

Community District Education Council District 26
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MINUTES FROM BUSINESS /CALENDER/ PUBLIC MEETINGS

Date: Friday, February 28, 2014
Time: Business Meeting – 7 p.m. - Public Meeting - 8:00 P.M. -
Location: MS 67 – 51-60 Marathon Pkwy, Little Neck, NY – Room B44A

The meeting of the Community District Education Council of District 26 (CDEC26) was called to order by Jeannette Segal, President at 7: 10 p.m.

BUSINESS MEETING

1. Roll Call - Jeannette Segal, Susan Shiroma (Borough Appointee), Alan Ong (Borough Appointee), Ricky Chan & Jaime Alvarez-Isasi
 Late – Jaya Patil
 Excused - Lucy Vieco, Leslie Rubenstein, Anastasio Politidis & Roy Menendez
 Also present: Anita Saunders, Community Superintendent & Lori Stein-Butera, District Family Advocate
2. Minutes – January 30, 2014 minutes reviewed. Motion to accept the January 30th minutes was made by Jaya Patil and seconded by Jaime Alvarez-Isasi. Council voted unanimously to approve minutes.
3. President's Report
 - a. Jeannette spoke with Monica Gutierrez-Director of Education in the Queens Borough President's office use to be the SCA rep for the CDEC who wanted issues and concerns the CDEC had regarding schools and education in their district. Jeannette updated her on what is important in the district. Updated her on the G&T issues, co-location at Martin Van Buren, safety in the streets and congestion of cars and buses. Will start listing defects in all schools, something like a punch list and someone go through it and repairs will have to be made. Jeannette would like to put together 10 top items or issues and present to Monica. Asking the council to think about it and send issues to her.
 - b. Spoke to Paola DeKock at FACE in which they discussed Martin Van Buren & it's rollout of the proposal and the effects it has on middle schools and the choices for the students. Viola stated it will have a meeting with the community regarding this co-location as to what the community is looking for.
 Admissions have been reduced and the actual rollout has not been introduced.

Meeting called so that the minutes could be approved for the renaming of PS 115.

Marian asked the council to let her know who will be attending the UFT Scholarship Dinner because the budget has to be finalized March 7th. Money not being used will be transferred to the P-card. Scholarship dinner is May 22nd.

4. Budget – budget reviewed by council – Jeannette outlined that council is restricted as to what we can buy. CDEC funds the District Family Advocate workshops with food. CDEC supply water cooler & water. Meetings are expensed when outside of regular meeting location.

Also the legislative breakfast is March 7th and council needs to notify Kim D'Angelo. CDEC brought the tote bags for the bullying & cyberbullying workshop.

Jeannette stated that there used to be meetings at the Queens Borough President office with all the CEC's and the presidents would outline their concerns in their district. Jeannette feels this should be reinstated because she felt it was helpful. Jeannette will mention this to Monica along with the legislative breakfast & the Levitron site.

Jeannette stated that there is a site for teenagers called "TALK X" taking place Feb. 29 (webinar) from 9-5 p.m.- Google "TED TALK X".

New Business

Resolution passed to fill the IEP vacancy.

RESOLUTION # 1 - 2014 - FILLING THE IEP VACANCY ON A CDEC COUNCIL

Whereas, the Community District Education Council 26, had one (1) IEP vacancy on its Council;

Whereas, Education Law 2590 states that there shall be eleven voting members on each council;

Whereas, the Community District Education Council 26 had conducted an application and interview process pursuant to article eighty-nine of State Education Law 2590;

Whereas, the Community District Education Council 26 has voted in **Roy Menendez** the new member at the Calendar meeting as required by State Education Law; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the Community District Education Council 26 hereby confirms the election of **Roy Menendez** to fill the vacant IEP seat on the Community District Education Council 26 for the 2013-2015 term.

APPROVED by roll call vote: Jeannette Segal, Susan Shiroma, Leslie Rubenstein, Alan Ong, Jaya Patil, Jaime Alvarez-Isasi, Lucy Vieco & Anastasio Politidis - (8 Yes; 0 No)
Abstain - Ricky Chan

PASSED and ADOPTED this 30th Day of January, 2014.

