



# Citywide Council On High Schools

Citywide Council on High Schools 45-18 Court Square, 2nd Floor Long Island City, NY 11101  
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## Calendar Meeting Wednesday, August 12, 2015

### ATTENDANCE

|   |                      |              |
|---|----------------------|--------------|
| <b>Brooklyn Representative</b>          | Mohammad Akram       | Present      |
| <b>Brooklyn Representative</b>          | Marianne Russo       | ABSENT       |
| <b>Bronx Representative</b>             | Edward Afuakwah      | Present 6:45 |
| <b>Bronx Representative</b>             | Constance Asiedu     | Present      |
| <b>Manhattan Representative</b>         | Monica Bajraktarevic | Present      |
| <b>Manhattan Representative</b>         | Michael Kraft        | ABSENT       |
| <b>Queens Representative</b>            | Mona-Lisa Chandler   | Present      |
| <b>Queens Representative</b>            | Michelle Gebrail     | Present 6:20 |
| <b>Staten Island Representative</b>     | Robin Allen          | Present      |
| <b>Staten Island Representative</b>     | Miguel Rodriguez     | Present      |
| <b>Public Advocate Appointee</b>        | Lisa Lewis           | Present      |
| <b>CCSE Appointee</b>                   | <i>Vacant</i>        |              |
| <b>CCELL Appointee</b>                  | <i>Vacant</i>        |              |
| <b>Student Representative</b>           | <i>Vacant</i>        |              |
| <b>Student Representative Alternate</b> | <i>Vacant</i>        |              |
| <b>Superintendent Liaison</b>           | Karen Watts          | Present      |

### In Attendance

We have quorum. Marianne Russo absence due to personal reason, unexcused absence. Michael Kraft absence due to previous vacation commitment, unexcused absence.

## CALENDAR MEETING

Call to order by Senior Executive Officer Ms. Asiedu at 6:18 pm. Attendance and roll call was taken.

**Presenters:** **Noemi Baez:** Director of Outreach & Trainings, Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence and **Elizabeth Falcone:** Director of Youth Programs. Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence

Ms. Falcone talked about teen relationships, what's considered a healthy relationship, the Training Academy and the Family Justice Centers. One in four teens in a relationship have been verbally and emotionally abused by their partner, sometimes via cellphones and social media. The Training Academy provides workshops to teens so they can think, recognize, understand, and know what a healthy and unhealthy relationship looks like. They provide free interactive / discussion based / games & role playing workshops for: middle school, high school students, parents, and school staff. What is unique about the Academy is that they use peer educators between 17-25 years old with a representation of the population that they serve.

Ms. Noemi introduced the NYC Family Justice Centers (FJC) in all 5 boroughs of NYC. The FJC center offers many services under one roof to provide assistance to: victims of domestic/dating abuse, sex trafficking, and elder abuse. They offer: criminal and legal assistance, child counseling, quick onsite, and offsite referrals, obtaining Order of Protection assistance, and Client Confidentiality. They also have the Day One, and Safe Horizon program.

Contact Information: **Noemi Baez** email: [nbaez@fjcnyc.org](mailto:nbaez@fjcnyc.org) / phone: (718) 250-5119 Direct

Website: [www.nyc.gov/domesticviolence](http://www.nyc.gov/domesticviolence)

### **Public Comment**

*Ms. Lindsey:* Do schools know about this program and is teen dating abuse escalating or going down?

*Ms. Noemi:* In our Brooklyn centers, we see 400-500 people per week for abuse.

*Ms. Allen:* Can your program be built into the high school curriculum?

*Ms. Falcone:* We talked to Superintendent Watts, the city council and many others about this. They all agree that it should be incorporated into the Health Curriculum but we are still talking to the city and state about this.

*Ms. Green:* What about this curriculum for the Special Needs, and the Special Ed Child?

*Ms. Falcone:* Yes we provide the workshops from the homeless youths to the special needs child. The workshops are discussion based on what the teens want to talk about.

