



Citywide Council On High Schools

Citywide Council on High Schools 45-18 Court Square, 2nd Floor Long Island City, NY 11101 cchs@schools.nyc.gov Phone: 718-752-7478 www.cchsnyc.org

Calendar Meeting Wednesday, October 8, 2014

ATTENDANCE

Brooklyn Representative	<i>Vacant</i>	
Brooklyn Representative	Marianne Russo	Present
Bronx Representative	Constance Asiedu	Present
Bronx Representative	Neyda Franco	Present
Manhattan Representative	Monica Bajraktarevic	Present
Manhattan Representative	Elizabeth Veras	<i>Absent</i>
Queens Representative	Alleyne Hughley	Present
Queens Representative	Michelle Gebrail	Present
Staten Island Representative	Andrew Dorman	Present
Staten Island Representative	Don McQueen	Present
Public Advocate Appointee	Theresa Hedrington	Present
CCSE Appointee	Noah Kaufman	Present
CCELL Appointee	<i>Vacant</i>	
Student Representative	<i>Vacant</i>	
Superintendent Liaison	Karen Watts	Present

In Attendance

We have quorum. Elizabeth Veras has an unexcused absence.

CALENDAR MEETING

Call to order by Acting President Ms. Hughley at 6:20 pm.

Program Presentation

High School Transition: Presenters: Natalie McQueen (*Director of Transition Services*) and Susan Derrickson (*Transition Specialist*)

Ms. McQueen presented on the Transition Planning and Post-Secondary Options for Students with Disabilities. It is mandate by federal law and NYS to have transitional planning in place for students with disabilities. Transition Planning is a process that starts at Age 12, than age 15 and by age 18 years old, the young adult's team of helpers should assist them in identifying, researching and applying for college options, vocational programs, internships, travel training and applications of adult services that would be needed once the young adult transitions out of high school. Transition Planning is part of the IEP process with the student's annual goals in mind. These measurable postsecondary goals would assist the students in the areas of: education/training, employment and eventually independent living. These goals should assess options suitable to the students which include goals aligned with the student's abilities.

Young adults can start applying at age 17 years old for the appropriate selections of the Adult Service Systems, so that it can be seamlessly in place after graduation. Ms. Derrickson spoke about CUNY Leads Program that supports successful academic and career outcomes for students with disabilities who are enrolled in the CUNY programs. There are samples of numerous programs attached to the powerpoint presentation with locations throughout New York City.

Adult Education Services DOE: Presenter: Rose Marie Mills
(*Superintendent, Division of School Support*)

Superintendent Mills presented information about OACE which is the largest provider of adult literacy educational services in NYS servicing more than 41,000 for adults over 21, without a High School Diploma. OACE offers: Adult Basic Education Classes, H.S. Equivalency Test Preparation, English for Speakers of Other Languages and Career and Technical Education Classes with over 900 classes in the five boroughs along with time flexibility. All the classes are tuition free, taught by NYC certified/DOE licensed teachers with the average class size of 20 students. For more information please see attached powerpoint.

C4E Presentation: Presenter: Superintendent Karen Watts

Superintendent Watts presented Contract for Excellence Proposed Plan FY15 power point. "The NYCDOE receives a portion of its overall budget in the form of Foundation Aid from New York State." "These funds, under State law, must be distributed to certain schools and must be spent by those schools in specific program areas." Funds must support specific program initiatives: Class Size Reduction, Time on Task, Teacher & Principal Quality Initiatives, Middle & High School Restructuring, Full-Day Pre-Kindergarten Programs, Model Programs for English Language Learners. The Funds must go to students with the greatest educational needs: English Language Learners, Students in Poverty, Students with Disabilities, Students with Low Academic Achievement or At Risk of Not Graduating. "The New York State 2014-2015 Budget extended the Contracts for Excellence to the 2014-2015 school year." For the current year, FY15, there are no new Contract for Excellence funds to apply towards new or expanded programs." The total C4E amount for FY15 is \$531 million, out of which \$183 million is embedded in Fair Student Funding. See attached powerpoint for additional information.

