

Community District Education Council District 26

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MINUTES FROM BUSINESS /CALENDER/ PUBLIC MEETINGS

Date: Tuesday, September 23, 2014

Time: Public Meeting - 7:00 P.M. - Business Meeting – 8 p.m.

Location: MS 67 – 51-60 Marathon Parkway, 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: 15 p.m.

PUBLIC MEETING

Roll Call - Jeannette Segal, Susan Shiroma (Borough Appointee), Alan Ong (Borough Appointee), Leslie Rubenstein, Anastasio Politidis, Ricky Chan – Aman Luthra (student)

Excused - Roy Menendez (military leave) & Lucy Vieco

Resigned – Jaya Patil

Also present: Anita Saunders, Community Superintendent & Lori Stein-Butera, District Family Advocate

Jeannette informed the attendees of our guest from Quiet Skies: VP Bob Whitehair and Brian Will (technical support) – giving us an update. Attachment of presentation attached.

Discussion

-Informed the attendees of the flight pattern change

- letter sent to US Dept. of Transportation with 23 elected officials signature (see attachment) requesting that the DNL be lowered to 55 from 65 for schools which would qualify d26 for soundproofing.

- Mr. Whitehair's presentation

AVIATION NOISE POLLUTION & CHILDREN'S LEARNING: A REDUCTION OF THE F.A.A. NOISE METRIC DOWN TO '55DNL' COULD QUALIFY DISTRICT 26 FOR SOUNDPROOFING

Presented by Queens Quiet Skies

□ "I studied the effects of elevated train noise on children's reading scores. I found that by the sixth grade children attending classes on the noisy side of the building were about a year behind in reading when compared to children who had classes on the quiet side of the building."

-ARLINE BRONZAFT, DISCUSSING HER 1975 STUDY ON THE EFFECTS OF NOISE POLLUTION ON CHILDREN'S READING SCORES

HER STUDY WAS BASED ON AN AVERAGE OF 80 TRAINS PER SCHOOL DAY. LAGUARDIA HAS 75 OPERATIONS, OR ROUGHLY 37 DEPARTURES, **PER HOUR**. BASED ON THAT HOURLY CAP, SCHOOLS LIKE P.S. 130 AND P.S. 162 ARE IMPACTED BY OVER 200 OVERFLIGHTS DURING SCHOOL HOURS

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IN 2012, THE FAA PERMANENTLY IMPLEMENTED THE “TNNIS” CLIMB OVER NORTHEAST QUEENS.

In October, 2013, Governor Andrew Cuomo ordered the Port Authority to conduct a Part 150 Noise Study for both New York airports.

Under current rules, the noise study could lead to insulation programs for schools within the 65 DNL noise contour.

26 MEMBERS OF CONGRESS HAVE SENT A JOINT LETTER TO THE FAA ASKING THAT THE 65 DNL NOISE STANDARDS BE LOWERED TO 55 DNL.

DNL = DAY/NIGHT LEVEL (OR THE AVERAGE NOISE LEVEL OVER A 24-HOUR PERIOD)

Noise contours were created in 2003 using the Integrated Noise Model (INM). The contours represent several routes that are rarely used under LaGuardia’s current SOP. New contours would reflect the current configurations with the TNNIS, Whitestone and RNAV 31 routes.

DISTRICT 26 SCHOOLS POTENTIALLY WITHIN A 55DNL CONTOUR

The TNNIS climb has started to shift the 65 DNL contour from Flushing Meadows to over downtown Flushing.

STEPS YOU CAN TAKE:

1. Attend roundtable meetings. Governor Cuomo ordered the formation of a community aviation roundtable with the Port, the FAA and community members. Meetings are open to the public and will address the progress of the noise study. Demand updates on the study from the Port Authority.
2. Contact federal officials about 55 DNL. Congress members Meng and Israel have written a great letter to the FAA. Ask them for legislative action.

Voluntary Soundproofing

If the Part 150 study shows that district 26 schools do not fall within the 65 or 55 DNL contours, it is possible that the Port Authority might voluntarily soundproof schools. The P.A. has soundproofed several schools outside of 65 DNL including John Bowne High School.

FOR FURTHER INQUIRIES REGARDING THE EFFECTS OF NOISE POLLUTION CHILDREN’S LEARNING: Contact Dr. Arline Bronzaft: albtor@aol.com

Mr. Whitehair informed the attendees that he was advocating because he does not want the noise to shift from one area to another. The flight patterns can be changed to satisfy everyone.