Old Business

School Visits

Council needs to attend PTA meetings and introduced themselves.

Council needs to set up school visits since this is a new year and the term is about to end. Jeannette would attend SLT meetings to see how the school is run.

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Susan Shiroma stated that she was contact by the Citywide HIGH School regarding specialized HS exams. District 26 is a feeder district. Stated that there a lawsuit regarding the entrance exams.

As District 26 middle schools feed a large number of 8th graders to New York City's specialized science high schools, this meeting on Sunday, March 30th at 2pm at the Flushing Library, Main St. branch is of interest to our education community. You are invited to participate in this meeting. The Asian American Bar Association of New York is sponsoring this event with the Coalition for Asian American Children and Families. We were alerted to this presentation by a representative of the Citywide Council on High Schools who will be on the panel.

Link to the NAACP Legal Defense Fund has a civil rights complaint <http://www.naacpldf.org/case-issue/new-york-city-specialized-high-school-complaint> against the SHSAT.

Link to the Schott Foundation for Public Education report "A Rotting Apple: Education Redlining in New York City" <http://schottfoundation.org/drupal/docs/redlining-full-report.pdf> (includes data on CSD 26)

Susan will get more information and present at the next meeting and will forward information to Jeannette.

Jeannette stated regents exams will change in 2017.

Motion to adjourn business meeting made by Jaya and seconded by Alan. Council voted unanimously to adjourn.

Public Meeting

1. Roll Call - Jeannette Segal, Susan Shiroma (Borough Appointee), Alan Ong (Borough Appointee), Ricky Chan, Jaya Patil & Jaime Alvarez-Isasi
Excused - Lucy Vieco, Leslie Rubenstein, Anastasio Politidis & Roy Menendez
Also present: Anita Saunders, Community Superintendent & Lori Stein-Butera, District Family Advocate

Meeting called to discuss the G&T program.

Jeannette stated that the community received the good news about the G&T program and everyone is happy. Memo sent out (see below).

February 2014

Dear District 26 Community:

The Office of Student Enrollment and the Superintendent in consultation with the District 26 CEC have been working to create an inclusive and equitable process for admission to the middle school Gifted and Talented (G&T) programs in District 26. Historically, students in elementary school G&T programs have automatically articulated to middle school G&T programs at 26Q158, 26Q074, and 26Q067. This automatic articulation did not allow students outside of the programs to access the middle school G&T programs, nor did it allow for students in the program to choose which school they may prefer to attend for middle school.

It was previously announced that beginning with September 2014, all families would submit an application for the middle school G&T programs; students would be matched to one of the programs based on their scores on the 4th grade New York State (NYS) ELA and Mathematics tests. The historical articulation patterns would no longer exist.

However, after hearing community feedback on the proposed changes, we realized that families felt as though they did not have enough warning about the change. The consistent message that we received from the District 26 G&T community is that families matriculated in kindergarten with the clear understanding that they would remain in the G&T programs through 8th grade. Because of this understanding, we will not fully implement these changes until the incoming kindergarten class for September 2014 reaches middle school in September 2020. This means that all students currently in the elementary G&T programs in kindergarten through fifth grade will have a priority for admission to the middle school G&T program that was their historical articulation pattern. The specific articulation patterns are below.

Elementary School G&T Program	Middle School G&T Program
26Q018	26Q067
26Q188	26Q158
26Q203	26Q074
26Q115	26Q172*

*For 2014-15 only, students at 26Q115 will articulate to 26Q067.

We will still offer the new G&T programs at 26Q172 and 26Q216 going forward and all students interested in middle school G&T programs, ***including the students in the elementary G&T programs***, should complete an application to indicate their preferences for the G&T program. Specifics on the application process and the priority structure are outlined in more detail on the following page.

