



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, October 14, 2015

ATTENDANCE

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

In Attendance

We have quorum. Edward Afuakwah and Miguel Rodriguez are absent due to reason related to work, excused absence.

CALENDAR MEETING

Call to order by President Ms. Asiedu at 6:07 pm. Attendance and roll call was taken.

Presenter: Mariano Guzman: Senior Advisor, Office of the Chancellor

Mr. Guzman presented a power point: "Strong Schools, Strong Communities Overview."

Highlights from the power point:

- A pie chart of the 3 components are: "The Framework for Great Schools," "Strong Schools, Strong Communities," and "Accountability Throughout the System."
- It has 6 transformative elements to improve and develop student achievements:
 - A. Trust
 - B. Effective School Leadership
 - C. Strong Family-Community Ties
 - D. Supportive Environment
 - E. Rigorous Instruction
 - F. Collaborative Teachers

G. Results in: Student Achievement

- They are taking a holistic approach to implement the schools system in order to improve student achievements.

Mr. Guzman introduced the following Directors of Borough Field Support Centers and they each gave a brief description of their career background:

- Staten Island (Dist:31) Kevin Moran
- Manhattan (Dist:1,2,3,4,5,6) Yuet Chu
- Queens North (Dist: 24, 25, 26, 30) Lawrence Pendergast
- Queens South (Dist: 27, 28, 29) Marlene Wiks
- Bronx (Dist: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12) Jose Ruiz
- Citywide Director of the Affinity Group: Alexandra Anormaliza

Ms. Franco asked what the hiring process was for the Family Support Coordinators and how this position was created.

Ms. Gebrail is unhappy that Queens do not have one HS Superintendent dedicated only to that borough. She likes *Ms. Watts* as a HS Superintendent but feels that she might be overworked with Queens and Brooklyn HS.

Ms. Chandler feels that Queens need a HS Superintendent for that borough so parents will have a key person to go to for issues. Currently with Queens Support Centers divided into North and South, it is confusing for parents.

Mr. Guzman will email back some responses for questions that was asked at the meeting.

Public Comment

Ms. Stewart asked what data was used to identify struggling schools and students with learning differences, and IEP's? And how are they serviced or if they are serviced. Students become very frustrated and at risk for dropping out of school due to the lack of services.

Director Wiks responded that they are insuring that the students are getting needed services.

Ms. Crowson would like to know, what was the hiring practice for the support staff at the Borough offices? Do they have the experience of assisting parents to resolve their issues? On a recent issue in the Manhattan office, it took them a month to resolve it.

Director Ruiz said that they are constantly monitoring, tracking, gathering data about providing the needed services to the students. But services like occupational therapy, physical therapy and speech, they have a hard them locating providers. They are trying to go to outside agencies to provide the needed services.

Presenter: Karen Watts HS Superintendent Liaison

Ms. Watts presented the power point for: Contact for Excellence-C4E FY16 Proposed Plan
See attached power point.

Comfort Itoka: Director of Operations asked the CCHS council and attendees to submit your comments in writing. "By law we will take your comments on the C4E FY16 Proposed Plan."

Mr. Kraft commented that the numbers on slide #12 should be accurate. It looks confusing.

Ms. Chandler would like to know why HS enrollment does not tell the HS principals of the student enrollment for their schools as soon as they get the numbers in. Based on HS Enrollment's projections on enrollment, principals allocate monies to their programs, and then have to cancel it after the final numbers are in, and enrollment is much lower than expected. This is unfair, and nonproductive.

Ms. Russo and members would like to see the last 4 years of C4E funding allocations by: Borough/ District/ Schools so it can be transparent as to how the monies are being allocated.

Ms. Watts and Ms. Itoka will be providing CCHS with the listing as requested.

