



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, September 13, 2017

ATTENDANCE

Brooklyn Representative	Celia Green	Present
Brooklyn Representative	Christina Reid	ABSENT-Unexcused
Bronx Representative	Catherine Baez	Present
Bronx Representative	Cynthia Robinson	Present
Manhattan Representative	Rodrigo Diaz	Present
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	Present
Public Advocate Appointee	Nickoles Martinez	Present
CCSE Appointee	Vacant	
CCELL Appointee	Ulan Kuchukov	Present
Student Representative	Alice Karetsky	ABSENT-Unexcused
Superintendent Liaison	Karen Watts	Present

Attendance

There was a quorum present. Laurine Melville was absent due to work, excused absence. Christina Reid and Alice Karetsky was absent, unexcused absence.

CALENDAR MEETING

Ms. Chandler called the meeting to order at 6:09 pm. Attendance and roll call were taken at 7:59 pm.

Presenters:

Robert Klein: Deputy Senior, Executive Director: Executive Academic Officer, Office of State/Federal Educational Policy

Update on: Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

See attached Powerpoint

Update on: Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

Sharon Rencher was not able to present as scheduled, due to the fact she was currently at the ESSA meeting in upstate New York.

Robert Klein had presented on her behalf. The DOE had 3 rounds of public hearing on the ESSA asking for public feedback about the proposed plans. New York State also held their own public hearings at NYC.

The Board of Regents ESSA Mission is:

- To ensure that every child has equitable access to the highest quality educational opportunities, services and supports in schools that provide highly effective instruction aligned to the state's standard, as well as positive learning environments so that each child is prepared for success in college, career, and citizenship.
- The latest draft of ESSA link on New York State Regents website:
<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/accountability/essa/documents/ny-essa-plan-summary-draft-july-2017.pdf>

Some highlights:

Supporting English Language Learners/ Multilingual Learners:

- *What stays the same:* Comprehensive services for students whose first language is not English. Monitoring of districts' English Language Learners'/Multilingual Learners' attainment of English language proficiency.
- *What will be different:* Exemption of recently arrived English Language Learners/Multilingual Learners from the State's English language arts test and inclusion of their scores in their second year of schooling only as a baseline, assuming successful submission of a waiver to the United States Department of Education.
Focus on English Language Learners'/Multilingual Learners' path to proficiency by holding schools accountable for their progress.
New method for determining whether students are making adequate annual progress toward proficiency in English.

Waivers of Off Grade Testing for Students with Disabilities:

- Continue to administer the New York State Alternate Assessment (NYSAA) to students with the most significant cognitive disabilities.
Continue to provide a comprehensive set of accommodations to students with disabilities/differently abled students.
- Allow selected group of students with disabilities who have significant cognitive and intellectual disabilities that preclude their meaningful participation in chronological grade-level instruction to take grades 3-8 assessments up to two levels below their grade-level.
Justification:
Consistent with ESSA provisions allowing off-grade testing through computer adaptive tests.
- Waiver request consistent with NYS Education Law 305(48)

Next Step: ESSA Plan Submission:

- Deadline to submit ESSA State Plan to United States Department of Education (USDE): September 18, 2017.
- USDE formal feedback on plan to NYSED: Estimated December 2017.
- Final approval of New York's ESSA Plan by USDE: Estimated January/ February 2018.
- There will be further information in October.

Mr. Klein also announced the upcoming event and invited everyone to attend:

Comprehensive Educational Planning Conference for the 2017-18 SY

Time and location:

Saturday, September 16, 2017, 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Prospect Heights High School Campus 883 Classon Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11223

There will be over 30 workshops along with student panelist and performances.

