

# Citywide Council on Special Education

## Calendar Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 20, 2016

International Community School Auditorium

345 Brook Avenue, Bronx, NY 10454

### Call to Order

Pamela Stewart called the meeting to order at 6:25 pm

### Roll Call

Lisa Bennett Wells – CP	Excused
Pamela Stewart – CP	Present
Ellen McHugh – VP	Present
Gina Panico-Devito RS	Present
Amalia Alvarez – Treasurer	Excused
Leslie Caraballo	Present
Denise Garcia	Present
Sandy Noel	Absent
Michelle Noris	Present
Marilyn Vasquez	Present
Neyda Franco – CCHS	Excused
Appointee	

Interpretation representatives were introduced and asked if anyone needed their services.

### Appointment of Timekeeper

Gina Panico Devito was appointed timekeeper

### **Presentation - Transitioning into High School Presentation**

Ariel Peters, Director of Academic/Assessment Policy and Strategic Planning and Adam Paredes, Director of High School Admissions discussed the High School Admissions Process and the importance of starting as early as sixth grade by reevaluating their IEP to see if the current program is working and on the right path

in helping to enter HS. Discussed the roadmap that parents/students should take at the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade levels from reevaluating the IEP to researching schools, attending HS fairs, preparing for auditions and filling out applications. They also talked about the application process from the parents' perspective. Parents should visit schools with the intent of finding out about the school environment. Talk to teachers and students. The presenters also shared resources to help parents and students prepare for high school

### **Reading of Minutes**

It was moved by Lisa Bennett Wells and seconded by Michelle Noris that the minutes of August 4, 2016 and September 29, 2016 be accepted as received.

### **Vice President Report**

Ellen McHugh shared that she received an invitation to the United Federation of Teachers' Lunch with Mulgrew.

### **Members' Report**

Gina Panico Devito and her family visited the Intrepid Museum and said everyone enjoyed and recommends it as a family outing.

### **Old Business**

2015-2016 Annual Report Proposal – Michelle Noris presented the proposal from Gail Robinson. Michelle Noris moved and Ellen McHugh seconded to accept the proposal. The AA will submit a purchase order for first payment due at first draft of report.

### **New Business**

- i. Business Cards – Should The Council have business cards? The Council voted – six yes, two no.
- ii. Website Update – Lisa Bennett Wells – the website is up and running. Will meet with AA Rose to go over a few things.
- iii. Upcoming Calendar Meetings
  - a. November – The speaker is not available to present on November 10 so meeting is rescheduled for November 14. AA will resubmit permit to school for new date.
  - b. December – Leslie Caraballo suggested that the Turning 5 presentation focus on placement instead of triennial for Pre K

students. PS 48 in District 6 was suggested. AA will submit permit to school.

- c. January 2017 – Pamela Stewart suggested a “dual presentation” where the presenters are in a Manhattan location and being teleconferenced at a Staten Island location. Will research schools who can accommodate.

### **Special Calendar Meeting – Interview of CCSE Candidates**

Four of the six candidates were available to attend meeting – Ian Cooley, Gloria Corsino, Susan Crowson and Troy Gethers. Each candidate was asked question and answered based on their experience as a parent advocate and a parent of a special needs student.

1. How much time can you commit to CCSE work outside of calendar and business meetings?
2. What skills do you bring to the council to utilize to achieve CCSE goals?
3. Why do you want to advocate on behalf of students as a member of the CCSE?
4. Use one word to describe yourself.

Calendar Meeting adjourned at 8:27 pm