

Community Education Council District 26

Address: 61-15 Oceania St, Bayside, New York 11364

Tel: 718.631.6927 **FAX:** 718.631.6996 **Email:** central/cec26@nycboe.net

MINUTES OF BUSINESS & CALENDAR PUBLIC MEETINGS

Date: Thursday, June 16, 2005

Time: Business Meeting, 7:00 P.M.; Calendar Meeting, 8:00 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 6:35 PM EST.

Roll Call: Susan Downey, Jacqueline Montgomery, Melissa Dorfman, Rob Caloras, John Padden Bona Sun, Mona Fabricant, Yen Shia Chou, Rich Olson & Sandra Gonzales

Excused: Xiang Lan Cho

Anita Saunders, Community Superintendent, Lori Stein-Butera, Parent Support Officer also attended.

Reviewing of previous month's minutes (May 19, 2005) -any comments or correction/additions? Motion to accept minutes by Rob Caloras and seconded by Rich Olson. The motion passed unanimously.

President's Report – Susan Downey

1. Thanked Jenny and John for the work that they have done this past year.
2. Welcomed Susan Shiroma and Edward Fallacaro to the CEC Council.
3. Stated that Sandra attended the meeting of Gifford Miller regarding class sizes (attachment) – Sandra will outline under New Business.
4. Sent in questions/comments to Kathleen Grimm regarding 2006 Budget and asked whether we had a response “I (Marian) stated NO”. Susan will follow up with an E-mail to Ms. Grimm.
5. Informed Council that the Wish List was completed. E-mails were sent to the schools to respond to their purchases.

Superintendent's Report – Anita Saunders (See Attachment)

1. Started off by Thanking the Council members for their work done and for voicing their opinion. Thanked Susan for her position and John for taking the minutes.
Welcomed the two new CEC members and look forward to working with them.
2. Anita distributed packets of all schools:
 1. General and Special Education including the Resource Room
 2. ELA
 3. Math Scores
 4. Stated that District 26 was the #1 in the area.

3. Announced that Joy Hammer of PS 18 would be leaving and Kathy Peknic will be acting as the Interim effective August 1st.
Georgina Durando of PS 162 will be retiring – no Interim selected as of yet.
Charles DeMeo of MS 158 will be leaving effective 6-30-05 and Marie Nappi will acting as the Interim effective 7-1-05.
4. Summer School – all summer school teachers have been hired and notified. All Guidance Counselors, secretaries & High School teachers have been hired. Elementary school teachers will be notified next week. Mr. Peebles will be handling the paperwork.
5. Summer School starts July 5th through August 12th. There will be 13 classes in PS 46.
6. Title 3 Grant for ELL given
7. No Special Ed summer school
8. No variances can be given by the Superintendent only by Ms. Ginay Marks (Director - Students Placement Youth Family Support Services) and only for 2 reasons: (1) Safety (police record) & (2) Health conditions (serious health problem).
 - a. Judy Chin & Carmen Farina have been discussing with the Chancellor that the schools need to have input and use their own judgment. Carmen Farina is working on trying to get the policy changed.
9. No Child Left Behind – parents received notification that there is NO Title I money. Anita stated that she will be on vacation and will be returning July 25th.

Lori Butera

1. *Attended the Best Practice Fair given by the Parent Coordinators.*
2. *Two Parent Coordinators presented 2 wonderful programs (PS 191 created a PowerPoint presentation and both will present at the citywide level.)*
3. *Two (2) new Parent Coordinators (PS 188 & PS 173)*
4. *June 3rd – Carmen Farina is having a Professional Development workshop to support parents.*