Jeannette introduced the School Construction Representatives – Bryan McGinn & Karen Maher who will do a presentation on the Capital Plan and outline what is covered under RESO & Capital Funding.

Presentation to be attached.

Misinformation was given out and so we decided to bring them back for clarity.

“Reso A” Projects

Capital Eligibility for

As per the City’s Office of Management and Budget:

- All grants must be a minimum of \$35,000

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- Capital construction projects must provide a permanent enhancement to the facility
- All equipment must have a minimum lifespan of five years
- Technology grants must be used to purchase desktop computers, laptops and/or Smart Boards that access the facilities LAN System
-

Typical “Reso A” Projects

ATHLETIC FIELDS – NEW GYMNASIUMS – SCIENCE LAB – AUDITORIUM RENOVATION – BATHGRADE UPGRADE – GREEN ROOFS

Projects That Are Not Eligible for “Reso A”

- Window air conditioning units
 - Library books
 - Loose furniture: desks, chairs, cafeteria tables, bookshelves
 - Photocopiers
 - Software
 - Toner cartridges and other technology based supplies
 - Staffing and After School Programs
- AIR CONDITIONING UNITS**

Who Manages “Reso A” Projects?

- School Construction Authority
 - Department of Education
 - DIIT
- Division of School Facilities - Custodian
 - Trust for Public Land

Budget Timeline

Timeframe	Budget Activities
March - May	Elected officials contact schools to identify potential projects
June	City budget negotiations and approvals
July 1st	City budget year starts
August - September	Program under review for capital eligibility and funding
October	SCA receives final budget authorization from the Office of Management and Budget
November	SCA begins project scope and design process

Project Milestones & Timeline

Project Phase	Phase Description
Scope	The designer meets with the school administration to discuss the project specifics. The designer will produce a scope report that defines work to be performed, Preliminary cost estimate, design, and construction time duration. ➤ Typically 4 months
Design	Development of complete set of construction/contract documents for the Bid and Award process. ➤ Typically 4 months
Phasing Schedule	Project Officer and school establish work hours and areas to be used by the contractor established (estimated 3:30pm start time for interior work).
Bid and Award	Public advertising, bid opening, and award of contract. ➤ Typically 4 months
Construction	Project mobilization begins and includes preconstruction meetings, permitting, and site safety plan. ➤ Schedule based on project scope and can range from 6 to 22 months

Technology purchases do not follow this process and may be ordered quickly upon SCA receiving budget authorization and approval from the school.

Resolution "A" Project Budgets

- Project budgets are set by the amount of funding allocated by the elected official.
- Projects have 25% soft costs applied to each project: This includes scope, design, contingency and construction management.
- Larger projects, such as athletic field renovations, can and have been funded over the course of multiple fiscal years.
- In instances where a project is underfunded, the SCA and school will discuss the options of moving forward with a reduced scope or the school can attempt to secure additional funding to cover the estimated cost of the project.

Average Cost and Timeframe Estimates

<u>Project Type</u>	<u>Low</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Average Months for Delivery</u>
Auditorium (upgrade)	\$ 400,000	\$1,400,000	22
Gymnasium (upgrade)	\$ 300,000	\$ 550,000	20
Library	\$ 550,000	\$1,500,000	20
Science Lab (upgrade)	\$ 600,000	\$ 950,000	20
Science Lab (new)	\$2,500,000	\$4,000,000	20
Playground	\$ 400,000	\$1,100,000	18
Security Cameras	\$ 550,000	\$1,000,000	12
Mobile Science Carts	\$ 50,000	\$ 65,000	6

**Costs are dependent upon grade level and size*

**City Council & Borough President
Allocations in FY 2015**

Funded By	Total Allocations	# of Projects	# of Schools
City Council	\$84,646,000	747	657
Borough President	\$12,896,000	96	96

**FY00-15 Projects Funded by
The City Council and Borough Presidents**

Project Description	# of Projects
Athletic Fields	148
Auditorium Upgrade	772
Cafeteria/Multipurpose Room	82
Electrical System Upgrade	309
Gymnasium Upgrade	227
IP Surveillance Camera Installation	132
Library Upgrade	461
Playground Upgrade	654
Room Conversions/Partitioning	418
Mobile Science Cart	246
Science Lab Upgrade	331
Toilets - Students	119

Principals have access to the Five Year Plan.
 Brian stated that all new schools will have air conditioning.
 Brian & Karen took questions from the audience.

