



# 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](mailto:cchs@schools.nyc.gov) Phone: 718-752-7478 [www.cchsnyc.org](http://www.cchsnyc.org)

## Calendar Meeting Wednesday, February 14, 2018

### ATTENDANCE

Brooklyn Representative	Celia Green	Present
Brooklyn Representative	Vacant	
Bronx Representative	Catherine Baez	Present
Bronx Representative	Cynthia Robinson	Present
Manhattan Representative	Rodrigo Diaz	ABSENT-Unexcused
Manhattan Representative	Zoe Foundotos	Present
Queens Representative	Mona-Lisa Chandler	Present
Queens Representative	Betsy Tam-Greene	Present
Staten Island Representative	Laurine Melville	ABSENT-Excused
Staten Island Representative	Margaret Meyers	ABSENT-Unexcused
Public Advocate Appointee	Nickoles Martinez	ABSENT-Excused
CCSE Appointee	Pamela Stewart	Present
CCELL Appointee	Ulan Kuchukov	Present
Student Representative	Vacant	
Superintendent Liaison	Karen Watts	Present

### Attendance

**We have a quorum.** Nickoles Martinez, and Laurine Melville were absent, excused absence work and family related. Rodrigo Diaz and Margaret Meyers were absent unexcused absence.

### CALENDAR MEETING

Ms. Green called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm. Attendance and roll call was taken.

**Presenters:**

**Ada Ibe: TEALS Regional Manager for New York and New Jersey**

**“TEALS: Computer Science in Every High School Program”**

Their mission is to provide and “Build and Grow A Sustainable High School Computer Science Program.” The TEALS program started in 2009 with one school and now they have 344 schools nationwide enrolled in it. Currently, they have 33 schools in New Jersey and in New York enrolled. The schools are public, charter and private.

**See Power point.**

Power point topics:

- Computer jobs are the #1 source of new wages in the US with 500,000 opening in every job sector and every state.
- TEALS trained industry volunteers to teach in collaboration with the teachers in their classrooms. They co-teach with the teachers and assist them with lab support until the teachers learn the CS curriculum.
- The Curriculum consists of:
  - Introduction to Computer Science
  - AP Computer Science A
  - AP Computer Science Principles
- They currently have 1,050 volunteers representing over 400 companies in 29 states
- Deadline for applications February 28, 2018
- **Contact email: [maya@tealsk12.org](mailto:maya@tealsk12.org)**

**Report of Superintendent Liaison**

**Superintendent Prayor provided a report on his schools in Districts 15, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, and 33 in Brooklyn North and South.**

He introduced Mark Moses his Family Leadership Coordinator and the new Principal Leadership Facilitator Lydia Colon-Bomani.

Highlights from his power point:

- One of his HS’s Access to Language class traveled to Shanghai, China
- Some of the students start as young as in the 6<sup>th</sup>-grade Access to Language classes
- His schools are participating in the STEAM programs with industry partners.
- He doubled his Welcome Centers to assist parents and students under his care
- Superintendent Prayor ‘s schools are integrating their classes with the Arts (acting/visual arts) as well as a Health and Wellness program where students travel to see their NFL team leagues.
- He shares his Brooklyn STEAM Center with Superintendent Watts’ schools at the Brooklyn Navy Yard where the participating students go to school for half a day and the other half they do their internships there.

- Some of Superintendent Prayor 's programs are:
  - Student Leadership Council
  - My Brother's Keeper (MLK) Event at Brooklyn Borough Hall
  - Leadership Integration
  - Superintendents' Youth Leadership Council
  - Educator's Rising NYC
  - Youth Plan Learn Act Now!
  - Celebrate Diversity Through Integration with the Brooklyn Borough President

Mark Moses the Family Leadership Coordinator with the Superintendent Prayor's office created the 1<sup>st</sup> Parent Leadership Exchange at Grady HS:

- They gave parents CTE training programs to promote better jobs for the parents
- Assist them with their job search

They had their 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Parent and Guardian Celebration where they awarded 100 parents for their volunteerism.

***Our acting President Celia Green received the highest award for her service to NYC schools at that awards ceremony.***

Superintendent Prayor and Superintendent Watts shared their program, "Leadership Learning Exchanged," where the administrations from different schools exchanged their ideas about what works well in their schools and shares best practice with other schools.

**Superintendent Watts provided a report on her schools in Districts 13, 14, 16, 19, 23, 32 in Brooklyn North with 2 Specialized High Schools, CTE and Art Schools**

Highlights from the power point and some of the programs in her schools are:

- For the College and Career Readiness program where the students spend 30 minutes out of 45 minutes having direct interaction with their teachers.
- They have a Social Emotional Learning Program
- She is targeting an 80%-85% graduation rate for the schools under her care
- College and Career Readiness students are encouraged to take as many Regents as needed
- Collaborating for success across classrooms with teacher teams and schools with inter-visitation programs
- Developing Leadership through all levels: Principals (administration), Students, Parents and PCs professional learning opportunities including SSAC, SPAC, CCHS meetings and etc.

