

## **Community Education Council District 26**

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### **MINUTES OF BUSINESS & CALENDAR PUBLIC MEETINGS**

**Date:** Thursday, March 17, 2005

**Time:** Business Meeting, 6:30 P.M.; Calendar Meeting, 7:30 P.M.

**Location:** MS 74, 61-15 Oceania Street, Bayside, NY 11364

The meeting of the Community Education Council of District 26 (CEC26) was called to order and chaired by Susan Downey, President of CEC26 at 6:40 PM EST.

Roll Call: Susan Downey, Rob Caloras, Jacqueline Montgomery, Rich Olson, John Padden & Bona Sun

Excused: Melissa Dorfman & Sandra Gonzales

Members arriving late: Yen Shia Chou, Mona Fabricant & Xiang Lan Cho

Anita Saunders, Community Superintendent, Lori Stein-Butera, Parent Support Officer and Judith Chin, Region 3 Superintendent also attended.

Susan welcomed Judith Chin & in doing so Judith stated how she met Susan at a spring conference for the region. Judith stated that she oversees four (4) districts. She also informed the committee that Walter O'Brien was not able to make it tonight due to other commitments.

*Reviewing of previous month's minutes* -any comments or corrections. Jackie mentioned Page 3, Paragraph 4 – Council members visiting the schools. Suggested that members be assigned to certain schools for next year with the intention of building relationships with the schools. (See Attachment)

Minutes to be amended to reflect changes per John Padden and Rob Caloras seconded the motion with the mention of the minutes being amended. The motion passed unanimously.

*President's Report* – Susan Downey (See Attachment)

1. Attended President Plus meeting Sandra Gonzales & Carmen Farina. Meeting focused on health issues. Physical Education being offered at all schools such as Tai Chi, yoga in addition to the other sports.
2. March 5th was the first Spring conference. Workshops were held by the Parent Coordinators & the Parent Support officers. The next conference will be at Francis Lewis this Saturday.
3. Updated health curriculum in schools since they are out of date. The current HIV/AIDS curriculum which is mandated by NYS Commissioners Regulation will be updated given new advances in science and medicine and the nature of the epidemic.



4. March 25<sup>th</sup> will hold Quarterly meeting with President's Council Executive Board at 7 p.m.
5. CEC applications extended to March 19<sup>th</sup>.
6. Evaluations e-mailed to Council for review & comments on Anita Saunders & Walter O'Brien.
7. Activity reports to be submitted in a timely manner. Any meetings attended at schools should be mentioned on the sheet.

*Superintendent's Report – Anita Saunders (See Attachment)*

Anita also welcomed Judith Chin to the meeting and addressed the following achievements:

1. District 26 being the #1 school in ELA & Math for the year 2004
2. PS 18 & PS 94 – people will be coming to view their programs.
3. MS 216 received a \$650,000 Grant
4. MS 216 competed with others in Math & came in second place winners for New York City Queens County-Math Counts
5. MS 67 came in 1<sup>st</sup> place in the NYC Science Olympiad
6. PS 213 received the Dissemination Grant from the NYSCA for 6 years.
7. Saturday Academy is still up and running
8. Regional Principals' conference will be held March 23<sup>rd</sup>
9. Regional Art Exhibition ceremony will be held April 20<sup>th</sup> to honor the honorees.
10. Hired a custodian

*Unfinished Business – none*

*New Business* – E-mail from Nicole Phillips regarding Women's History Month, March 23rd at Baruch College  
E-mail from David Schacher regarding Political Activities & Conflicts of Interest.

*Lori Butera* mentioned that Lobby Day (Albany, NY) is scheduled for Tuesday March 22<sup>nd</sup> in which they will be leaving MS 74 at 6:30 a.m. to inform legislators of any issues you may have. Anyone interested in participating can do so.  
The Spring conference –Regional workshops will be held March 19<sup>th</sup> and Chancellor Klein will be there.

*Mona Fabricant* – mentioned lights were out in front of the school. Also stated that a Treasurer's report was needed. Susan proceeded to outline the budget to the Council. Susan gave an example – we had put in a call to purchase flowers & in doing so, received a call from the ROC regarding the flowers for the Principals and had to explain why we were purchasing them. Mona stated that we should try to spend the money on office supplies need now and project for the future with such supplies as toner/cartridges for the fax and copy machine, paper, envelopes and etc.



*Robert Caloras* – wanted the assessment criteria regarding the Gifted Program from *Anita Saunders*.