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Superintendent's Report- Anita Saunders

- Welcome
- Principal Performance Observations (PPO)
 - Begin – October 1, 2014
- Quality Review – Begin – October 29, 2014
- New UFT Contract
 - Lesson Plans
 - Reduction of Paperwork
 - Curriculum – Scope & Sequence + Student Learning Expectations – DOE
 - UNIT Plans
- District Advisory Committee
- PTA – Professional Learning – Lori Butera – Handout
- Parent Coordinator – October 29 – Arts & Cultural Facilities in NYC
- Parent/Child Workshops – Ping Pong – Wellness Activity – Handout
- Baking Extravaganza – Handout
- Gifted – Middle School Admissions 2015
 - Changes
 - Personalized application from current school in November
- The Four Pillars – A Vision for all NYC Public Schools – Handout
- ESL Classes for Adults – PS 26 – 8:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
 Monday & Wednesday – Beginners
 Tuesday & Thursday – Advanced
 Registration Dates:
 Monday – September 29th & continuing on Thursdays - starting October 9th
- Redesigned SAT – NYSED – Handout

There will be changes to the G&T. Parents are not aware that there is no transportation for students. See Middle School Directory

Anita stated that PS 332 will be designed for 328 students and that there will be a separate wing for Special Education.

Voting of Resolution

CLASS SIZE AND SCHOOL OVERCROWDING

RESOLUTION # 3-2014 – CDEC 26 REQUESTS SMALLER CLASSES AND TO STOP THE OVERCROWDING

WHEREAS smaller classes are the [number one priority of NYC parents](#) in DOE surveys every year;

WHEREAS every year since the survey has been given, class sizes have increased and in the early grades are now the largest in 15 years;

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WHEREAS [most NYC principals say](#) classes should be no larger than 20 students per class in grades K-3, no larger than 23 students in grades 4-5, and no larger than 24 in all other grades in order to for them to provide a quality education.

WHEREAS In the rest of the state outside NYC class sizes [average 20 to 22 students in all grades](#),

WHEREAS NYC students with a far higher need level are expected to achieve the same standards, with class sizes as much as 50 percent larger in many schools;

WHEREAS In the Campaign for Fiscal Equity case (CFE), the state's highest court concluded that NYC students had been denied their constitutional right to a sound basic education in large part as a result of excessive class sizes;

WHEREAS In July 2003, [a panel of educators called the Professional Judgment Panel](#) commissioned by CFE called for [class sizes](#) of no more than 14-17 students per class in elementary schools, 23 students per class in middle schools, and 18-29 students in high schools, depending on the poverty level of the school, and Carmen Farina, then Superintendent of District 15, was a member of this panel;

WHEREAS In 2007, a new state law called the Contracts for Excellence (C4E) was passed in response to the CFE decision, requiring NYC to enact a plan to reduce class size in all grades;

WHEREAS The city's C4E [plan, approved in 2007 called for the city to lower class sizes](#) to an average of no more than 20 students per class in grades K-3, 23 students per class in grades 4-8 and 25 in core high school classes over five years;

WHEREAS the previous administration allowed class sizes to increase instead, and reach levels the [NY Supreme Court found to be unconstitutional](#);

WHEREAS Mayor de Blasio campaigned on a promise that he would [achieve specific class size reduction goals](#) by the end of first term and if necessary, raise revenue to fund this;

WHEREAS during his campaign, de Blasio also pledged that he would [comply with the plan](#) the city submitted in 2007, calling for class size reduction in all grades to the levels mentioned above;

WHEREAS according to the C4E law, NYC was supposed to align its capital plan with its class size reduction plan, but this has never occurred;

WHEREAS three recent reports from [Class Size Matters](#), the [Independent Budget Office](#), and the [City Comptroller](#), reveal the increased overcrowding in our schools and the apparent lack of focused efforts on the part of DOE to address this critical problem;