Signature Programs at her schools:

- AVID for College Readiness
- Youth-Plan Learn Act Now (Y-PLAN) for Civics

- Educator's-Rising-a future teacher pipeline
- International Baccalaureate (IB)
- RULER Approach for Social Emotional Learning
- All the Equity and Access programs from DOE
- Career Development and Occupations Standards (CDOS)
- Algebra for All (A4A) Superintendency
- Operation Graduation

Her overall results are:

- Overall graduation and college readiness for the superintendency is higher than the city-wide averages
- Students graduate with career credentials from the CTE schools and gain full-time good paying jobs
- Student matriculate into competitive colleges

**Tai Abrams: AdmissionsSquad CEO**  
**“21<sup>st</sup> Century skills for today’s student”**

Ms. Abrams is a curriculum developer for career readiness and financial programs and is head of the organization “Admissions Squad,” that assist middle schools students to gain entry into Specialized High Schools and other top NYC schools.

**See Power point.**

Power point topics and highlights:

- Preparing Generation Z to work in the New World Economy
- The skills set needed to be a competitive and remain competitive in this new future job market
- She elaborated on her own challenges of becoming a successful entrepreneur
- She expressed that in today’s job market, it is not enough to obtain higher degrees for employment since the Millennials are more under-employed
- Besides the student obtaining an education in technology and computer skills more is needed to be competitive
- You need: work readiness skills, a solid education and career plan in HS and financial literacy

- One of the most valuable new skills for students to have is Soft Skills:

# MOST VALUABLE SOFT SKILLS

**Top 10 skills**

**in 2020**

1. Complex Problem Solving
2. Critical Thinking
3. Creativity
4. People Management
5. Coordinating with Others
6. Emotional Intelligence
7. Judgment and Decision Making
8. Service Orientation
9. Negotiation
10. Cognitive Flexibility

**in 2015**

1. Complex Problem Solving
2. Coordinating with Others
3. People Management
4. Critical Thinking
5. Negotiation
6. Quality Control
7. Service Orientation
8. Judgment and Decision Making
9. Active Listening
10. Creativity

**Additional Items: Ideal Classroom**

- The ability to effectively communicate your ideas
- Autonomy/control: make decisions about what to do and when to do it and manage your own time
- Authentic learning
- Passions/Interests
- Independent Thinking
- Believing
- Care for others
- Teamwork
- Values

Tai Abrams contact information: [info@taiabrams.com](mailto:info@taiabrams.com)

## Public Comments

**Constance Asiedu and Monique Lindsay**, talked about “Lunch 4 Learning,” organization’s poster/flyer and to please fill out the public survey attached to the flyer, in order to assist the organization in their work to promote eating free healthy school lunches.

## Treasurer’s Report

Mr. Martinez was absent but he sent in a Budget Modification Proposal for the council. There was a discussion of the AA getting a much needed new computer. The council asked the AA to give the members 3 options of a new computer with research at a later meeting.

## Motion to have a Special Meeting Budget Allocation for March 1, 2018, at 6:30pm also to vote and interview for a new Brooklyn Representative

Ms. Chandler motioned and Ms. Foundotos 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. **All in favor, 7 yeses. The motion passed.**

Yes	Baez, Chandler, Foundotos, Green, Robinson, Stewart, Tam-Greene
No	Kuchukov
Abstained	

**Discussion of Attendance and vacancy**

Ms. Green announced the CCHS Manhattan Representative’s vacancy. Rodrigo Diaz had many absences with 3 unexcused absences.

**Motion to vacate the Manhattan representative seat**

Ms. Chandler motioned and Ms. Baez 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. **All in favor, 8 yeases. The motion passed.**

Yes	Baez, Chandler, Foundotos, Green, Kuchukov, Robinson, Stewart, Tam-Greene
No	
Abstained	

**Motion to approve the 3 minutes: 12/13/17 and 1/10/18 and Special Meeting 1/22/18 as they are with options to modified later**

Ms. Foundotos motioned and Ms. Robinson 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. **All in favor, 8 yeases. The motion passed.**

Yes	Baez, Chandler, Foundotos, Green, Kuchukov, Robinson, Stewart, Tam-Greene
No	
Abstained	

**Update of CCHS Capital Plan**

Ms. Chandler said that everything has been submitted to the SCA and there was only one correction. We will hear a response from the SCA in August or September. She will give us another update then.