Questions that was presented by the CCHS board:

- 1-A lists of all the high schools identified by each borough, that received the funds.
- 2-How much did each individual school received compared last year to this year?
- 3-What school that received the funds changed programs within the guidelines?
- 4-Which schools eliminated the ICT/CTT programs for the special education students?
- 5-What is effective or not effective regarding these programs on the high school level?
- 6-Regarding HS phase-outs; is the special education students getting direct services when the school is being phased out to help them with the transition?
- 7-There might be additional needs for the ELL students such as special afterschool or Saturday schools that will assist them directly.
- 8-Last year percentages of successful programs in these HSs' compared to this year's percentages?
- 9-Is there an evaluation process to report how the principals are using or not using these funds? The accountability issues and what measurements were used?

Superintendent Report

Ms. Watts introduced superintendents: Juan Mendez and LaShawn Robinson will make their own reports.

Juan Mendez reported that he is proud to share in the good news that in August the USA Commissioner of Education rewarded successful schools in the nation with the ESEA award. There were 102 schools from K-12 public schools that received the award in NYC.

Out of the total of 102 schools 25 were public high schools identified as having a high quality education: 10 in Manhattan, 3 in Bronx, 7 in Brooklyn, 4 in Queens and 1 in Staten Island. See attached report.

LaShawn Robinson reported that they are now offering an Expansion Program for Advance Placement courses in 63 HSs' and 2 transfer HSs' that previously do not offer AP classes. The following courses offered in AP classes: Biology, Environmental Science, Calculus, Statistics, Computer Science, English Language, Literature and US History. The AP teachers are supported by professional development and follow up classes in November and February. They will be giving the AP students uniform assessments exams to prepare them the AP exams in May. The students are offered an extra 24 hours of tutoring classes on Saturdays. And the DOE is partnering with Kaplan, Collegeboard and STEM to insure that this would be a successful program.

Karen Watts reported that DOE will be releasing soon, another version of the schools performance reports. Instead of calling it the *School Progress Report*, it will now be called the *School Quality Snapshot*. And an accompanied report would be the *School Quality Guide* that will tell you the performance of the school staff.

Members' Report

Mr. McQueen reported that this summer NY State accepted the Interstate Compact for Military Students. This would assist a seamless transition for students from military families coming from another state and allowing them to enroll in a school with the least amount of problems. It is a disappointment to say that New York State is the 50th state to adopt this ruling.

Mr. Dorman reported that he attended many meetings: DLT meetings in D75, D35 and CEC31. D35 expressed issues with their buzzer alarms and CEC31 is concern how the construction of those alarms are made.

Ms. Russo attended the DLT meetings in D17, D21, and D15. Some of these districts received the Academic Achievement reports with their breakdowns. This is helpful due so these districts will know where improvements need to be made and to see where their needs are. Mr. Ng former CCHS member and I ran a HS workshop for middle school students and we gave them information about the HS admissions process. She was at a DLT meeting where the Chancellor spoke about sponsors and the MTA representative was there. They have jobs for NYC HS graduates but they cannot fill in 80% of available jobs due to lack of quality educated NYC HS graduates. Ms. Russo feels that the city is not offering the students sufficient education for entry level jobs or college. She also attended the Brooklyn HS Presidents' Council which spoke about the adult educational programs with DOE.

Ms. Asiedu attended a DLT meeting in district 12 and a PTA Expo in district 15. At the meeting in Columbia University Teacher's College for Closing the Achievement Gap was presented in English. She had to use a translation device and at the meeting it gave her an insight of what it feels like if you did not speak English. Ms. Asiedu feels that the DOE should have interpreters at every meeting and the DOE needs to do a better job in general with having interpretations and translations for non-English speaking parents.

Ms. Hedrington does not have a report at this time.

Ms. Bajraktarevic attended the Brooklyn Tech Citywide HS Fair and gave out information about CCHS. It was very successful since they collected over 250 names and emails of the JHS parents and students. We can email them information at a future date. She will be attending the Borough HS Fairs in Nov 18th and 19th. She attended the Lincoln HS co-location hearing and was happy to find out that the principals involved are happy about the move. They are cooperating with each other and want the move to be in the summer to insure smooth transition. Ms. Bajraktarevic also attended the CCSE meeting where the Chancellor talked about the importance of the HS handbook and at the CCELL meeting; they spoke about different options for students who is learning English as their second language and the Dual Language programs available.