Speakers

1. *Danny Feldman* – UFT District Representative for District 26
 - a. Wished Dave & Gail all the best in their new endeavors.
 - b. Spoke about the scores and the level of education.
 - c. Class size – pushing for smaller class sizes in NY. Encouraging everyone to be a part of the group “New Yorker for Smaller Classes”. Petition/instructions were given to Susan to distribute to the Council and only NYC residents can sign. Need 30,000 valid signatures on the November ballot. 25% of the money from the court case will go to the school for class size reduction. Local high schools are maxed out. There have been rallies at Cardozo & other schools due to class sizes. Urged everyone to get involved and get signatures from neighbors to reduce class sizes.
2. *Mary Jo Pisacano* – Regional Representative for Special Education
 - A. Updated Council on special educational issues
 - B. Instructional Initiatives – The Wilson Reading Program based on: structured phonetic approach. Not intended to replace balanced literacy. It is research based and very organized. Children are taught and given the opportunity how to decode words.
 1. There are 12 schools in place that have 2 teachers that are trained in this program.

2. During the summer 4 more schools will join this program (2 from District 26).
 3. Will be training at least 45 more teachers.
 4. Bayside High School has the Wilson Reading Program.
- C. Schools for Tone Program
1. Training of teachers (6 full days)
 2. 5 schools participating in this program (elementary & middle schools)
 3. Teachers are taught how to identify strengths & weaknesses
- D. Special Education (LRE)
1. Rendering as much services, but still keeping children in the general education environment.
 2. Collaborative Teaching Team (CTT)
 - a. consist of special education and general children
 - b. help to increase education with children with disabilities
 - c. trying to find a middle school to offer this training for next year
 - d. Model schools are: PS 46, PS 133 & PS 213
 - e. PS 172 will consist of only 25 children.

Unfinished Business

PTA Presidents will meet with the CEC Council on June 2nd at 7 p.m. The Galaxy Budget Formula will be part of the agenda.

The Wish List will be given to Bona Sun per Susan. The majority of schools are requesting copy paper.

New Business - none

Susan suggested closing if nothing else and proceeded to the auditorium for the Public meeting. The business meeting ended at 7:30 p.m.

PUBLIC MEETING
(Held in the Auditorium)

Susan Downey called the CEC26 Calendar Public Meeting to order at 7:55 PM EST on May 19, 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 saying Good-bye to Gail Cohen & David Pinzon, Co-Presidents of District 26 President's Council.

Susan presented Frank Padavan as one of the speakers:

1. Frank Padavan presented a Proclamation & medal to Gail Cohen and in doing so outlined some of her attributes such as being a Special Ed Teacher, receiving a M.S. Degree in Special Education and for being an advocate for all students.
2. Presented David with a Proclamation & medal and outlined some of his attributes such as: joining the naval academy – police officer and received a citation for bravery. Stated that he was a valuable asset to the Council & PTA.

In doing this, he stated “how do you replace 2 people so dedicated” and thanked everyone for coming out and participating in this event.

Susan presented and read Resolution #6 regarding the evaluations of Anita Saunders & Walter O'Brien. A vote was taken and was unanimously passed by the Council.

Susan congratulated the CEC members who will be returning (Robert Caloras, Melissa Dorfman, Sandra Gonzales, Jacqueline Montgomery, Rich Olson & Bona Sun) plus there will be 2 new members (Susan Shiroma & Edward Fallacaro) coming on board. There will be a run off with Carol Gomez & Jodi Nath for the last seat. The new members will be contacted and invited to the June 19th meeting.

Susan presented Mark Weprin and **Dave Weprin** as one of the speakers:

Dave presented Gail & Dave with a Proclamation for their dedication and stated that they fought for the education of children.

Superintendent's Report – Anita Saunders (See Attachment)

1. Results of the State ELA assessments for Grades 4 & 8. It was mentioned that District 26 did very well. Principals and teachers worked very hard to fulfill their duties. Parents worked hard with their children also.
2. Middle School Initiative – need professional development.
3. Budget Allocation – Planning for September 2005 – starting to plan curriculum for next year.
4. Middle School Professional Development – Curriculum Mapping – ELA Teams
5. CEC Election Runoff – 1 seat to be filled (Carol Gomez & Jodi Nath)
6. Congratulations to CEC 2005-2007 Council members (Richard Olson, Bona Sun, Jacqueline Montgomery, Melissa Dorfman, Sandra Gonzales & Robert Caloras). New members are Susan Shiroma & Edward Fallacaro.