The 2017 Comprehensive Educational Planning (CEP) Conference will focus on implementing school and district educational plans with an emphasis on the Chancellor's recently released School Diversity Plan: *Equity and Excellence for All: Diversity in New York City Public Schools*. Participants include School and District Leadership Team (SLT/DLT) members (superintendents, principals, teachers, UFT/CSA/DC-37 representatives, parent leaders, and student leaders), Central, district, and Field Support Center (FSC) staff, and community members. Attendees will engage in deeper discussions on how district- and school-level planning and implementation can support diversity and inclusiveness in districts, schools and classrooms, so that all stakeholders are supported and welcome.

Superintendent Liaison's Report

The following High Schools Superintendents gave a brief report:

Karen Watts: Brooklyn HS 13, 14, 16, 19, 23, 32 provided handouts at the meeting. And providing information on different programs available at her schools. Her schools had a great start of the new school year. She introduced all the HS Superintendents that attend the meeting.

Kathy Pelles: Consortium, International, Outward Bound, provided handouts at the meeting. She will come back and present to the council next month.

Paul Rotondo: Transfer Schools & District 12 provided handouts at the meeting. He will present later in the meeting.

Elaine Lindsey: Queens HS in Districts 24, 25, 26, 27, 29, 30. She will present at the January meeting.

Michael Prayor: Brooklyn HS in Districts 15, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22. He will present at the March meeting.

Marisol Rosales: Manhattan HS in Districts 1 and 2 encompassing a total of 38 HS. She will present at the December meeting. She is concern about equality and leadership. The principals put together many resources for students and families, especially for supporting families of undocumented students, the deadline is October 5, 2017. The resources are for administrators/ educators/ families to use.

Donald Conyers: New Visions-Manhattan/ Brooklyn/ Staten Island & Districts 4, 5, 6 provided handouts at the meeting. Most of his HS are in Brooklyn with 20 in Manhattan and 1 in S.I. He will present at the October meeting. Some of the things he will be talking about is principals' leadership, college readiness and family engagement with the communities and local schools. A subset of his HS are now in training. He has a Discovery learning program in Mathematics, to assist the removals of obstacles for students in learning higher math.

Anthony Lodico: Staten Island HS District 31 provided handouts at the meeting. He takes care of the S.I. schools 69 PreK-12, 8 Non-Affinity HS and 17 Renewal HS Citywide. He chairs the HS

subcommittee which will be meeting on Oct 24, 2017. His district vision and instructional focus are Equity and Excellence and the Learning Partners Group. He has a Borough Advisory Council monthly meeting where HS student leaders meet with the S.I. Borough President. The student's present real-life problem and solutions to him and if he likes their projects, their projects get funded. They are building a new wing at Curtis HS. The Mayor and the Chancellor cut ribbons there on the 1st school day to celebrate the addition but it will take about a year to complete the renovation. They will open up about 19 new additional classrooms. At the Port Richmond HS, they have a clinic that serves the HS and the surrounding community. The Staten Island Technical is looking at Equality and Excellence and is partnering with local middle schools students to help them be better prepared for HS. The Susan Wagner HS has a new wing for their "Black Box Theatre."

Juan Mendez: New Visions HS-HS in the Bronx/Queens & District 28 provided handouts at the meeting. One of the things he is focusing in is college readiness. He is creating structures in the HS in order to create a higher graduation rates and also to assist the students' acceptance into better colleges and be prepared for college and career readiness once they do graduate. He would like more focus on the following subjects in his high schools: writing, mathematics, and sciences.

Paul Rotondo: 30 Transfer Schools & District 12 high schools in the Bronx. The Transfer High Schools are in all 5 boroughs and are designed to engage and support the students to be successful. The students that go to these HS are students that are over aged and under credit by 2 or more years behind or off track, some with overwhelming life issues. They tried to meet the student's social-emotional needs, in order to help them to be more successful. We also have many students that are over aged and new incoming immigrants. Most of the students are 17-21 years old, with 10%-15% being D75 students and 5% ELL students. We created resources online:

- Additional ways to graduate documents
- Brochures for students showing subway lines with high schools that are closest to them
- They will train School Counselors on the new resources along with the HS Enrollment office

Programs offered:

- Expanding and offering College NOW and more AP classes
- "Learning to Work," programs
- Creating partnerships with CBO partners and offering workshops
- Offering occupational courses
- Offering students pay internships
- 2 Hybrid Transfer Schools: for overage middle school students
- 13,000 seats citywide

The transfer schools had 2600 students receive a HS Diploma last year.

