



Citywide Council on Special Education

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The Calendar Meeting of the Citywide Council on Special Education was held on Wednesday, May 19, 2010 at 6:30 pm at P077K@P902K, 62 Park Place, Brooklyn, NY.

05/19/2010 CALENDAR MEETING MINUTES

1. Roll Call

Able Alagbe	Present
Charlene Carroll-Hall	Present
John Englert	Excused
Gloria Gonslves	Present
Charles Henderson	Present
Diana Marenfeld	Present
Ellen McHugh	Excused
Tom Ryan, Jr.	Present
Jessica Santos	Present
Tywana B. Sharper	Present

2. Secretary's Report-Approval of Meeting Minutes Dated 4/21/10: Able Alagbe

Meeting minutes for 4/21/10, Tom made a motion to approve the meeting minutes, Charles 1st Approval for meeting minutes, Diana second and all approved.

3. Report of the President: Tom Ryan, 1st Vice President

Per the new Chancellor's Regulation D150, there will be two Special Education Councils; The Citywide Council on Special Education (CCSE) and the Citywide District 75 Council (D75 Council). Effective July 1, 2010 the present CCSE (this Council) will become the D75 Council and function

as the Education Council for the District.

There is presently an election underway to determine the make-up of the new CCSE. The new CCSE will consist of parents of students, with IEPs, from the both the Community Districts and District 75. On this 11 member council, there will at least two seats for parents of D75 students and two appointees from the Public Advocates Office. The remaining seats will be filled by the parents from the Community districts. We should find out the results of these elections by the end of this month.

As many of you may remember, there was a proposal to expand P11. P11, located in Chelsea, presently shares space with Clinton Jr. High. The plan recommended relocating Clinton Jr. High to P33 (also in Chelsea) and taking the over space presently occupied by P138, a D75 School. P138 was to relocate J47 on E23RD Street. The space at J47 was inappropriate due to overcrowding, mechanical and safety issues. The parents of P138, along with the CCSE, Superintendent Bonnie Brown, Presidents' Council and local Politicians were successful in convincing the PEP and the DOE to drop any consideration of this proposal and halting the relocation of P138.

Then, in its infinite wisdom, the DOE, to the befuddlement of everyone, decided that since P138 was not moving into J47, Clinton Jr. High should. For many of the same reasons that J47's space was inappropriate for P138, it is also inappropriate for Clinton. The addition of Clinton would create severely overcrowded conditions for all the schools occupying space at J47. It also raises safety concerns as well.

After several hearings, held over the past month, the DOE decided not to present the PEP with the proposal, to relocate Clinton, at this time. Instead, the DOE is trying to negotiate a lease for space that would be more appropriate while a new school is being built for Clinton.

If the DOE is unsuccessful negotiating for space, the proposal to relocate Clinton to J47 could be put back on the table and presented to the PEP for their vote. The CCSE will continue to monitor this situation.

This concludes the President's report for the May 2010 calendar meeting.

4. District 75 Superintendent's Report: Bonnie Brown

Gary Hetch, Deputy Superintendent presented for Ms. Bonnie Brown during the Calendar Meeting. Mr. Hetch presented the following:

- Site offers for students articulating from D75 elementary to middle school and middle school to high school are now taking place.
- D75 American Idol was held at the Frank Sinatra HS where a winner from and each borough was selected, the winners will perform at the June Principals meeting and one winner will be selected.
- Special Education Reform Phase 1 begins in September, general education schools that have students that require special education services are to provide the specific services to those students within their current school, thus decreasing the number on inappropriate referrals to D75
- Chapter 683 (Summer School) will begin for students July 6 and conclude on August 13
- Samuel Stern Awards: will increase number of students coming into D75 this year and will significantly increase within the next year.

5. Heart Share Program: Home Away from Home Provides Children & Parents with Living Arrangements for One Week of Solace: Daniel Chan, Director

Heart Share Program: Residents of Brooklyn who have autism or other developmental disabilities who live with their families are eligible to receive an average of three weekends of respite and recreation annually, provided in the home of another caring family.

Individuals of any age who would benefit from an out of home weekend experience in a family setting, who live at home with their families, are invited to apply. The service includes community and in-home activities and meals from Friday evening through Sunday afternoon.

Heart Share Program offers an array of services within their organization for Brooklyn residents such as:

- Aiello Saturday Recreation
- Brooklyn Parent Skills Group
- Holiday Overnight Program
- School Holiday Program
- Heels and Wheels Recreation Program
- T.G.I.S. (Thank God It's Saturday) Social Club
- The Options Project
- Medicaid Service Coordination

For further information please visit their website at:
www.heartshare.org/about/ or call them at: (718) 422-4200