### **Presenters:**

**Alexandra Anormaliza:** Executive Director, Division of Strategy & Policy

**Joshua Winter:** Senior Director, Strategic Planning

Ms. Anormaliza presented information on the Affinity Group. They constitute secondary, and high schools that is not a part of The Renewal School structure, yet have distinctive instructional and learning needs. It would provide support services: curriculum, instruction, assessment, professional development, and student services for those schools. See attached power point.

There are 5 Affinity Groups supporting 162 schools. The Affinity Group is designed to meet their goals with the assistance of Superintendents:

The Consortium/ Internationals Network for Public Schools/ NYC Outward Bound: *Kathy Pelles*

CUNY/ Urban Assembly: *Fred Walsh*

New Visions: *Donald Conyers, and Juan Mendez*

The Affinity Partners, the Central Office, and the Affinity Group Field Support Center are organized to assist their schools to provide all operational, student services, and professional developments. They will work with schools in all the five boroughs, and in conjunction to insure the best outcome for students, and teachers.

Under Ms. Anormaliza at the Field Support Center there will be a: Payroll Administrative Associate, Administrative Assistant, Support Services Liaison, Data Manager: Michael Baker, and Instructional Technology Specialist.

**The following directly reports to BFSC:**

**Under Joshua Dragoon Deputy for Teaching and Learning:**

Instructional Leads Division  
Advance Teacher Development Specialists  
Academic Policy, Performance and Assessment Specialists  
Academic Support Field Managers

**Under John Garcia Deputy for Finance and Human Resources:**

Senior Managers, Field Support Budget + HR  
Budget Directors  
HR Directors  
Payroll Specialists  
Procurement Specialists

**Under Chris Tricarico Field Support Center Manager of Operational Support:**

Transportation Liaison

**Under Tracey Collins Deputy for Student Services:**

Attendance Supervisors  
School Counseling (Guidance) Manager 9-12  
School Counseling (Guidance) Manager K-8  
School Climate Managers  
Health Director  
Descalation/Crisis Intervention Manager

**Under Abby Miller Deputy for Special Education:**

Administrators of Special Education  
Specialized Student Support Leads  
Special Education Community Support Coordinator  
Mandated Counseling Compliance Coordinator  
Related Service Transmittal Administrator  
Related Service Transmittal Associate

**Under Currently Vacant Position, Deputy for English Language Learners:**

Compliance Coordinator

**The following reports to a Central Office, but collaborates within the Borough:**

Senior Grants Officer, and D75 Liaison

Mr. Winters said that if a parent has an issue they should contact their school, and if it can't be resolved there they go to their Superintendent's office.

Ms. Chandler felt that there is an issue with parents going outside of their boroughs to reach their Superintendent's office. The Superintendent's office should be in the same borough as their child's school. She asked why the DOE did not have the foresight for this concern when they set up the structure.

Mr. Winters states that there are 450 high schools in NYC and we have a total of 43 superintendents. There are 32 Community School District Superintendents whom are mostly in charge of K-8, and there are 10 High School Superintendents.

Mr. Rodriguez asks where is the Field Support Office located, and if a HS from Staten Island is in need, would they contact that office?

Ms. Anormaliza said that yes, they would contact her office at: 131 Livingston St. 6<sup>th</sup> Fl Brooklyn.

Ms. Gebrail voiced her concern that the DOE is not communicating to the parents of this new support network. She feels it is confusing, and that the DOE needs to make it simple and clear for the parents to understand. And the information should be in paper form for those parents that are not computer savvy.

Ms. Allen would like to know if the DOE is going to stay with 162 schools in the Affinity Group or expand.

Mr. Winters answers that after 3 years of data, they would evaluate the structure to see if they would expand.

Ms. Asiedu feels that 3 years to see the results is too long to wait for a child, if the program is not working. That student would have to suffer 3 years with that program.

Mr. Winters says that they have performance matrix and monitoring in place each year. We will not have to wait 3 years if they are not performing. We are holding the program accountable daily, weekly, and yearly. And we will use the states test scores and graduation rate also as a measure. The school can give 30 days' notice to the DOE if they want out of the Affinity Group if they are not happy with the group.