Fred Walsh: CUNY, Urban Assembly & 4 District 3 HS with Affinity HS. There are many changes in the leadership at his schools. He will present at the December meeting.

Public Comment

Susan Crowson Co-President of the Manhattan HSPC and Co-President Frank McCourt HS. She is concerned about equity since most of the programs are for the lower grades and not the HS. Since there are budget cuts, she would like programs in place for HS students too. Her school had program cuts already. She would like to advocate fairness that HS students get additional programs too.

Tasfia Rahman from Community Food Advocates, announced that we now have free lunch for all students, including HS students and she would like more parents to spread the word.

Monique Lindsay alumni of HSPC of Brooklyn and former CCHS Brooklyn Representative. We would assist with spreading the word to parents that we have free lunch. It was the push from parents and other advocates who had assisted in making the changes to make lunch in school free for all students.

Ms. Tam-Greene talked about overcrowded underfunded high schools. There are 85 HS in Queens with 4 large HS with over a dozen severely overcrowded. Yet some of the schools have unfilled seats. The 4 Queens HS: Bayside HS, Francis Lewis HS, Benjamin Cardozo HS and Forest Hills, with some that are 200 over capacity. It affects negatively the students' education along with their learning environment.

Last year it was announced that under Fair Funding the budget went up 87% but most of it went to retroactive raises in teachers' and school personals' contracts due to their unions. The schools are still short-changed and underfunding is very noticeable in these larger high schools. How are these school supposed to provide high-quality education when the DOE keeps putting additional students in without proper funding for these students?

At Cardozo HS, my son who attends that school cannot participate in an afterschool activity since he was literary pushed out of the school due to enormous overcrowding. Her daughter at Bayside HS has to strategize daily to push through the crowds in order to attend her classes on time.

I would like to find out the following information from all the high schools in NYC:

- Are the NYC High Schools funded fairly?
- Capacity and size
- Funding per student
- Funds received

Approval of the Minutes

Ms. Tam-Greene motioned to accept the August 9, 2017, Calendar/Business Minutes. *Ms. Foundotos* 2nd the motion. **All in favor, 9 yeses, with Ms. Meyers passed. The motion passed.**

Member Reports:

Ms. Foundotos attend a meeting with Manhattan President Gale Brewer' educational policy analyst Ayisha Irfan to export Stuyvesant's HS Summer Research to other schools. She spoke to HS Enrollment Adam Parades about additional support on HS admissions for shelter students. At the HS Fair, they have a room dedicated to shelter families regarding HS admissions and training Family Assistance to assist them with this transition. The DOE is growing the program. She was invited to a Principal's Conference by Manhattan Superintendent Marisol Rosales were 38 principals attended. The meeting was on equality, unconscious bias and Capital Plans.

Ms. Chandler attend 2 meetings with the first on Citywide Council on Special Education on September 7th. They discussed that students are not receiving their mandated IEP services, district planning with Charter Schools application submitted on SI. She also attended the Queens HSPC where FACE talked about engaging the whole family.

Mr. Martinez attend the Public Advocate meeting last week and a discussion on non-compliance with IEP service report. A report that will be coming out in another month on Homeless Students. And they talked about how DOE awards contracts to companies. The Chancellor is currently putting in teachers' that were excessed and stayed in the "Rubber Room," into schools.

The Public Advocate's office is proposing a legislation to find out more information about these teachers, where and why they are being placed and why they were in the rubber room in the first place. They would like to hear about special education students' evaluations, the wait time and if the schools are pressuring the parents to change their child's IEP. They are investigating if DOE is in compliance with having a library in every middle schools and high schools in NYC.