Anita stated that an Intelligence test and an Achievement test is given to 500 students and 50 are selected. Psychologists go out to all the schools and test the children. Then there is an individual testing. The criteria are under review with Carmen Farina for next year. There are no changes for this year. Gifted and Talented are different all over the city.

*Robert Caloras* asked “How is everyone informed or notified of this process”. *Anita* outlined the following: It is advertised in all the local newspapers in different languages – letters are sent home with all the children in the district. Meeting is set up with parents and principals to explain the entire program. Applications are given out and if any further explanations are needed, one on one meetings is set up to explain in more detail. The process is very open. Teachers can sometimes nominate the children. The money comes from the Regional budget to handle this program. *Judith Chin* explained that it’s about the teaching, compared to regular class vs. gifted. Teachers must have special training in order to teach in this program. *Anita* stated that the school uses its own psychologist. Children were tested prior to kindergarten & there were protests which were very controversial.

*John Padden* asked the Council to once again focus on Jackie Montgomery’s suggestions that were raised at the last CEC meeting. *Rich* stated that we should create something for the next council outlining what we have done and what we planned on doing. *John* mentioned a self evaluation needs to be done & accomplishments of what were done & needs to be done to pass on to the next council. *Susan* suggested that everyone should write their thoughts down & this will brought up at the next meeting.

*Susan* suggested closing if nothing else. *Robert Caloras* made a motion to adjourn the business meeting, *Mona Fabricant* seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The business meeting ended at 7:25 p.m.

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## PUBLIC MEETING (held in the Auditorium)

*Susan Downey* called the CEC26 Calendar Public Meeting to order at 7:45 PM EST on March 17, 2005 and led all present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.



Susan welcomed everyone and stated that this was a special night because we were acknowledging newly appointed Principals. Susan stated that the criteria were very high and they looked for the best candidates. Susan thanked everyone and stated that the CEC felt welcomed when school visits were set up.

Anita Saunders presented her Superintendent's Report.

Susan introduced the DCEC Council & in doing so she introduced the 5 Principals (Janet Caraisco, Molly Wang, Zoi McGrath, Andrea Dapolito and Reginald Landeau who were called up and given a bouquet of flowers.

Anita Saunders informed the audience that these are top of the line candidates and that they all went through a C-30 process. They were all true instructional learners; they had ethics, value & intelligence.

Susan Sherer of the Construction School Authority (CSA) spoke and welcomed the CEC and acknowledged all the Principals, wishing them Good Luck in their new endeavor.

Susan Downey, President of the CEC proceeded to call the speakers for **Janet Caraisco**:

1. Peggy Miller, Region 3
2. Marie Sancilio, Chapter Leader 188
3. Laura Kennedy, PTA President
4. Anita Saunders stated characteristics: organized-a leader-will seek advice & teaches at St. John's.

*Janet Caraisco came up and thanked everyone.*

Susan Downey, President of the CEC proceeded to call the speakers for **Andrea Dapolito**:

1. Marie Nappi/Suzanne Scalcione/Anthony Armstrong
2. Janice Fulgieri, PTA President
3. Anita Saunders stated characteristics: shows intelligence-excellent leader-always calm-dedication & works well with budgets

*Andrea Dapolito came up and thanked everyone.*

Susan Downey, President of the CEC proceeded to call the speakers for **Reginald Landeau**:

1. Susan Shiroma, PTA President
2. Janice Imundi, former Principal of 216
3. Anita Saunders stated characteristics: leader-competitive- enthusiastic-very firm & fair-visionary-focused and determined.

*Reginald Landeau came up and thanked everyone*



(3-17-05 (CEC mins.)

Susan Downey, President of the CEC proceeded to call the speakers for **Zoi McGrath**:

1. Adrienne Leslie – UFT Representative
2. Marva Bhalla – PTA President
3. Mae Fong – former Principal
4. Anita Saunders stated characteristics: organized-perfectionist-high expectations-self developer-learner-able to turn key-competitive & a very good communicator.

*Zoi McGrath came up and thanked everyone.*

Susan Downey, President of the CEC proceeded to call the speakers for **Molly Wang**:

1. Jean Regan - UFT Representative
2. Deborah Globus – PTA President
3. Anita Saunders stated characteristics: ethical – honest-caring-soft spoken & determined-goal oriented-self managing & hands on person.

*Molly Wang came up and thanked everyone.*

After all the acknowledgments, Susan welcomed Deputy Mayor Dennis Walcott.

In closing Susan “thanked everyone for coming out”.

Susan informed the audience that the CEC meets every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month and all are welcomed to attend.

The calendar public meeting ended at 10:40 PM EST.

Respectfully submitted by Marian Mason, Administrative Assistant, CEC26.

