Citywide Council for Special Education Thursday, March 4, 2021

Zoom Video Conference with CCSE

Calendar Meeting Minutes

**ROLL CALL**

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| Cynthia Arbulu-Vacca | Present |
| Trisha Bermudez | Present |
| Gloria Corsino | Present |
| Artelia Flowers | Present |
| Tamara Foye | Present |
| Marissa Jones | Absent |
| Noah Gotbaum | Present |
| Paullette Healy | Present |
| Ellen McHugh | Present |
| Erika Newsome | Present |
| Azalia Volpe | Present |
| Carmen Robles(CCHS) | Present |

DOE: Jose Rios Lua

FACE: Alexis Saub

Total # participants-19

Ellen convenes meeting at 6:05pm.

Ellen asks for a volunteer to be Timekeeper. Azalia and Ellen agree to share the Timekeeper duties.

Ellen presents the minutes from February 18 Calendar Meeting. Ellen asks if everyone had a chance to review the minutes. Cynthia asked for clarification on the Resolution. Paullette explains on the original resolution a typo asking to move $0 needed to be addressed. Paullette suggest reflecting the amount in tonight’s meeting minutes and to approve the minutes as written. Cynthia makes a motion approve the minutes. Paullette 2nds. Roll call vote is done by Rose. Azalia abstains, 9 yes. Minutes are approved.

**Co-President Reports**

Ellen reports the ECC Meeting is Friday evening at 6pm. She reported on Chancellor Carranza’s resignation and the new incoming Chancellor is Executive Superintendent Miesha Ross-Porter.

Ellen talked briefly about a Special education training provided by the New York Lawyers for Public Interest (NYLPI)

Sinergia providing a webinar on ABA therapy March 12.

Ellen announced the Disability Rights Roundtable at St John University. Former member Michelle Norris had her son attend with his para. Talks about Parts 200 Regulations and rights of people with disabilities under the state law. The Roundtable members will send out a report. Once received, Ellen will forward to the rest of the Council. Info can be found on Parts 200 Regulations here… http://www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/lawsregs/part200.htm

Ellen reminisced about the outgoing Chancellor and reminded us that one of Carranza’s first act was to demote the existing leader of Special Education in NYC and during his 3 years, we are no different than when he started. Students are still waiting for services, still shortage of qualified teachers, and funding is not there.

Ellen referred to when IDEA was passed Congress promised to fund it by 40% but we may have gotten 19% at best with the burden falling on State Levys to pick up the rest. 20% is a large chunk of the State budget but if the funds are not allocated properly the first time whether its pertaining to a child in an ICT class or a student in a hospital setting, it will end up costing the families a lot more to correct the harm done by it.

Ellen spoke about 2 upcoming proposals for co-location in Queens. She appeals to the Council members in Queens to please try to attend. P177 is one of them. There will be many more hearings across the city coming up.

**Members Reports**

Erika reported out on the website. Will officially launch on March 18. Hopes to publicly announce it at the IEP Conference.

Paullette presented the Resolution for targeted supports for Multi-Language Learners (MLL) passed by CEC15 and asked for CCSE to adopt it in support. Ellen suggests sending it also to CCELL and present it at our joint meeting March 18. Ellen also asked that any members with comments or edits to the Resolution to please have them to Paullette by end of business day March 9th

Paullette reported out on the D75 DLT meeting. A presentation was made by someone from the District on Trauma Centered 3 step training were happening for the guidance counselors. The Boro reps pushed back and asked if the trainings were being extended to the teachers and staff at the sites since one guidance counselor cannot be at every site. The District office promised to look into it. The presenter also promised to share resources available to families and staff looking for additional mental health supports outside of school since the training is meant to be for short term care but the DOE has partnered up with agencies to offer long term care. Will share out as son as they are shared.

Paullette updated that D20 may be able to get D75 middle schools seats at the Angel Guardian site. Jamie Dollinger from District planning will be speaking to us about it at our next meeting.

Azalia reported that parents have been saying how difficult it has been to apply for programs like ASD Horizon and NEST and the website is very difficult to navigate. Ellen suggested maybe holding a Town Hall on Specialized Programs. Jose thought it would make for a very good Beyond Access topic.

Carmen reported the CCHS Business meeting is March 9th and the Calendar meeting is March 24th from 7pm-9pm. Paullette asked if CCHS was planning on having any speakers come in to present on transition and she said not to her knowledge. Ellen suggested we reach out to Loren Bohlen and see if she is available to present at our April Calendar meeting.

Disability Arts Contest is discussed and how the Council can support it. Jose offered sustainable options discussed by the group such as trophies or gift cards for the 10 finalists and 1 grand prize. The judging is done by reps from 5 organizations outside of the DOE. Positive Exposure is one of the judges and will display the finalists work in their gallery for a year. Jose asked for 2 members of the Council to help with the judging. Ellen nominates Azalia and Erika.

Ellen suggests shifting $1000 in our CCSE budget to pay for trophies and awards necessary to support. Paullette makes a motion for the Council to agree to allocate $1000 for a new budget line to purchase awards, gift cards, certificates and other items of recognition to go towards events such as the Disability Arts Contest. Erika 2nds. Rose does the roll call vote. Motion passes unanimously.

Ellen gives an update on the upcoming IEP Conference. We only received 8 responses but in previous years its on par but had 20+ people actually come. Invitations have been sent to the Peace Institute, Bronx Legal Services, and Chairs for both the City Council and State Senate Education Council Chairs. Hopes Christina Foti will come to give an overview of what remediation may look like going into the summer. With a new Chancellor coming in, there may be reluctance to commit to anything at this time. Still hopeful that our new Chancellor will make an appearance

Ellen asks Rose to present on the Financial Budget modifications for our members consideration.

* Move $1000 from supplies to cover Member Reimbursement
* Move $1500 from Travel Reimbursements to cover Member Reimbursement
* Move $500 from Training to cover Member Reimbursement
* Pay for the trophies with the P-card

Rose will create and send out the Resolution for the budget changes. Paullette asked if we can set a date to review the resolution now. Date decides for the Special Meeting is March 9th at 6pm. Noah asked Rose to please send out the spreadsheet on missing member reimbursements again.

Azalia makes a motion to adjourn the meeting. Erika 2nds. Rose does a roll call vote. Motion passes. Meeting adjourns at 7:34pm.