Ms. Green attend a meeting in district 14 talking about the expanding the summer program there. She attended the CPAC meeting which some other CCHS members also attended. The presenters were NYS Education Commissioner and President of USNY MaryEllen Elia with Chancellor Fariña.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Martinez gave a Treasurer's Report.

Old Business

Prior Counsel Member Reimbursements

Ms. Green explained that the former CCHS President Michelle Gebrail submitted her 12 months of reimbursements on the last day possible for FAMIS processing knowing FAMIS shuts down on July 30, 2017, and there might be a possibility that it might not go through. The end of the fiscal year for DOE is on June 30, 2017. As President, she knows the ramifications. FAMIS did shut down as predicted. An email was sent by the council to Ms. Gebrail asking her to attend the CCHS meeting to explain her situation. Ms. Gebrail emailed the AA to ask her to read a letter addressing the council on her behalf since she was not able to attend due to personal reasons.

A letter (email) was sent out earlier by Ms. Gebrail to ask our SGO Ms. Wallace so that Celia Green can approve her 4 months of reimbursements totaling \$800.00. The SGO cannot approve that since Ms. Gebrail is only entitled to her reimbursements within her service for that fiscal year of July 2016-June 30, 2017. It is at the discretion of the current CCHS if they vote as a council to agree to take monies out of their current budget to reimburse her. It is not mandatory for us to do so but we will discuss this situation. The AA Suet Chan read Ms. Gebrail's letter.

The council's discussion on whether to reimbursement Ms. Gebrail took place. Ms. Meyers asked if there were funds returned to the DOE. Ms. Chan said a total of \$3000 was returned.

Ms. Chandler asked to have the former CCHS President Michelle Gebrail be reimbursed for her remaining \$800 from last year.

Motion to partial payment

Ms. Chandler motioned to a partial payment of \$125 to Michelle Gebrail. Ms. Tam-Greene 2nd the motion. **All in favor, 7 yeses, with Ms. Meyers, Mr. Martinez, and Mr. Diaz 3 nos. The motion passed.**

New Business

Motion to Option 1 reimbursement plan

Mr. Martinez motioned to stay with the current member's reimbursement plan "Option 1". CCHS members: whoever sends in the reimbursements in, gets processed first. The members get fully reimbursed till the reimbursement funds are depleted. We have limited funds, when those are depleted, there will be no additional funds. Ms. Green 2nd the motion. **All in favor, 10 yeses. The motion passed.**

Motion to Send Christina Reid Notice to Vacate Her Seat

Ms. Green motioned to send CCHS Brooklyn Representative: Christina Reid a notice to vacate the CCHS Brooklyn seat due to 3 meetings: July/August/September 2017 no show, no communications with CCHS. Mr. Martinez 2nd the motion. **All in favor, 9 yeses. Ms. Baez left before the end of the meeting, (absent). The motion passed.**

Motion to postpone the CCHS Business meeting until September 25, 2017

Ms. Green motioned to postpone the September CCHS meeting until September 25th at CCHS office at Court Sq. or 333-7th Ave Manhattan. Voting to postpone the meeting and have a consensus as to the date and place for the meeting. Mr. Martinez 2nd the motion. **All in favor, 9 yeses. Ms. Baez left before the end of the meeting, (absent). The motion passed.**

Election of Officers

Motion to move the Election till next meeting

Mr. Martinez motioned to postpone and move the Elections to next month's Calendar Meeting. Ms. Green 2nd the motion. **All in favor, 9 yeses. Ms. Baez left before the end of the meeting, (absent). The motion passed.**

Adjournment

Calendar meeting and election ended at 9:38 PM. There was no Business meeting due to the lack of time.

Respectfully Submitted,

S. Mei Chan: Administrative Assistant

Revisions made by Acting President/1st VP Ms. Green

Approved by Council vote on October 11, 2017