

**Citywide Council on Special Education  
Wednesday, November 30th, 2023  
CCSE Calendar/Business Meeting**

**Call to Order**

The Calendar/ Business Meeting was called to order by Co-President Mark Gonsalves. It began at 6:32pm and was presided over by Mark Gonsalves with Maggie Sanchez as secretary.

**Roll call**

Diana Abrams - Present

Sanayi Beckles Canton- Present

Carolyn Castro- Present

Heather Dailey- Present

Mark Gonsalves- Present

Lupe Hernandez- Present

Tamaira Reid- Present

Maggie Sanchez- Present

Azalia Volpe - Present (Virtually)

Olamipo Adeola Ogunleye - Present (Virtually)

Roll call and Introduction of New Members - Introduction of Olamipo Adeola Ogunleye, our Student Representative & new member Azalia Volpe.

A quorum was present.

Interpreters introduced themselves.

Mark Gonslaves was appointed Timekeeper.

**Calendar Meeting**

**Approval of Agenda**

Heather Dailey moved to approve the Agenda of the November 30th, 2023 CCSE Calendar and Business Meeting and Tamaira Reid seconded. There was a voice vote and seven members in attendance voted yes with one abstention.

Co-Chair Mark Gonsalves went over community norms.

**Presentation**

**CCSE Survey Presentation**

Heather Dailey - Citywide Council on Special Education 1st Vice President

## **Special Education Related Services Presentation**

Suzanne Sanchez, Senior Executive Director Related Services

## **Special Education Update**

John Hammer Deputy Chief Executive Director - Special Education Office

Please refer to the recording ([11-30-23 CCSE Business-Calendar Meeting.mp4](#)) for the full presentation.

A motion to extend the Q&A to 20 minutes was made by Mark Gonsalves.

Dr. Sanayi Beckles Canton moved and Diana Abrams seconded to approve the November 30th, 2023 agenda. There was a voice vote and eight members in attendance voted yes, with one abstention.

## **Resolutions**

### **Opposing Mayoral Control**

Mark Gonsalves moved to present a resolution opposing Mayoral Control of the NYC Department of Education.

Tamaira Reid seconded. There was a voice vote and all nine members in attendance voted yes.

A motion to approve the amendment added into the Opposing Mayoral Control resolution was made by Carolyn Castro and Diana Abrams seconded. There was a voice vote and eight members in attendance voted yes, with one abstention.

A motion to adopt the Opposing Mayoral Control of the NYC Department of Education resolution with the additional amendment was made by Mark Gonsalves.

There was a roll call vote and seven members in attendance voted yes, with two abstentions. The resolution was adopted.

### **Opposing 60-Day Limitation on Shelter Stays for Families of Public School Students**

A motion to present the resolution Opposing 60-Day Limitation on Shelter Stays for Families of Public School Students was made by Heather Dailey and Lupe Hernandez seconded. Azalea Volpe recused herself from the reading and the resolution vote.

A motion to adopt the resolution Opposing 60-Day Limitation on Shelter Stays for Families of Public School Students was made by Lupe Hernandez and Carolyn Castro seconded.

There was a roll call vote and seven members in attendance voted yes, with one abstention. The resolution was adopted.

A motion to limit comments to 1 minute was made by Carolyn Castro and seconded by Tamuira Reid. There was a roll call vote and seven members in attendance voted yes, one member in attendance voted no, with one abstention. Motion passed.

### **Testimony**

#### **CCSE Testimony - NYC Reads Oversight Hearing**

A motion to table the testimony for the NYC Reads Oversight Hearing until a special meeting can be held was made by Lupe Hernandez and seconded Dr. Sanayi Beckles Canton.

There was a roll call vote and seven members in attendance voted yes, one member in attendance voted no, with one abstention. Motion passed.

