



# 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, June 14, 2017

### ATTENDANCE

Brooklyn Representative	Mohammad Akram	ABSENT-Unexcused
Brooklyn Representative	Marianne Russo	Present
Bronx Representative	Cynthia Robinson	Present
Bronx Representative	Vacant	
Manhattan Representative	Monica Bajraktarevic	ABSENT-Unexcused
Manhattan Representative	Zoe Foundotos	Present
Queens Representative	Mona-Lisa Chandler	Present
Queens Representative	Michelle Gebrail	Present
Staten Island Representative	Vacant	
Staten Island Representative	Vacant	
Public Advocate Appointee	Lisa Lewis	Present
CCSE Appointee	Neyda Franco	Present
CCELL Appointee	Ulan Kuchukov	Present
Student Representative	Vacant	
Superintendent Liaison	Karen Watts	Present

### Attendance

**There was a quorum present.** Mohammad Akram and Monica Bajraktarevic were absent, unexcused.

### CALENDAR MEETING

Ms. Franco called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Attendance and roll call was taken at 6:59 pm.

#### **Presenters:**

Frank Sinatra School of the Arts High School Jazz Band with Jazz Band Director: Waldron Ricks.

Eight Senior High Schools students from the Jazz Band delighted the audience with their skillful, artistic Jazz Music with Waldron Ricks conducting their performance. The Citywide Council on High Schools and the audience gave them a standing well deserved ovation. Later CCHS President Michelle Gebrail awarded their Principal Donna Finn, Vice Principal Gideon Frankel, Jazz Band Director Waldron Ricks and all 8 members a certificate of appreciation from the Council.

### **Superintendent Liaison's Report**

Ms. Watts reported that her schools had a great year. The DOE initiatives that were put in place 2 ½ years ago came to fruition.

The College and Career Readiness Benchmark tests from CUNY for Algebra 1 Common Core is 70% and ELA Common Core is 75%. We have a new program called Specialized College NOW with Medgar Evers College. They teach HS teachers to teach HS students college level courses where the students receives both HS and College Credits with this Early College Dual Credit Program. This year 1600 students in this program received college credits. The program is different than College NOW with HS students taking college-level electives, while these students take Core CUNY courses. This allows them a "Pathway to a Degree." All CUNY's, and some SUNY's and most private colleges will accept the credits as college credits for this program if they meet the criteria of their credit review.

This year they have the SAT school day where the test is given on a school day along with PSAT school day. The students do not have to pay for these tests as they did years ago. They are piloting a SHAT school day this year for 8<sup>th</sup> graders. They take this test for entrance into the Specialized HS during Middle School day with their own teachers as proctors. All 8<sup>th</sup> graders in the selected schools take those tests, while in the past many students do not know of this opportunity due to the lack of information.

This year the Principals are pushing the Superintendents for programs to incorporating more technology in their schools' classrooms. In response, they are rolling out Office 365 for free in schools for all their students. They will have "Imagine Academy," for parents to receive free Office 365 certification in their schools.

Under Equity for All, they will roll-out Algebra One for All for 8<sup>th</sup> graders and Algebra One for All for 9<sup>th</sup> grade HS students.

They are encouraging and giving the Middle Schools students many opportunities to receive Regents credits while they are still in the Middle Schools. This will allow those students when they get into HS to have room in their schedules to take many AP courses, with as many as 30-60 college credits, before they enter college.

Next year 18 out of 33 HS will have AP for All in their schools. This is the second year of the Equity for All programs in the Single Shephard schools located at Districts 7 and 23. The 8<sup>th</sup> graders in the Single Shephard schools will have the same guidance counselor follow them into the 9<sup>th</sup> grade even if they plan on going to an HS outside of those 2 districts.

### **Public Comment**

Ms. Chandler commented that under Superintendent Watts her son's school was offered the AP courses for 9<sup>th</sup> graders. The Computer Science for All was a success, the 9<sup>th</sup>-grade students did well on their AP exams with excellent results for the 2016-2017 school year. The Navy Yard STEAM Project early college experience also had great results. Parent Joanne Fitch would like to know who

supports or runs the college office. What is the role of the college office and how it is staffed? What is the general function of the College Office?

Superintendent Watts: In every HS there is a College Office. It is staffed by a College Point person, usually a guidance counselor. The Office of Post-Secondary Readiness regularly gives this point person college information monthly and this person disseminates this information to the rest of the school. The Principals assigned guidance counselors as College Advisors to the College Office. Their roles are to advise students of their individual college/career plans, collect and write recommendations for the students, and make sure they are on track to graduate. Some schools use a software Naviance Program to track the students' college related information, SAT scores, and college applications. They also talk to them and their families about financial aid and take them to college tours.

Superintendent Watts awarded all CCHS members with their own Certificate of Appreciation. Each member individually accepted the awards and thanked Ms. Watts.

Parent Celia Green thanked the CCHS Council for their service. She is finishing her term on the D75 CEC and will be joining CCHS next month. She will be more than happy to be working with Ms. Chandler, Ms. Robinson and Ms. Foundotos the next term when she joins CCHS. In September, she will have 3 sons altogether in HS.

#### **Discussion and Voting for Next Year's CCHS Meeting Dates**

Ms. Franco motioned to forgo voting on the CCHS meeting dates till the first meeting with the new board on July 12, 2017.

Ms. Chandler 2nd the motion. **All in favor, 8 yeases. The motion passed unanimously.**

#### **Discussion and Voting, "Resolution to Inform Families of Educational Rights"**

Ms. Franco motioned to pass the "Resolution to Inform Families of Educational Rights."

Ms. Lewis 2nd the motion. **All in favor, 8 yeases. The motion passed unanimously.**

#### **Treasurer's Report**

No Treasurer's report. Treasurer is absent.