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- All District 26 students may apply to any of the G&T programs that interest them.
- Each middle school will have two G&T sections unless a school risks exceeding its capacity to serve all of its zoned students. Any school requiring a capping plan due to over-enrollment will either reduce the number of G&T seats or eliminate the program the following year until the full zone can be served.
- Students in the elementary school G&T programs will have priority **only** to the specific school to which they would have historically articulated (see the articulation patterns above).
- Students in the elementary G&T program retain their priority to the program to which they would historically articulate as long as they rank it anywhere on their application. They do not, however, need to rank it first. **All students must apply; students who do not submit an application will no longer maintain their priority to any program.**
- Students in the elementary G&T program may also apply to other G&T programs, but they will not have the priority and will be placed in available seats based on their test scores along with their peers in the district.

Beginning with students applying for sixth grade admission for September 2020, students applying to middle school will no longer have any priority for any middle school G&T program. All students will be placed in descending score order at each of the middle schools with G&T programs regardless of where they attended elementary school. As with all policies related to admissions, this policy is subject to the Chancellor's approval and may be reviewed as a part of efforts to improve admissions policies district- or city-wide.

If you have questions about middle school admissions, email MS_Enrollment@schools.nyc.gov or call 718-935-2398.

Sincerely,



Anita Saunders
District 26 Superintendent



Sara McPhee
Senior Director of Middle School Admissions

Jeannette stated that there are still questions of concerns. Anita stated that a Question & Answer notice was sent home with every child by backpack. (see below)

District 26 Middle School Application FAQ

How do I fill out the middle school application?

Families complete the middle school application by ranking programs to which they are interested in having their child attend *in order of preference*. If Program A is the program you would most like your child to attend then please rank it first on the application. Continue ranking in descending order all of the other programs for which you would like to be considered.

What does priority mean?

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Priority means that you have a spot in a program before other students. If you don't get into a program you rank higher on the application then you will automatically be placed in the program to which you have a priority.

I have a priority to a particular program. Do I need to rank it first?

No, you may rank the program to which you have a priority anywhere on the application. However, if it is your first choice then you absolutely should rank it first.

If I am in an elementary school G&T program do I have priority to all of the middle school G&T programs?

No. You have priority only to the program to which students in your elementary school historically articulated for middle school. If you are interested in attending another program, you will be considered for that program based on your test scores.

What happens if I don't rank my priority program anywhere on the application?

You will not be considered for placement into that program and there will not be a space available for you in the fall. If you are interested at all in the program to which you have a priority, you must rank it somewhere on the application.

What happens if I rank a program higher than my priority program?

You will be considered for programs in the order in which you rank them. If you meet the criteria for your first choice then you will be matched to your first choice. If not, you will be considered for your second choice and so on until we reach the program to which you have a priority. At that point, you would then receive a match to your priority program.

If I rank my priority program on the application, do I get to choose between that program and other programs I ranked?

No. You will receive one match to the highest choice possible on the application. If you meet the criteria for your first choice, then you will receive your first choice regardless of priority.

I really only want to go to my priority program, but I ranked it third. Will I automatically get in?

Not necessarily. If you meet the criteria for a program you ranked above your priority program on the application, you may receive a spot at the program you ranked higher. The middle school application process seeks to match students to the choice you tell us you prefer most by ranking. The program you most want to attend should be your first choice.

I think I filled out my application incorrectly. What can I do?

Please contact your elementary school for a new application. You may resubmit your application until March 7th. After March 7th, we will no longer be able to accept late applications.

I'm not in the G&T program, but I still think I filled out my application incorrectly. What can I do?

Please contact your elementary school for a new application. You may resubmit your application until March 7th. After March 7th, we will no longer be able to accept late applications.

I'm happy with my application as I submitted it. Do I have to resubmit it?

No. Your application has already been processed and there is no need to resubmit.

I still have questions about the District 26 G&T programs. Who do I contact for assistance?

If you have questions about the application process, please contact MS_enrollment@schools.nyc.gov. If you have questions about the instruction or programming of any of the G&T programs, please contact the school directly for more information.

Anita Saunders introduced Max Applebaum from Student Enrollment for middle Schools (DOE) who will outline the application process.