### **Superintendent Report**

Superintendent Watts announced that she would now have a staff of 7 people in her office:

- District Administrative Assistant
- District Family Advocate: Supports families, SLT, and PA/PTA
- Principal Leadership Facilitator: Superintendent's Primary designee for instructional or evaluative matters
- Teacher Development & Evaluation Coach: Supports the Framework for Great Schools through effective implementation of Advance & Common Core Learning Standards.
- Field Support Liaison: Coordinates between the Superintendent's office and the Borough Field Support Center
- Family Support Coordinator: Direct point of contact for family concerns
- Director for School Renewal: Supervises the implementation of the School Renewal Plan & coordination of supports

They do not support professional developments and the Field Support Centers provides instructional supports.

- In August the students are busy taking Regents Exams and they are busy hiring new teachers.
- The Borough Support Centers staffs are conducting "walk through" before school starts.
- Achieve NYC A Complete Guide to NYC Public Schools PK-12 will be going out the 1<sup>st</sup> day of school.

- On October 14<sup>th</sup> the PSAT Exams are given to: sometimes 9<sup>th</sup> but always 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade high school students. If students need testing accommodations for the tests, they should apply when school starts.
- CEP's are completed, and the Superintendents' office are giving the results back to the school's SLT's.
- There were Parent Coordinator trainings over the summer.
- Core Curriculum in ELA, and Math are ready for schools to op in.

**Election of the Officers**

Ms. Asiedu asked Ms. Chandler to proceed with the election of officers as Pro-Tem. She made a roll call: All was present except: Marianne Russo, and Michael Kraft.

**President**

Ms Gebrail nominated Ms. Asiedu as President. Ms. Asiedu accepts.

**7 yeses. 2 Absent. Ms. Asiedu is President**

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Yes       | Afuakwa, Allen, Asiedu, Chandler, Gebrail, Lewis, Rodriguez |
| No        | None  |
| Abstained | None  |

Ms. Bajraktarevic nominated Mr. Kraft as President, whom is absent.

Mr. Kraft as President had 2 yeses.

|           |                      |
|-----------|----------------------|
| Yes       | Akram, Bajraktarevic |
| No        | None                 |
| Abstained | None                 |

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**

Ms Asiedu nominated Ms. Gebrail as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President. Ms. Gebrail accepts.

**9 yeses. 2 Absent. Ms. Gebrail is 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Yes       | Akram, Afuakwa, Allen, Asiedu, Bajraktarevic, Chandler, Gebrail, Lewis, Rodriguez |
| No        | None  |
| Abstained | None  |

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**

Ms. Asiedu nominated Mr. Rodriguez as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President. Ms. Allen 2<sup>nd</sup> the nomination. Mr. Rodriguez accepts.

**7 yeses. 2 Absent. Mr. Rodriguez is 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**

|           |   |
|-----------|---|
| Yes       | Afuakwa, Allen, Asiedu, Chandler, Gebrail, Lewis, Rodriguez |
| No        | None  |
| Abstained | None  |

Mr. Akram nominated himself as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President.

Mr. Akram as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President had 2 yeses.

|           |                      |
|-----------|----------------------|
| Yes       | Akram, Bajraktarevic |
| No        | None                 |
| Abstained | None                 |

### **Recording Secretary**

Mr. Akram nominated Ms. Lewis as Recording Secretary. Ms. Lewis accepts.

**9 yeses. 2 Absent. Ms. Lewis is Recording Secretary**

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Yes       | Akram, Afuakwah, Allen, Asiedu, Bajraktarevic, Chandler, Gebrail, Lewis, Rodriguez |
| No        | None   |
| Abstained | None   |

### **Approval of Budget**

Ms. Bajraktarevic made a motion to accept the budget as presented by her the treasurer.

Mr. Rodriguez 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. 9 yeses and 2 absences. Motion passed unanimously.

CCHS 2015-2016 Budget is passed.

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Yes       | Akram, Afuakwah, Allen, Asiedu, Bajraktarevic, Chandler, Gebrail, Lewis, Rodriguez |
| No        | None   |
| Abstained | None   |

### **Approval of June Minutes**

Ms. Chandler made a motion to accept the June Minutes. Ms. Allen 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

9 yeses and 2 absences. Motion passed unanimously. June Minutes is passed.