#### **Approval of the Minutes**

Ms. Franco motioned to accept the March 8, 2017 Calendar Minutes with corrections on, Members Report: Ms. Russo, "District 20, what is happening in each school and how to best support ELL student's needs." Mrs. Gebrail 2nd the motion. **All in favor, 8 yeases. The motion passed unanimously.**

#### **Approval of the Minutes**

Ms. Chandler motioned to accept the April 6, 2017 Calendar and Business Minutes. Mrs. Gebrail 2nd the motion. **All in favor, 8 yeases. The motion passed unanimously.**

#### **Approval of the Minutes**

Mrs. Gebrail motioned to accept the May 10, 2017 Calendar and Business Minutes. Ms. Chandler 2nd the motion. **All in favor, 7 yeases, Ms. Russo abstain due to her absence at the meeting. The motion passed.**

## **President's Report**

No report due to the lack of time.

## **Member's Report**

*Ms. Chandler's* last HS subcommittee meeting on May 30, 2017 the DLT's and DCE's tried to pull all the information into the system and see what top items they have in common. They have information for all the HS's and I will share it at the next meeting.

*Ms. Russo* thanks everyone at the CCHS since she will not be returning. She will continue communicating with the new Brooklyn representative. It was a pleasure for her to represent Brooklyn. There were conflicts with the DOE Administration earlier on, but she is happy with all the new programs rolled-out that all the students will have access to. *Ms. Russo* especially thanked Superintendent Watts for all her hard work.

She attends the District 14 Health and Food related meeting. She feels that all the Principals and Assistant Principal should attend all DLT meetings at their Districts.

At the recent District 21 meeting on the Emotional Intelligence training, "It was an incredible workshop for all the parents whom attended." It was on understanding the child's emotion, regulation, and prevention of bullying.

At the DLT 17 meeting, they examined their Bylaws and reviewing the languages of their Bylaws.

At the District 21, they are working with early childhood for K-8.

The recent C-PAC meeting, *Ms. Leonie Haimson*, at Class Size Matters talked about the Parents Rights to access their child's Student Records. "We have the rights to see all their files."

FACE had a few problems with the recent CEC elections. For example, some members can get elected without any votes due to a State Law, "No 2 members from the same school can be a CEC member. Only 1 from each school can sit on the CEC."

*Mrs. Gebrail* attended the President's Council meeting. FACE has questionable regulations regarding the CEC Elections. There are elections problems that needed to be resolved and it is not. There were errors in logging into the website for voting. We need FACE to assist us in resolving these issues, since these are very serious problems. "I will fight with our parents on this." We are very unhappy with this.

*Ms. Franco* said, according to the new A660 Chancellor's Regulations, PTA Co-Presidents have only one vote.

CCHS Vice President, *Neyda Franco* gave special thanks and awarded CCHS President *Michelle Gebrail* a special Certificate of Appreciation for her leadership during the 2016-2017 school year.

*Ms. Foundotos* on April 24, 2017 visited the George Washington Campus at Washington Heights with Executive Director of Manhattan District Office *Ms. Chu* and PEP/ past CCHS Manhattan Representative *Michael Kraft*. They meet with the 4 HS Principals in that building where they shared resources and ideas along with the Community Superintendent. All 4 HS had their graduation at the

same time in their auditorium. They have a beautiful historical building that needs a lot of work. One of the issues is window problems and they are working with SCA to correct it.

She also visited the Norman Thomas Campus in District 2 with Ms. Chu and Mr. Kraft. In that building they have a Charter School Success Academy and 3 other HS. They are having issues with the Charter matching funds and would like further information on how are they used?

Ms. Franco, Ms. Chandler and Ms. Foundotos had further discussions about Charter School matching funds.

*Ms. Franco* announced that she may not return to CCHS. She has been elected to CCSE but has not been appointed to CCHS yet.

*Ms. Chandler* gave out to some members the latest SCA 900 pages Capital Plan Report. They do not have the status of our requests and her contact person has changed. She will send the members to the link, "NYC School Construction Authority Quarterly Status of Projects in Process Quarter Ending March 31, 2017." She will compare the latest information to what was submitted under Capital Plans.

At the last Capital Plan, Ms. Chandler said that some of the HS Principals did not receive her emails that she gave to the HS Superintendents to distribute. Next year, they will need to have a better plan to communicate to the HS Principals. They are also having issues with the structural inspections which did not detect problems mentioned in the SCA reports and calls are placed regarding to the injuries related to those problems.

### **Old Business/New Business**

Mrs. Gebrail will have the AA email to the members the FACE CEC celebration on June 24, 2017.

President Michelle Gebrail thanked her colleagues for a job well done and distributed a Certificate of Appreciation to each and every CCHS member. She thanked and gave Superintendent Watts her own Certificate of Appreciation.

Superintendent Mendez gave out the Queens/Bronx schools 2017 SLT meeting dates/location for all his schools.

He highlighted the different Pathways to Graduation. Superintendent Mendez presented and distributed his 2016 August 4-Year Graduation Rates and his 2016 College Readiness Rates. He also gave out the SAT for reading and math scores for his schools. He distributed the June 2017 Monthly District Reports for all his schools under his care.

### **Cancellation of the CCHS Business Meeting**

Mrs. Gebrail motioned to cancel the Business Meeting due to the lack of time. Ms. Franco 2nd the motion. **All in favor, 8 yeses. The motion passed unanimously.**

### **Adjournment**

Calendar meeting ended at 9:10 PM.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**S. Mei Chan: Administrative Assistant**

**Revisions made by Acting President/1<sup>st</sup> VP Ms. Green:**

**Approved by Council vote on August 9, 2017**