

Minutes for the CEC District 15 Meeting
WORKING/CALENDAR MEETING

Date: Monday, August 3, 2009

1- Call to order 6:20pm: Theresa Latingua

Members Present: Theresa Lantigua, James Devor, Valerie Price Ervin, Janet Williams, Alisa Yalan-Murphy, Mark Kolman, Ken Kramer, David Stutt, Janna Turoff

Members Absent: Liz Rosenberg, Amy Sirot

Additional Participants: Anita Scop, Acting Community Superintendent in District 15, Romaine Smith, and John Staniszweski- teacher PS 15

Point of order – It is now our official policy to attend meetings and to be aware and accountable of who will be attending meetings - Theresa Latingua

11-Superintendent's Report- Anita Skop

Reported that summer school was winding down. Testing would be taking place shortly. Parents wanting to appeal – can do so in writing and can submit request for appeal online. Appeals would be based on the child's portfolio of work. Deadline for appeals is August 28th.

1. Attended public hearing for new Charter applications. GEE (Global Education Excellence) K-12, has applied and is seeking a proposed charter in District 15. Members present at the hearing were Jim Devour, Ken Kramer, Liz Rosenberg, as well as two teachers from PS 15. The meeting was informational about what they are proposing. They have backing, are looking for private real estate, but not sure if District 15 or District 16 would be best suited for the student population and curriculum. Presently 80% of students are from Arabic backgrounds.
2. Pre-K admissions – information not available until Fall.
3. PS 27 Update. Discussion about where the displaced students will attend school in September. Jim reported that Sam Sloaves promised this would be resolved by the end of June. – Janna asked who will advocate for placement of the PS 27 students. Ken stated that there should be a focus of choice. Parents should have a choice of a school that suits their children.

Action: CEC should reach out to Sam Sloaves, as well as the High School Superintendent and the Network Leader for the school, to see where they are in the process.

111- Presidents Report-Jim Devor

- **Developments in Albany** – The Silver/Padavan Bill will be passed by Senate with additional amendments including -Citywide Council on the Arts –Citywide ESL- Parent Academies.
 - The parent academies will provide training for CEC's and SLT's. The SLT's will have increased strength and training- best serving communities as a conduit of change. SLT's will have participation in the creation of the budget. If there is conflict with a principal, there is an appeals process to the superintendent.

- There will be a subcommittee to look into police presence in schools.
- The Panel on Educational Policy needs to approve contracts over 10 million dollars.
- Public Comment will be taken before the vote on policy
- CEC will take a role in SLT training.
- The DLT will be held August 31st 4-6pm

1V- Update on School Health Clinic Meeting – Mark Kolman

Points of Information: LICH was running health clinics for some schools in District 15. The meeting was held to inform attendees that there is no money and the clinics are closed. No discussion about options, alternatives, or the concerns for the children. Equipment is currently being taken out of the clinics.

- **Action:** Write letters to Brennan’s office to discuss what can be done to provide health clinics/options to schools affected by health clinic closings, and to gain monies for such. Reach out to Borough President. Advocate on behalf of the students and schools.

V- Review of 2009-2010 Meeting Dates – Theresa Lantigua

Motion by Janet Williams: Calendar meetings to be held the first Tuesday and third Thursday of each month. **Voted:** Unanimous. **Motion:** Passes.

VI- Discussion of CEC Vision for the year- Theresa Lantigua

- Should wording of CEC 15 mission statement be changed?
“Empowering Parents to Claim Excellent Education for All Students”
Mark: “Parents should not have to “claim” something that was their “right”
Action: Table the agenda item and revisit.
- Shifting of focus about achieving their rights. - Mark
- Facilitate training of parents and SLT’s parents – Jim
- **Raising agenda item:** To help parents –Janna
Action: Table agenda item – warrants further discussion next business meeting.

VII- Plan for September Meeting

Topic for calendar meeting discussion: PS15 and Charter Schools in District 15
Speakers: Spencer Robinson, Courtney McNally – Dept. of Portfolio, Rana Khan
Charter School office
Have teacher from PS 15 talk about real life struggle- speak from Panel site.
Meeting starts at 7pm.

Unfinished Business- Minutes from July 16th working and calendar meeting were not corrected or approved.

Meeting is adjourned at 8pm.