated supports/Service as written on students' IEP's?
- Are Procedures to develop and change IEP's being followed?

How Are Students Doing?

- Are the mandated supports appropriate and adequate?
- Are students meeting their goals?
- Are students on track to reach grade-level proficiency and to graduate?

The Calendar Meeting Concluded at 9:00 pm