Ms. Gebrail also attended the Brooklyn Tech Citywide HS Fair and gave out information about CCHS. She felt it was import to outreach to new HS parents and told them of our very useful website. She also attended the PTA development meetings where principals at the meeting were extremely concern about when incoming HS students are placed into a HS and then that student decides not to attend that HS. The enrollment of that HS drops overnight and therefore important programs such as AP Math and Science along with 5 days gym classes cut to 3 days all of a suddenly. The principal do not understand why these programs are cut and Ms. Gebrail's child's principal wrote to the Chancellor three times to address his concerns about the problem. The Chancellor has never written back and the public deserves the right to know the reasoning behind this policy.

Ms. Franco was impressed with the District 7 walk though and superintendent's workshops for that district. She attended PA/PTA and DLT meetings and recent Anti Bullying Workshop. Tomorrow district 7 in the Bronx from 4-7pm has DLT training and each and every borough at the same time has DLT training. I encourage parents to attend because it teaches District Leadership Teams to be empowered so they can go to individual schools and trained new parents on this information. The CCHS council needs additional trainings from DOE so the members can understand their policies and comment on it. I have issues when IEP meetings are conducted in Spanish due to the parent does not speak English, yet the following report after the meeting is presented to the same parent in English. That becomes problematic for the parent due to the language difficulties. I feel that whatever the language is conducted for the parent in an IEP meeting, the report of the meeting should be in the same language.

Mr. Kaufman is very happy to see almost a full CCHS council this year with the exceptions of the CELL and student representative seats. He feels that CCHS meetings needs a timekeeping to keep CCHS meetings on time, but Ms. Hughley reminded him that they had an unsuccessful attempt at the last meeting. Mr. Kaufman would like to give CCHS minutes to CCSE and to have their minutes give to CCHS. It is a work in progress. CCSE would like to make his position a legal appointment. CCSE reported that last year the DOE had many issues regarding declassifications for HS students. Some of these declassifications were done improperly. CCSE is concerned that Phase-Out HS regarding special education needs additional support and the CCSE would be making recommendations to assist this transition. Students with disabilities have the extra challenge when it comes to selecting over 400 HS programs regarding HS admissions. Trying to find the correct fit is a daunting task and they would require additional help from DOE.

Mr. McQueen is happy to be working with the new counsel and is looking to the CCHS calendar full of activities throughout the year.

President's Report

Ms. Hughley will forgo the president's report due to time constraints. If the audience would like additional information like the powerpoints, please email the request to the AA.

Public Comment

Ms. Robb belongs to the Team Mom organization and commented how impressed she is about the passion of CCHS members by staying so late to host the meeting. She feels that the DOE HS admissions policy is unfair and unjust. For example like the La Guardia HS will have a yearly of one in five ratios of all HS student applicants. Currently the admissions policy is based on 44% common core results, 14% talent, 14% grades, 14% tardiness and 14% on absences. In 2013-14 80% of all the screened NYC HS was not in complacence with their rubric. Her group would like DOE to address this and other unfairness regarding HS screened admissions.

Ms. King belongs to the Team Mom organization too with Ms. Robb and again restates some of the similar issues regarding HS admissions with the DOE.

Wilvonne Henry is the President of the Brooklyn President's Council. The October 23rd meeting's location would change from 131-Livingston St. to Clara Barton HS located at 91 Classon Ave. for the month of October, November and December due to the small size of the venue. The meetings are opened for principals, superintendents, parent coordinators and recently we see a strong decline of parent leaders attending these meetings due to the HS not having PTA elections.

Business Meeting

Ms. Hughley made a motion to amend the agenda to discuss the Annual Report. Mr. Kaufman 2nd the motion. 6-No, 3-Yes and 1 abstain. Motion did not pass.

Yes	Asiedu, Franco, Hedrington, Hughley, Kaufman, McQueen
No	Bajraktarevic, Dorman, Gebrail
Abstained	Russo

Ms. Franco made a motion to table everything from the agenda to the next meeting to be first, the Business Meeting. Ms. Gebrail 2nd the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Yes	Asiedu, Bajraktarevic, Dorman, Franco, Gebrail, Hedrington, Hughley, Kaufman, McQueen , Russo
No	None
Abstained	None

CCHS postponed their Business Meeting till December 2, 2014 due to the lack of time.

Claudia Espinosa announced her organization to be “Latinas on the verge of excellence-L.O.V.E. It is a program for mentoring young Latinas to support and empower them to be positive role models and encourage them to attend college. Their website: www.lovementoring.org

Calendar meeting adjourned at 9:18 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

S. Mei Chan
Administrative Assistant

Revision made by President: Alleyne Hughley

Approved by Council vote on _____

DRAFT