



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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Business Meeting Wednesday, March 14, 2018

ATTENDANCE

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

Attendance

We did not have a quorum. Rodrigo Diaz, and Laurine Melville were absent, unexcused absence. Zoe Foundotos was absent due to family illness, excused absence. Mona-Lisa Chandler was at a Queens School walk-through, excused absence. Betsy Tam-Greene was absent due to illness, excused absence. Cynthia Robinson left meeting at 7:15 pm due to an emergency family situation, excused absence. Superintendent Liaison Karen Watts was absent due to work. Substitute Superintendent Juan Mendez attended in her place.

BUSINESS MEETING

Ms. Green called the meeting to order at 8:44 pm. Attendance and roll call was taken.

President's Report and Members' report

Ms. Stewart reported her concerns for Renewal Schools. Why are some of the schools closing? What are the schools not getting in order to be successful? She has participated in schools walk-through for school closings. She had issues with the PEP process. AA *Ms. Chan* suggested that she contact Michael Kraft, a CCHS alumni, to assist her in her questions about the process. She will email Mr. Kraft on *Ms. Stewart's* behalf.

Mr. Martinez said a letter was issued from the Public Advocates' office to all the CEC's and Citywide Councils. He will forward the letter to the council.

Acting President Ms. Green said the following members from the Bronx participated in the HS walk-through at school closures/relocation and PEP meetings: *Ms. Robinson, Ms. Baez, Ms. Stewart* and herself. She said, "It felt like the Bloomberg years with massive school closures." There were many angry parents at all the PEP meetings. At least 25 schools were proposed for closures and resetting (relocations) but she is happy to announce that 3 schools will be saved, 2 in Queens and 1 in Manhattan. The DOE needs to do a better job by explaining the reasons for closures/ resetting at community meetings. They need to work harder to do a better job because displacing the students from their schools would cause undue hardships for the students and their families.

Discussion of CCHS workshops, topics and dates

Mr. Martinez would like to have 2 workshops for high school students. He would like the topic of resume writing, with interviewing skills and what going to college is really like, with details. He would like to have 2 workshop groups simultaneously, then flip the workshops, so that all the students will have the benefit of the 2 workshops on one day. He proposed to have CCHS provide lunch for the students and DOE to provide metro cards. The maximum amount of high school students we can accommodate is 150 for a Saturday event. He also proposed a possible livestream event.

Ms. Stewart would like to parents to attend with the students. She feels this might be a learning experience for the parents as well as for the students.

Ms. Green and *Ms. Stewart* would like to have parent engagement workshop on "Home visits with parents by teachers." Workshop for parents informing them on the Curriculum for each HS subject.

Adjournment

Calendar meeting ended at 9:26 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

S. Mei Chan: Administrative Assistant

Revisions made by Recording Secretary: Ms. Tam-Greene

Approved by Council vote on April 11, 2018