2013-2014 APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION TO MIDDLE SCHOOL

1 STUDENT INFORMATION

Parent/Student: Please review the information below carefully. Contact personnel at your current school to update information on this page.

Student Name	Student ID #	Date of Birth	Gender
Home Address	Apt.#	Borough	Zip Code
Local Zoned Middle School			
Parent/Guardian Name		Telephone	

2 ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Parent/Student: Please review the information below carefully. Contact personnel at your current school to update information on this page.

Current Grade	Official Class	Current School
Standardized Tests:		
ELA: Test Date:	Scores:	Level:
MATH: Test Date:	Scores:	Level:
Entitled to Special Education Services:		
Entitled to Bilingual/ESL Services:		
NYSESLAT Test Date:	Level:	
Years in English Language School:	Home Language:	

3 ACADEMIC ASSESSMENT – FOR SCHOOL USE ONLY

Middle School Liaison: This section must be completed by school personnel for entry into SEMS.

- 1) Please verify that the student biographical information (e.g. address) and the student attendance are updated in ATS.
- 2) The final June 2013 report card grades and teacher comments must be entered directly into SEMS.

Attendance in ATS:	Days Absent:	Days Late:
Extenuating circumstances for absence and lateness? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
If Yes, please check all that apply: <input type="checkbox"/> Due to Illness <input type="checkbox"/> Due to Family Circumstances <input type="checkbox"/> Lateness Excused		
FINAL JUNE 2013 REPORT CARD GRADES		
Course Name	Grade	
Math		
English Language Arts		
Social Studies		
Science		
Cluster		
Cluster		
TEACHER COMMENTS		
Name of Teacher: _____		
Academic Assessment (select one): <input type="checkbox"/> Above Average <input type="checkbox"/> Average <input type="checkbox"/> Small Group/Extended Day Support		
Student's Performance: Enter 1-5 for each of the following areas, where "1" indicates an area needing improvement, and "5" indicates an area of strength. (Do not enter fractional values.)		
Work Habits: _____	Study Habits: _____	Class Participation: _____
Homework: _____	Behavior: _____	Academic Performance: _____

4 MIDDLE SCHOOL LIAISON NAME & SIGNATURE

I certify that I have reviewed the information on this application and believe it to be accurately and correctly completed.

Middle School Liaison Name (please print)	Middle School Liaison Signature	Date
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5 MIDDLE SCHOOL OPTIONS

MIDDLE SCHOOL OF IONS
Parent/Student: Please read the instructions below carefully before completing your application.

- The schools for which your child is eligible to apply are pre-printed on this application.
- Rank your school/program choices in preference order by placing a number in the box next to each school/program. Please see the sample below for how to rank the schools listed on this application. Write "1" next to the school/program that you want your child to attend most, "2" next to your second choice, "3" next to your third choice, and so on.
- After completing the rank order, the parent/guardian must sign and date Section 6, "Parent/Guardian Name & Signature."
- Any student who does not receive an offer to attend one of the schools ranked on his or her middle school application will receive a placement in either: (1) the district where the student attends public elementary school; or (2) the district to which the student is zoned to attend middle school.

Priority Order#	District	Program Code	School Name/Program Name
4	1	M345S	The Collaborative Academy of Science, Technology and Language Arts Education
6	1	M378L	School for Global Leaders
5	1	M450S	East Side Community School
2	2	M104N	Simon Baruch Middle School (J.H.S. 104)/M104 Special Progress
3	21	K299CM	Mark Twain (I.S. 239) Magnet Program - Computer/Math
1	21	K299VO	Mark Twain (I.S. 239) Magnet Program - Vocal

[illegible]

MIDDLE SCHOOL OPTIONS Continued[illegible]

6 PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME & SIGNATURE

Parent/Guardian Name (please print)

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date _____

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ELIGIBILITY FOR ADMISSION TO MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Students are eligible to apply to the district middle schools in their district of public elementary school attendance and, when different, the district to which they are zoned to attend middle school.
- Additionally, there may be schools on your application which are located in a different district but to which students from a number of districts (including yours) may apply. Note that the application lists the district in which each school is located.
- If a school is not listed on your application, this means that you are not eligible to apply OR that the school runs its own admissions process. **Do not write-in schools — write-ins will not be considered.**