BE IT RESOLVED that In order to fulfill the mayor's promises and the needs of our children, **CEC 26** urges the Chancellor to put forward aggressive yet reasonable annual targets for class size reduction, allot a significant share of the [\\$644 million in the city's C4E funds](#) specifically towards achieving those goals and provide sufficient oversight to see that schools use these funds appropriately.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chancellor should immediately re-install the early grade class size funds that the DOE eliminated in 2010, and restore the class size limits of 28 in grades 1-3 eliminated in 2011;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chancellor and our representatives on the City Council should expand **the new proposed five year capital plan to at least 100,000 new seats**, because as presently constituted it includes insufficient new capacity to alleviate current school overcrowding, reduce class size and/or address projected enrollment growth;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that that the Mayor heed the decision of the state's highest court, listen to parents, educators, and what research shows, and follow through with his promises to NYC voters by reducing class size;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that our children deserve to receive their right to a quality education, and this needs to happen now.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 23rd Day of September, 2014 by vote of the Council Members present at the public meeting (6 in favor - 0 abstention - 0 not in favor).

RESOLUTION APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY DISTRICT 26 CDEC

Motion to adjourn public meeting made by Ricky and second by Alan. Council voted unanimously to adjourn.

BUSINESS MEETING

Roll Call - Jeannette Segal, Susan Shiroma (Borough Appointee), Alan Ong (Borough Appointee), Leslie Rubenstein, Anastasio Politidis, Ricky Chan – Aman Luthra (student)

Excused - Roy Menendez (military leave) & Lucy Vieco

Resigned – Jaya Patil

Also present: Anita Saunders, Community Superintendent & Lori Stein-Butera, District Family Advocate

1. Minutes

August 28, 2014 minutes reviewed. Motion to accept the August 28th minutes were made by Anastasio and seconded by Alan. Council voted unanimously to approve the August 28, 2014 minutes.

2. President's Report

- a. Attended President Council meeting – turnout good –
- b. Attended a parent teacher meeting - teachers want a meeting at least once a year
- c. PTA Expo Funding is scheduled for Oct. 6th – Brooklyn (Times Square) different companies will be participating including the DOE.
 NYC PTA Expo - Sunday, October 6, 2014
 Noon – 5:00 P.M.
 PS 250, 108 Montrose Ave. Brooklyn, NY
 \$15.00 per person entrance fee

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Town Square is pleased to present the first ever NYC PTA Expo! NYC PTA Expo is a fun and informative event with great products, services and information for New York City PTAs and PAs. NYC PTA Expo celebrates PTA and PA councils throughout New York City, and all NYC PTAs and PAs are invited to attend. NYC PTA Expo offers a supportive networking and information experience for exhibitors and PTA/PA leaders, alike. The expo brings together local resources, businesses, and brands to one venue, and we understand that PTA members may not be aware of many fundraising products and services. NYC PTA Expo offers a unique one-day opportunity to scale the learning curve as quickly as possible.

1.347.559.1410 ~ info@townsquareinc.com
For more information please call: 347.559.1410

Budget

**COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL 26
FISCAL YEAR 2014-2015
INITIAL BUDGET SCHEDULE – AS OF SEPTEMBER 2014**

EXPENDITURE CATEGORY	QUICK CODE	OBJECT CODE	ACTIVITY CODE	LOCATION CODE	BUDGET:	\$17,000	
					AMOUNT SCHEDULED	AMOUNT EXPENDED	REMAINING BALANCE
General Supplies	062641	198	QYUZ	QS26	2,053		2,053
Procurement Card	062641	179	QYV2	QS26	4,700		4,700
Lease of Copier	062641	433	QYV5	QS26	1,872	1,872	0
Rental of Water Cooler	062641	412	QYVD	QS26	175	174.48	.52
Member Reimbursements & Parent workshops	062641	496	QYVF	QS26	3,000		3,000
CONSULTANT	062641	686	QYVG	QS26	1,200	300.00	900.00
Meeting Expenses (Travel & Food)	062641	451	QYVH	QS26	4,000	748.23	3,251.77
TOTALS					\$17,000	3,094.71	13,905.29

3. **Old Business**

Discussed changes to the pledge (U-turns and parents should obey crossing guards) changes will be sent to Alan to finalize and then to Ms. Molly Wang at PS 173 for review.

Mary Vaccaro, UFT Rep reiterate that the Scholarship dinner will be in May.

Meeting to adjourn the Business meeting was made by Alan and seconded by Anastasio. Council unanimously in favor of adjourning the Business meeting.

Meeting adjourned 9:30 pm
Minutes submitted by Marian Mason, Administrative Asst.

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