Citywide Council for Special Education Thursday, October 17 , 2019

Tweed Courthouse, 52 Chambers Street 2Fl, New York, N.Y. 10007

Business/Calendar Meeting Minutes

Meeting starts 6:10pm

1. Co-President Ellen McHugh introduces Kevin Moran(Senior Transportation Advisor)to present OPT Updates 2019-2020 school year.

* Topics discussed in presentation were GPS installment(Via app and Navman devices), real time bus tracking through Bus Driver app, Dashboard console for both families and schools to track busing system wide, changes to central organization and alignment, strengthening accountability and expanding partnerships and service
* Updates given by Mr Moran-Stop Arm Technology, Vendor Performance Matrix is presently used to evaluate bus company performances, too expensive to insource bus services, Principal Weekly contains info on OPT updates
* The following concerns were presented to Mr Moran

1. Presentation states max of 12 stops per route however most parents observed more children than that on their child’s bus routes
2. Concerns expressed about elementary aged children being bused alongside MS and HS students resulting in instances of bullying, inappropriate language and touching, and assault
3. Ambulatory issues for children in need of medical accommodations
4. Breakdown in communication when reporting busing issues
5. Contract negotiations with bus companies are at a standstill due to restraining order against EPP
6. Remarks were made lack of parent involvement in these contract negotiations(i.e. busing standards, drivers qualifications, gps implementation)
7. Asked what best practice procedures are in place to uphold standards(driver performance, safety regulations, matron training)
8. Where is the accountability? Who designs these routes? What is being done to limit travel time?
9. Concern about lost instructional time when students are pulled out prior to the end of the school day due to extended travel time
10. What is being done to limit the number of school drop offs within 1 bus route? As many as 4 schools being serviced by 1 bus
11. Instances of children being dropped off at the wrong school, wrong stop/home, left on the bus alone
12. Who is accountable for the conditions on the bus(no AC or spotty climate control, broken seat belts, no car seats, windows that don’t open)
13. Ask DOH for collaboration concerning homeless population plus busing
14. Suggestion made for OPT take over routing for CPSE
15. Agreement made to craft a preliminary parent evaluation of the bus companies at the end of each season

2. Presentation concludes at 7:55pm. Break taken, meeting resumes at 8:01pm.

3. Discussion had about CCSE website and who should admin the site. Costs $300 to maintain through Wix.com. $600 was already allocated in this year’s budget. Website remains dark until maintenance is paid. Motion made to vote Erika Newsome as website admin in collaboration with Trish Bermudez until Erika’s term ends in 2021. Erika agreed to teach Rose Morgan the admin skills during her term. Voted in unanimously.

4. Paullette reports update on District 20 middle school and D75 situation. D75 liason came and upset parents about lack of accommodations made for children with disabilities. Ellen suggested to go to the PEP.

5. Noah asked Ellen for an update from the ECC meeting.

* Discussion about the Chancellor’s dedication in the execution of the CRE
* DOE created committees regarding Early Intervention and Differentiating Curriculum without consulting either D75 Council or CCSE
* Schools being used for early voting
* Councils right to assemble privately. Ellen clarified the history of the ECC and why the bylaws were in place

6. Rose reiterated reimbursements for members is $125. Anything more will be denied. Annual Report Topics due 10/18/19 by 6pm due to Azalia Volpe

7. Speaker from Accessible Dispatch coming to Nov 7th meeting. Gloria made a motion to approve the September meeting minutes. Noah seconded. All approved

Ellen made a motion to adjourn. Gloria seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned 8:25pm