



CITYWIDE COUNCIL ON HIGH SCHOOLS

NYC DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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MINUTES

Calendar and Business Meetings Wednesday, August 13, 2014

ATTENDANCE

Brooklyn Representative	<i>Vacant</i>	
Brooklyn Representative	Marianne Russo	<i>Absent</i>
Bronx Representative	<i>Vacant</i>	
Bronx Representative	Neyda Franco	<i>Absent</i>
Manhattan Representative	<i>Vacant</i>	
Manhattan Representative	Terri Watson	<i>Absent</i>
Queens Representative	Alleyne Hughley	Present
Queens Representative	<i>Vacant</i>	
Staten Island Representative	<i>Vacant</i>	
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

Absences

Excused absences: Marianne Russo, Neyda Franco, Terri Watson. We do not have quorum.

CALENDAR MEETING

Call to order by Acting President Ms. Hughley at 6:10 pm.

This meeting would be used for information purposes only.

Program Presentation

Performances by:

Fordham High School for the Arts Students and Brooklyn Theatre Arts High School Students

Fordham High School for the Arts Students and Brooklyn Theatre Arts High School Students performed musical numbers and dances from musicals. And they performed monologues from plays. See attached student performance program. Both of the high schools had two students each speaking about how much the performing arts programs enriched their lives. All the participating students produced a marvelous show for the CCHS meeting. The abundance of talents astounds the audience.

CCHS 2nd Vice President Ms. Franco and Brooklyn Representative Mr. Cera presented Appreciation Certificates to the two principals: David H. Ward and Iris Blige, four teachers and all the high school student performers.

President's Report

2nd Vice President Ms. Franco announced that President Alleyne Hughley could not attend the meeting due to a family emergency. Ms. Franco acknowledged their dedications and thanked the CCHS members whom are leaving due to their children's high school graduation and can no longer serve on the CCHS board. Ms. Franco announced and presented the exiting members with a personal thank you speech and presented them with an appreciation certificate and gift. Upon receiving their certificate the members each reflected their time on the CCHS council. Ms. Franco made a special speech for the exiting student representative: Jaden Baird. The exiting members are: Kenneth Cera, Stanley Ng, Alex Lee and Martin Krongold. Martin Krongold was not in attendance due to work conflict. When Ms. Franco presented to Marianne Russo, she announced that it is not her time to leave the council due to that fact one of her child will graduate in June and her other younger child will start high school in September, both at Brooklyn high schools. Ms. Franco stated that she does not agree with Ms. Russo and will address the issue at a later time.

2nd Vice President Ms. Franco announced that the CCHS council today does not have Quorum. And to be respectful of all the attendee's time, we will continue the program as an informational session. We cannot have the Business portion of the meeting due to the lack of quorum.

Superintendent Liaison Report

Ms. Watts thanked and presented each individual appreciation certificate from the Superintendent to all the board members.

Presentation of Revised Citywide Council on High Schools Website: **Suet Mei Chan MS. Ed. /Administrative Assistant to CCHS**

Ms. Chan the designer and content manger of the redesigned CCHS website made a presentation about the ease for the H.S. parent and student friendly CCHS website: www.cchsnyc.org. The site has Google translate for translations of the site materials in many different languages. She went over the specific helpful contents: Summer jobs and year round internships for HS students, College Corner containing free college counseling and college programs, news about the upcoming HS admissions workshops and DOE HS admissions information, general information for HS parents and specific information for parents of ELL students, IEP students and students with disabilities. Ms. Franco's response to Superintendent Watts that this is an excellent much needed website and she can assist the CCHS by communicating to the high school Parent Coordinators to promote this site to their parents.

Public Comment

Monique Lindsay, the past CCHS Brooklyn Representative is very happy about the CCHS website content but wish it has a section where high school principals can send to the CCHS information highlighting the positive activities in their school. And each month the CCHS can choose one to two schools to highlight on their website.

Monique Lindsay commented that Marianne Russo the current Brooklyn CCHS representative that she is breaking the rules by staying after the expiration deadline of June 30, 2014.

And if Ms. Russo will have another child coming into high school, that she needs to reapply and be voted onto the CCHS council again. Ms. Russo's response is that she disagrees with her and plans to stay. Ms. Lindsay responded by saying that she intends to file a grievance against Ms. Russo with the proper authorities and have Ms. Russo abide the law of all New York City councils.

Julie Dancona of Frank Sinatra HS of the Arts complained to the council that her daughter's school does not offer Spanish more than one year. She would like her daughter to take Spanish in her school for at least three years. Ms. Dancona spent time researching the colleges that her daughter would like to attend and the admissions requirements is that the HS students' need to have at least three years of a foreign language, in order to be admissions competitive. Ms. Dancona spoke to her principal and the principal does not agree with her. Ms. Dancona will contact Ms. Watts for advice about her situation.

Calendar meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

BUSINESS MEETING IS CANCEL DUE TO THE LACK OF QUORUM.

Respectfully Submitted,

S. Mei Chan
Administrative Assistant

Revision made by President: Alleyne Hughley

Approved by Council vote on _____