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Yes       | Akram, Afuakwah, Allen, Asiedu, Bajraktarevic, Chandler, Gebrail, Lewis, Rodriguez |
| No        | None   |
| Abstained | None   |

### **Approval of Member Use of Laptop**

Ms. Chandler made a motion, we authorized Constance Asiedu the authority to use the Laptop to do council work. Ms. Gebrail 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

9 yeses and 2 absences. Motion passed unanimously.

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Yes       | Akram, Afuakwah, Allen, Asiedu, Bajraktarevic, Chandler, Gebrail, Lewis, Rodriguez |
| No        | None   |
| Abstained | None   |

## **Announcements**

Ms. Gebrail said that Queens will have a HS Admissions Process Workshop at Queens College on August 26<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Asiedu announced the following meeting and meeting dates below:

- On August 22, 2015 the Consortium of the ECC (Education Council Consortium) will be meeting with the Chancellor at Tweed 2<sup>nd</sup> Fl at 9:30am-11am.
- PEP meeting on August 12<sup>th</sup> and August 26<sup>th</sup>, 2015.
- CPAC meeting August 13, 2015 will be meeting with the Chancellor at Tweed 2<sup>nd</sup> Fl at 10am with the Chancellor and the Affinity Group.
- Conference at The New School on 12<sup>th</sup> street, August 13<sup>th</sup> from 8am-11am. There will be a Technology Fair Conference with the Chancellor, Deputy Chancellor, and Regents Chancellor: Merryl H. Tisch.
- UFT Parents' Conference on:
  - November 14<sup>th</sup> for Manhattan
  - November 7<sup>th</sup> for Bronx
  - October 24<sup>th</sup> for Brooklyn at Boys and Girls HS
  - October 24<sup>th</sup> for Staten Island at the Hilton Hotel
- August 13<sup>th</sup> at Tweed 2<sup>nd</sup> Fl at 5:30pm the Chancellor will be meeting on the Parent Engagement Piece and what it should look like with the parent leaders.

Ms. Bajraktarevic announced that there will be a Citywide High School Fair on Saturday, September 26, 2015 & Sunday, September 27, 2015 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM Brooklyn Technical High School. The Borough High School Fairs will be held on Saturday, October 17, 2015 & Sunday, October 18, 2015 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM held in all 5 Boroughs.

## **Members Report**

There are no reports

## **Public Comment**

Ms. Green for Dist 75 said that she does not know anything about the Renewal Schools and their programs. She was at Boys and Girls HS on their last day of school, and the staff went from 200 members to 5 members. She would like to know what supports are given to those students and feels that most parents do not understand the Renewal Schools system.

Ms. Watts our Superintendent Liaison said that some of the staff at Boy & Girls HS were asked back to work at the school and some were excess on the ATR list. We can invite Superintendent Aimee Horowitz head of the Renewal Schools to talk about the process, and information.

Ms. Green said that her son was in a middle school during the phased out process, and experienced when the staff disappears. There's no confidence in the school, and it had a negative snow ball effect on the school. The students' needs support throughout the phase out process, and we should give parents the options of their child staying or leaving the school, "I'm concern about parents having that option."

Ms. Green is unhappy that when she sits on the HS President's Council she does not get information from the CCHS Brooklyn Representatives filter down to the council.

Ms. Asiedu said that we can set aside some time for the 2 Brooklyn Representatives and your HS President's Council to speak together about this issue. I apologized for not turn keying information and it won't happen in the future.

Ms. Lindsey would like to congratulate all the newly elected CCHS board. She would like an update on the 2014-15 Capital Plans, especially about Brooklyn high schools. She would like to see the HS President's Council invite CCHS to their monthly meetings, to a round table so that they can voice their concerns about HS issues. I would like to see each borough invite CCHS to their monthly meeting. She would also like to see the CCHS council to work on the A660.

Ms. Allen made a motion to adjourn the Calendar meeting. Ms. Bajraktarevic 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All agree.

**Adjournment**

Calendar meeting ended at 8:58PM.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

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**S. Mei Chan**  
**Administrative Assistant**

**Revision made by Recording Secretary Lisa Lewis and President:**

**Approved by Council vote on September 9, 2015**