

## **Community District Education Council District 26**

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

**Date:** Tuesday, August 29, 2006

**Time:** Calendar Meeting, 7:00 P.M.; Business Meeting, 8:00 P.M.

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

The meeting of the Community District Education Council of District 26 (CDEC26) was called to order and chaired by Rob Caloras, President at 7:05 p.m. in the Conference Room-128.

Roll Call by Recording Secretary, Carol Gomez

Rob Caloras, Carol Gomez, Melissa Dorfman, Dr. Lana Zinger, Susan Shiroma & Bona Sun

Excused- Jodi Nath & Jackie Montgomery

Late- Yen Shia Chou

Also in attendance was Anita Saunders, Community Superintendent & Janet Won, Local Instructional Superintendent. Lori Stein Butera, Parent Coordinator was on vacation.

#### ***Business Meeting***

##### ***Secretary's Report – Carol Gomez***

Reviewing minutes of the Annual/Business/Calendar meeting which took place on July 27<sup>th</sup> were reviewed for corrections, changes or additions. Anita Saunders requested that a change be made on page 3 (Janet Wong to Janet Won). Rob made a motion to accept the Annual/Business/Calendar minutes of July 27<sup>th</sup> with the change and Melissa seconded. Council voted unanimously to accept the Annual/Business/Calendar minutes.

Bylaws reviewed and changes outlined. Rob made a motion to accept amendments as indicated and Dr. Lana Zinger seconded. Council voted unanimously to accept the amended Bylaws.

Informed the Council members that their August activity sheets were needed.

##### ***President's Report – Robert Caloras***

1. Informed council about Ed Fallacaro's resignation from the council and how much he will be missed. Rob also informed the council that Ed volunteered to still do the web-site until his replacement.
2. Advised council of Walter O'Brien's retiring and introduced the new replacement, Janet Won who was welcomed by the CDEC. In return Janet gave the council a summary of her work experience.
3. E-mails sent

4. Meeting with Jack Friedman regarding the Empowerment Zone and its impact on District 26 from a political and homeowners view. Jack will also get the name of schools that received grants and send it to the CDEC.
  - a. Question asked – can council money purchase Air Conditioners for the schools?
5. Discussion with Senator Padavan and Assemblyman & Congressman Weprin regarding the Empowerment Zone Program.
6. October Forum on the Empowerment Zone program – will work with Jack Friedman and President’s Council.
  - a. Invitees – UFT Rep., DOE rep, Eric Nadelstern, Mark & David Weprin, Assemblywoman Nolan, Senator Padavan, Judith Chin, Anita Saunders, Janet Won, Ms Levy (Principal’s Union Rep), Leo Casey & Frank Volpicella
7. Spoke about newspaper article in the Daily News concerning high salaries.
8. Spoke about Chancellor’s speech given in Georgia.
9. Spoke about the NYS Assessment dates to compare to the CDEC meeting dates along with the PTA dates.
  - a. CDEC meeting date changed from February 22<sup>nd</sup> to Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>. Rob made a motion to change date and Carol seconded. Council voted unanimously to accept the changed date.
  - b. CDEC meeting dated changed from December 28<sup>th</sup> to December 21<sup>st</sup>. Rob made a motion to change due to holiday and Melissa seconded. Council voted unanimously to accept the changed date.
10. Rob spoke about Councilman David Weprin’s BBQ.

***Treasurer’s Report*** – Marian informed the council that the budget spreadsheet was in file for review showing the distribution of the funds in each category. Rob made a motion to accept the budget spreadsheet as allocated but if needed funds can be reallocated to a different category and Lana seconded. Council voted unanimously to accept the budget.

***Committee Reports - Zoning & Outreach; Curriculum & Grants Information***

1. Zoning – none
2. Curriculum – Melissa stated that they will meet prior to the Sept. 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.
3. Grants Information – Susan stated that they will meet prior to the Sept. 28<sup>th</sup> meeting. Susan explained that the August 14<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes will be available at the next meeting. Reviewed handouts and goals – spoke about workshops – presentations. Spoke about setting up a resource center at MS 74 in the conference room with the difference grant books. Susan made a motion to set \$300 aside to establish a resource center and Rob seconded. Council voted unanimously to accept.

***Superintendent’s Report*** – Anita Saunders

- Chancellor’s Vision: Children First & Culture Shift
  1. To move from a culture of excuse to a culture of accountability
  2. To move from a culture of compliance to a culture of performance
  3. To move from a culture of uniformity to a culture of differentiation

Anita stated that this was the 2<sup>nd</sup> year that the Chancellor did his speech which took place in Atlanta, Ga.

- Opening of Schools

Schools were cleaned – books delivered – inspections done – curriculums received & distributed, teachers & secretaries are in preparing for the first day of school.

- New LIS - Local Instructional Superintendent  
Janet Won

Ms. Saunders introduced Ms. Janet Won and explained that Ms. Won will be in charge of all schools that Mr. O'Brien handled (11) and she will still be handling the other 14.

- Variances – OSEPO (Office of Student Enrollment, Planning & Operations)  
Joan Mizrahi, Captain, Region 3  
Paula Super – Director  
Requests for variances can be submitted August 25, 2006 – September 29, 2006.  
No decisions will be made by OSEPO until after September 29, 2006.

- Office of Youth Development (OYP) Borough wide Offices (formerly SPYFSS)

Ms. Saunders announced that SPYFSS no longer exists.

- Quality Review – Region 3 – November

Ms. Saunders informed the Council that a consultant is coming from England to grade all schools in all the regions as follows:

+ - doing well; P - proficient; Ø – undeveloped

There will be a meeting with all principals in the next couple of weeks.

- PSAT – Grade 10 & 11 Students – October 18
- ELL – All ELL's who have been enrolled in schools for one year must take ELA exam in January.

The ELA testing will be taken in English only.

Anita Saunders will get the number of NCLB transfers and announce at the September meeting.

### ***Old Business - none***

***New Business*** – Marian informed the council that a CDEC vacancy application (Debbie Strassberg) was in file for their review. Rob requested that I contact the applicant and get interview dates and inform the Council.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m. and went directly into the Public Meeting

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## ***PUBLIC MEETING***

Public meeting started at 8:55 p.m.

There were no speakers.

Mary Vaccaro of the UFT informed the council of the UFT Dinner on April 19, 2007 and they are all invited and asked for suggestions where the UFT can make it more social with parents. District 26 will be holding a Scholarship Dinner-Dance on May 3rd at Floral Terrace. The cost of the event will be \$60. The UFT is planning on giving a Scholarship to an Elementary Student, Middle School Student and High School student who lives in District 26. They also will honor a UFT member and Parent from the District. The students will be receiving a bond. More information and details will be worked out by the Committee which will be meeting in the next few weeks. Mary Vaccaro will also be meeting with Parent Coordinators to try to distribute information to all parents in the district.

Rob asked if there were any comments, questions from the council regarding this proposal and there were none.

Council and attendees informed that the next meeting will be September 28<sup>th</sup> which will be to celebrate the newly appointed principals upon accepting our invitation.

Rob made a motion to adjourn and Carol seconded, the members unanimously agreed to adjourn.

***Public meeting ended at 9:15 p.m.***

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