Citywide Council for Special Education Thursday, November 7, 2019

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

Working Meeting Minutes

Meeting starts 6:15pm

1. Co-President EM presented information and resources from AHRC.

* Free neuropsych evaluations
* MTA career training workshops
* Transition assistance

2. Approval of October minutes was voted in unanimously. Full Council in attendance

3. PH brought up the CCSE website and possibility of posting minutes for public knowledge. Wix still waiting for payment in order to go live. Discussion had EN would take over the site in it’s entirety once payment goes thru. Cost for 2 year renewal is $466

4a. Co-President Report- EM presented 2 new reports. First being changes to election process. Jesse Mojica from FACE discussed changes effecting the 2021 CCEC elections

* Voting for all CEC and Citywide Councils will be opened to ALL parents in an effort to engage a bigger voting pool. Votes will no longer be just PTA boards and CEC selectors
* Council members expressed concerns that there is no process in place to verify whether a vote qualifies at a parent nor whether a candidate is properly vetted.
* AF questioned the need to now campaign for these volunteer seats. If personal funds need to be spent to run campaigns for these unpaid elected positions, those who cannot financially afford to run will be excluded in turn losing a point of view that reflects the majority of our students enrolled in our school system
* Jesse promised to take our concerns to FACE and come back with answers to the changes.

4b. EM 2nd report on the Mandatory member to represent the CCEC on the PEP. Term is 2 years. Discussion had that Citywide councils will need to advocate for this spot.

5. TF mentioned Girl Scout Toy Drive for children living in shelters. EM suggested CCSE start a collection to donate to the cause. Drive ends Dec 13.

6. GC reports of an incident trying to “force out” a student with an IEP based off of admins inability to address the child’s needs. Multiple factors involved(inappropriate setting, intimidation, insensitivity to disability)Other members chimed in these instances are happening more and more all over the 5 boros. Recommendation made to amend these behaviors in the admins and district leaders but needs to be a procedure put in place for accountability.

7. Presenter Sonia Yore from Taxi and Limosines Commission talks about wheelchair accessibility within paid car service. There is an Office of Investigations within the TLC that looks into complaints to marginalized groups.

8. Annual Report Proposed Outline-Discussion had about outline compiled by AV and committees created to tackle the 7 various focus topics

* 49% Latino/ELLS students- Azalia and Gloria
* Accessibilty for Students with disabilities- Ellen with ARISE
* DOE, IEP and HS disciplining-
* DOE and transportation- Gloria and Paullette
* Students, IEP and temporary housing- Tamara
* IEP more than 60 days combined with schools not providing documentary evidence- All Council Members

Suggestion was made to include a parent survey for parents of students with disabilities or add an addendum to the existing DOE parent survey.

1. Non-Compliance- Erika and Ellen
2. Effectiveness of ICT class

* Parents involvement in the IEP Process

1. Parent’s Role
2. Delays
3. Difficulties for parents with language or literacy challenges
4. Access to records

9. Craig Spencer from CCD75 asked to do a joint resolution between D75 Council and CCSE on utilization and proper accommodations for D75 and special education students within newly built schools. Draft will be presented and voted upon publicly at our joint meeting in April

GC made a motion to adjourn. MW seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned 8:36pm