*A copy of the latest Capital Plan submission was given to the council members.*

**Update of CCHS Annual Report**

Ms. Foundotos gave an update on what was happening to the Annual Report 2017-2018 writer’s status Ed Talenti.

At the Annual Report Committee Meeting on January 10, 2018, the members chose Mr. Talenti as the writer by the council and have since received his vendor number in about 2 months’ time. But a question of potential conflict of interest was discussed by the council, even though he plans on retiring from working with DOE, he is still on staff. He spoke to his own supervisor and she didn’t think that this will be a conflict of interest. Mr. Talenti contacted the Ethics Office by emails and phone on numerous times on our behalf to see if there was a conflict of interest. He planned on writing the report after work hours and he also planned for over month-long extended leave and he has the flexibility of taking time off when needed.

It has been over 3 weeks and we have not heard from the Ethics Office about this issue. Ms. Foundotos is planning on calling the office to speed the process. But it's been over a total of 3 months from the time Mr. Talenti started the process of becoming a DOE vendor and contacting the Ethics Office and the issue has still not been resolved.

A copy of the 2016-2017 Annual Report was given to the council members.

There was a discussion about the 2016-2017 Annual Report's cover. It has been decided to add the missing members' names to the report: Zoe G. Foundotos, Cynthia Robinson, Constance Asiedu, Michael Kraft, Robin Allen and correcting the spelling of Ulan Kuchukov before the report is published.

**Motion to approve the draft of the CCHS Annual Report 2016-2017 with the corrections of names on the cover and adding the dedication page for Robin Allen to come from Constance Asiedu put forth for approval and publication**

Ms. Foundotos motioned and Ms. Baez 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. **All in favor, 8 yeses. The motion passed.**

Yes	Baez, Chandler, Foundotos, Green, Kuchukov, Robinson, Stewart, Tam-Greene
No	
Abstained	

**Discussion of Support for Prior, "Resolution to Inform Families of Educational Rights"**

Ms. Green discuss attaching the template letter with our information to the previously voted on resolution and have that sent to the Mayor.

**Motion to approve of attaching the letter of support for the resolution to the Mayor with our resolution from our June 14, 2017, Calendar meeting**

Ms. Tam-Greene motioned and Ms. Stewart 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. **All in favor, 8 yeses. The motion passed.**

Yes	Baez, Chandler, Foundotos, Green, Kuchukov, Robinson, Stewart, Tam-Greene
No	
Abstained	

**Public Comments**

**Constance Asiedu** attends a CPAC meeting where someone made comments that CCHS and CCSE's Council is dysfunctional since it does not have leadership. There needs to be a clarification

that under the CCHS's Bylaws when they don't have or in the event the President is unavailable, the first Vice President steps up to become the Acting President.

**Ms. Stewart** explained that there are issues with the D75 Council and they reached out to CPAC and FACE to mediate their situation. CPAC had an email discussion and asked CCHS for their input regarding the situation. Ms. Stewart and Ms. Green were not available to attend the D75 meeting and decided not to mediate the situation. Ms. Stewart felt that someone from CPAC should observe the D75 meeting.

At the next CPAC meeting, the Parliamentarian from their executive board commented that CCHS cannot have a quorum to vote for a President and CCSE for a Co-Presidents. She implied the dysfunction of a lack of leadership on the 2 councils.

Jesse Mojica: Executive Director from FACE spoke in defense to explain the voting process on the Citywide Councils are very different than how the PTA and CPAC is run.

**Ms. Stewart** told her that she is currently sitting on CCHS and as a council member for CCSE for 2 years, she knows how the council should operate and the discussion is about D75. She explained the reasons why the CCHS at this point does not have a President but an acting President and that CCHS has leadership and is productive and functioning.

**Monique Lindsay** responded by that if anyone has issues with CCHS, they should come and speak to the council directly to address those issues. The council should have an opportunity to respond to the accusations. That would only be fair.

**Ms. Stewart** felt that it was very unfair that the Parliamentarian chose to talk about CCHS when we did not have any other representatives at that meeting and as the only member on the council she was in the bathroom. She heard part of the discussion upon returning from the bathroom. Prior to this CPAC meeting, she has emailed a complaint to them about this.

**Mr. Chavez:** President HS of Art and Design spoke about their upcoming fundraiser, "Fanfair," on February 24 and 25. He described the contents of that school event and invited everyone to participate.

### **BUSINESS MEETING**

There was no Business Meeting due to the lack of time.

### **Adjournment**

Calendar meeting ended at 9:17 PM.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**S. Mei Chan: Administrative Assistant**

**Revisions made by Recording Secretary: Ms. Tam-Greene**

**Approved by Council vote on April 11, 2018**