Upon Anita's Saunders completion of her report, all Council members were asked to move from the front of the podium to seats in the auditorium and Gail Cohen & David Pinzon were asked to come to the front. Susan stated it is going to be extremely hard keeping District 26 # 1 when we

are losing two hard working advocates for our children and we applaud them for all their efforts and support. Susan proceeded to read Certificate presented to them from the Council (see attachment). Susan Downey & Sandra Gonzales presented Gail & David with flowers & tee shirt from the Council.

Anita Saunders commented on their commitments to the District and that they were very passionate & knowledgeable. Emphasized on their advocating for children, parents & teachers. Anita mentioned that they were also recognized by the politicians in fighting for the budget and the “No Child Left Behind Program”. Anita personally thanked them for their support.

Walter O'Brien commented on their team work, being compassionate along with their belief and concern for children.

Jeff Slivko, Principal-MS 172- stated that they are exempt & supportive. Kept him abreast of what was going on. Thanked them for being there for the children.

Susan Sherer – CSA Rep – stated that they have been supportive and will miss them.

Bonnie Song & Cathy Cahn – PTA Presidents – have come to celebrate Gail & David's achievements, timeless efforts and appreciate what they have done. Will miss them giving meaningful advice & Dave's enthusiasm. There is glory in what they have achieved. They were thanked for their leadership and kind hearts. They were presented with a Certificate of Recognition from the PTA Council.

Janice Sackel – PS 191 – mentioned that Dave was the previous PTA President and it is very hard for him to say “NO” to anything and that Dave is also a very persuasive person. In closing she stated that “Brave is the both of them”.

Yvette Strong-Banks- PTA President – thanked and salute the both of them for their hard work and support.

Leslie O'Grady & Susan Shiroma – PTA Presidents – met Gail & Dave after the 911 incident and got to know them and state that they are both PTA heroes and very much compassionate people.

Rob Caloras – PTA President/CEC Council Member – met Gail & David 2 years ago and has gained a lot of knowledge regarding the school system and thanked them for the privilege of working with them.

Susan asked Gail & Dave for words of wisdom: Gail stated that she enjoyed the wonderful evening and it was overwhelming. She also stated it was an honor & privilege working with everyone and including some strangers. She stated that her concern is the children and what she could do to help them. Gail thanked everyone for being a part of this festive evening. Dave reiterated on the superb test scores. Thanked everyone for coming out and taking part in this event and for their support and gave them credit also in doing everything they can to help with the children.

Susan Downey, CEC President thanked everyone for coming out and meeting was adjourned.

The calendar public meeting ended at 9:05 PM EST.

Respectfully submitted by Marian Mason, Administrative Assistant, CEC 26.

Community District Education Council of District 26
Address: MS 74, 61-15 Oceania St., Bayside, New York, 11364
Tel: 718.631.6981 FAX: 718.631.6996 Email: CEC26@NYCBOE.NET

Resolution #6 - 05/19/05

Resolution to accept the written evaluations on District Superintendent Anita Saunders and Local Instructional Superintendent Walter O'Brien.

Be it resolved that the Community District Education Council of District 26 approves the written evaluations for District Superintendent Anita Saunders and Local Instructional Superintendent Walter O'Brien for the 2004-2005 school year.

Explanation:

In accordance with New York City Department of Education guidelines evaluation goals were agreed upon for use in the year-end evaluation of the District Superintendent and Local Instructional Superintendent by March 14, 2005. The draft was presented for public comment by April 30, 2005. At the May 19, 2005 meeting of Community District Education Council 26, the council has completed and approved the annual evaluations.