Superintendent Liaison's Report

Superintendent Watts introduced the newest member of her team: Greg Hagin who would be in charge of the SLT, Parent Coordinators, PA/PTA, and attend CCHS, DLT and Brooklyn HS Council meetings. Her Family Support Coordinator: Corrine Mattis will coordinate with families and their issues. When an issue is brought in, she will contact the school directly, following up, and then contact the parent with a response. In the past the issues was presented to the schools, and the school contact the parent directly.

Superintendent Watts:

- Supporting struggling schools
- Using the AVID program
- The International Baccalaureate Program
- MAC developer
- National Teacher Network
- Will be visiting schools more often
- Targeted Professional Development
- Making sure highly effective principal and teachers share, and collaborate with lower performing schools

Public Comment

Ms. Linsey asked what the training, qualifications and expectation of the Family Leadership Coordinators?

Mr. Hagin responded with his work history.

Ms. Asiedu would like to invite Dr. Laura Feijoo to a future CCHS meeting to ask her some of the questions that was raised at the meeting.

Approval of the Resolution: "Credit Recovery" 2015-R1

Ms. Allen read the new CCHS resolution Credit Recovery 2015-R1 to the council, and the public. Mohammad Akram left early due to work, and did not vote. There was no public comments.

9 yeses, 0 abstained. Motion passed.

Yes	Allen, Asiedu, Bajraktarevic, Chandler, Franco, Kraft, Lewis, Rodriguez, Russo
No	None
Abstained	None

Public Comment

Ms. Linsey introduced some of the newly elected parent volunteers.

Three high schools students: Mohamed Ghanem, Jennifer Ramdin, and Masjaal Bhatti from the Queens HS, "Academy of American Studies," spoke to the council to make an appeal for a new school building that was promise to them by the old Chancellor. They have waited a few years since that promise, and is appealing for assistance from the council to get a new school building to accommodate the current student population and future growth.

Queens representative *Ms. Gebrail* have been, and will continue to assist that school in finding a new location.

Ms. Crowson updated the Manhattan President's Council about the new DOE structure. If there are issues, we have to let other people know about it.

Announcements

Ms. Asiedu reported:

- UFT parent meetings at Manhattan-November 14th, Brooklyn –October 24th, and Bronx-November 7th
- Chancellor Parent Conference Oct 24th
- ELL Conference October 29th
- PEP Meeting October 27th
- UFT-SLT Training October 15th
- HS Borough Fair October 17th and 18th
- UFT Dinner meeting the UFT President Michael Mulgrew October 19th

President's Report

Ms. Asiedu tabled her report due to the lack of time.

Treasurer's Report

Ms. Bajraktarevic gave Treasure's report, see attachment.

Member's Report

Ms. Lewis has no report.

Ms. Bajraktarevic said that the Citywide HS Fair was very well attended.

Ms. Gebrail attend a breakfast at Maspeth HS and networked with: teachers, principal, council people, chief of police for an education collaboration. She was very impress and would recommend this type of event to all the Queens HS's.

Ms. Allen meet with the Superintendent to discuss the Capital Plan.

Mr. Kraft meet with a parent volunteer who plans on working with CCHS to redesign, and help us to make the website more user friendly.

Ms. Chandler outreached to her district's CEC's and introduced herself. And added her name to their distribution list so that we can share information with each other.

Ms. Russo attend Brooklyn Technical HS STEM Fair Completion. She also attend the HS admissions information sessions by Stanley Ng at district 15, 18, and 20. And she attended CPAC along with watching a new movie "Malala."

Adjourned Meeting

Ms. Franco motion to adjourn the Calendar Meeting.

Ms. Gebrail 2nd the motion.

9 yeases. Motion passed unanimously.

Yes	Allen, Asiedu, Bajraktarevic, Chandler, Franco, Gebrail, Kraft, Lewis, Russo
No	None
Abstained	None

Adjournment

Calendar meeting ended at 8:46PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

S. Mei Chan
Administrative Assistant

Revision made by Recording Secretary Lisa Lewis and President:

Approved by Council vote on November 18, 2015