Opened for public comment. No public comment or further business. **Meeting was adjourned at 8:48pm.**

### **Business Meeting**

#### **Call to Order**

The Calendar Meeting was adjourned and the Business meeting was called to order by Mark Gonsalves at **8:55pm.**

#### **Roll Call**

Diana Abrams - Present

Sanayi Beckles Canton- Present

Carolyn Castro- Present

Heather Dailey- Present

Mark Gonsalves- Present

Lupe Hernandez- Present

Tamuira Reid- Present

Maggie Sanchez- Present

Azalia Volpe- Absent

Olamipo Adeola Ogunleye- Present (Virtually)

A quorum was present

#### **Co-President's Reports**

Carolyn Castro

- There will be a New York City Council committee education oversight hearing for New York City reads on December 14th.
- There will also be a hearing on mayoral control in every borough beginning with December 5th, 2023.
- There is a PEP meeting in December, the twentieth to discuss regulation A-412 on school safety. This is a rule that has been in place for quite some time, but there are concerns for students with disabilities and their families. When police and or school safety is questioning students without the presence of their parents. I encourage everyone in the audience to attend the PEP and write testimony.

### **Member Reports**

Heather Dailey

- The Office of Civil Rights complaint was submitted to the Federal Department of Education. It's then bounced back to the state, that's just part of the process. NY State now has it and nothing has been communicated but NY State Department of Education that it was received and that they are looking over it. Will share any updates.
- A community member shared an OCR complaint from 1977. It had much of the same issues stated that we filed our complaint on.

### **Committee Reports**

Maggie Sanchez moved to table the Communications Committee Minutes and Heather Dailey seconded. There was a voice vote and all 8 members present voted yes.

- Communications Committee- Heather Dailey
  - We had our first meeting on November 21st, 2023.
  - Meetings will be held on the third Wednesday of the month at noon. The committee will focus over the next month on updating the website to bring it up into compliance.
  - A survey was sent out to the council members to get some feedback on the website. We also are asking that council members submit a photo and a brief bio so the website can be updated.
  - We want to talk about what social media we want to engage in, which we can table for next month. The committee wants to ask the council if we could get a YouTube channel for us. So that we have a free space to house our meeting videos and can house them on YouTube.

Heather Dailey moved to establish a Youtube channel and Maggie Sanchez seconded. There was a voice vote and seven members present voted yes with one abstention.

- District Support Committee - Carolyn Castro
  - The district support committee has been actively seeking out the district representatives for the IEP D75 and ELL community. A survey was created and sent out. There were 18 responses and the questions in the survey were indicating just trying to get a sense of the areas that individuals are interested in.
  - It looks like IEP district representatives are interested in the entry of IEPs and understanding what families can do with the IEPs.
  - The other 2 topics were technology, understanding what technology is and providing students with more technology options.
  - Our first meeting is on December 13th, 2023 at 12pm.
  
- IEP Conference Committee -Mark Gonsalves
  - First meeting will be on December 12th, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. on zoom. Tamuira and I have spoken individually, but we want to get a first full committee meeting.

### **Approval of minutes**

A motion to approve of the September 20th, 2023 and October 5th, 2023 meeting was made by Mark Gonsalves, with an amendment for the meeting date to be added to the October 5th minutes document. Both Meeting Minutes were approved.

### **Unfinished Business**

2023-2024 Meeting Schedule - The Council reviewed the meeting topics and locations. The topic will be Bullying for the December 14th council meeting.

A motion that January's meeting topic be on the Capital Plan was made by Heather Dailey and seconded by Diana Abrams.

There was a roll call vote and eight members in attendance voted yes with one abstention. The motion passes.

A motion that January's meeting topic be on Substance Use was made by Maggie Sanchez and seconded by Tamuira Reid.

There was a roll call vote and nine members in attendance voted yes. The motion passes.

### **CCHS Vacancies, CCD75/ Member Vacancy**

Because of a resignation this week, the CCSE has an additional vacancy on the Council. The Council received an application from a potential applicant, but the applicant is no longer eligible. The Council has two CCD75 vacancies to fill.

**Special Meeting**

Council scheduled a Special Meeting on CCSE Testimony on the NYC Reads Oversight Hearing and to schedule a Bylaws Committee meeting date, on December 13th, 2023 at 6:30pm.

**Meeting Adjourned - 9:28pm**