Talent Testing for Mark Twain for the Gifted and Talented and District 21 Talent programs:

- Citywide applicants who submitted a Mark Twain/District 21 Request for Testing form will see Mark Twain for the Gifted and Talented (I.S. 239) with both talents listed on their personalized Middle School Applications.
- District 21 students who submitted a Mark Twain/District 21 Request for Testing form will see all District 21 talent programs for which they have requested to be tested on their personalized Middle School Applications.

Academically Enriched Programs in District 24

- Eligible students in District 24 who submitted an OLSAT Request for Testing form (for Academically Enriched programs in this district) will see those programs on their personalized Middle School Applications.

If you submitted a Request for Testing Form but do not see the program choices for which you submitted a Request for Testing form, please notify your current school.

Additional questions regarding eligibility for middle schools in New York City should be directed to a local enrollment office. A list of these offices can be found on the inside of the back cover of the Middle School Directory or online at www.nyc.gov/schools/ChoicesEnrollment/NewStudents/REQ.

REMEMBER: Return all **four (4)** pages of your application to your elementary school as soon as you have completed it. The final deadline to submit applications is **Friday, December 13, 2013.**

للحصول على نسخة باللغة العربية من هذه الوثيقة، نرجو زيارة الموقع الإلكتروني أدناه.	Pour obtenir la traduction de ce document, merci de visiter le site internet cité ci-dessous.	Перевод данного документа на русский язык находится на вебсайте, указанном ниже.
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如要取得本文件的中文譯本，請瀏覽下面的網站。	본 문서의 한국어판을 보시려면 다음 웹사이트를 방문해 주십시오.	اس دستاویز کے اردو ترجمہ کے لیے برائے مہربانی ذیل کی ویب سائٹ سے رجوع کریں۔
www.nyc.gov/schools/ChoicesEnrollment/Middle		



Parents who wish to appeal must get new applications and submit by March 7th.
No sibling priority in middle schools.

Applications for kindergarten are being accepted in September – no priority & no articulating.

A parent expressed gratitude to the DOE & the CDEC on behalf of District 26 families to secure a victory in their fight for a fair and equitable Middle School Gifted & Talented admission policy. She stated that it's this investment of time, of effort and of financial resources that was threatened and disregarded by the abrupt policy changes created by the Department of Education in a misguided effort to open admissions opportunities.

It's also because of this investment that we cannot be happier with the recent announcement by the DOE agreeing to grandfather our children, as well as create additional G&T seats in District 26 – as requested in our petition. This arrangement satisfies promises made to current G&T families under the previous policy and providing real opportunities to students not currently in the program.

By taking the time to personally understand our issue, and then taking the steps in seeking action from the DOE, your efforts were critical in this victory for all families and students in District 26.

When District 26 families looked to our school district leaders to serve as our voice, you answered the call and delivered – thank you! We look forward to working with you again in the years ahead for the betterment of our community.

The DOE's new administration has reinforced the importance of the strength in community.

We are humbled to have met with so many that have dedicated their free time to serve our community, our children, and to be the voice for those that can't.

Jeannette thanked Max Applebaum for his presentation

Lori Butera – District Family Advocate

Lori spoke about her up & coming workshops:

Ping Pong – March 13th for parents – MS 216 (6:30 pm-9 pm)

March 14th – for parents & children - MS 216 (6:30 pm – 9 pm)

Developing Your Speaking Voice – March 12, 19 & 26th – 6:30 pm-8 pm-location (TBA)

Lori spoke about the Feb. 26th meeting (Bullying & Cyberbullying) in which she had a big turn- out (social workers. security, precincts). This workshop was a full day.

Motion to adjourn public meeting by Jaya and seconded by Alan. Council voted unanimously to adjourn.

Meeting ended 9 p.m.
Minutes by Marian Mason

Feb. 28, 2014 mins.