Citywide Council for Special Education Thursday, March 5, 2020

Tweed Courthouse, 52 Chambers Street Rm 119, New York, N.Y. 10007

Working Meeting Minutes

Presenter from Inclusive U Syracuse presented the following prior to the official meeting

* Present Enrollment-85 Open Enrollment-24-28
* Developed for People with Developmental Disabilities but is now opened to all disability classifications
* Presently fully funded by Medicaid through Federal Comprehensive Transition Program(CTP)
* Peer to Peer social resources available with open internships at the end of the year.
* Work/study available. Audit Certificate given(not a BA or MA)
* RAs are in the process of being trained on social-emotional support of students with disabilities.

Meeting starts 6:39pm

1. Co-President Gloria Corsino President’s Report

* Presented IEP Meeting Compliance Evaluation. Discussion was had to use survey monkey to distribute to parents as preliminary data
* Gloria was been working with Bronx Borough President Diaz on creating a Special Ed Forum which will be in a panel format with an opportunity for questions and answers. Diaz has been an advocate for Charter schools and wants to bring Success Academy to the Bronx. Success has a bad reputation for pushing out students with IEPs. When dates and times are available, Gloria will share so Council can support the community.
* Ellen McHugh distributed new bylaws for consideration. Paullette Healy suggested adding a provision regarding activity on social media with regard to code of conduct. Paullette will write a draft for consideration.
* Ellen discussed a roaming group following the Chancellor at his public meetings(including the PEP)accusing him of being a racist and the ECC as a “secret society” calling for more transparency and the firing of Carranza
* Ellen also asked the PEP to please reimburse sales tax for member reimbursements.
* Ellen and Azalia Volpe confirmed that Gail(grant writer) has been emailed the Annual Report. Etimation should be ready for approval later in March. White pages will be added for Charter Schools, Suspensions, Temporary Housing

2. Member reports

* Craig Spencer from D75 Council confirmed April joint meeting was passed by his Council. Debra from D75 Council has IEP initiatives she would like CCSE feedback on.
* Tamara Foye wanted to flesh out details for April 23rd meeting. Ellen brought in IEP records binder as an example of what resources we could present. Tamara mentioned a local OT Center was interested in presenting. We asked Jose from DOE to find out if Queens Transition Center would be available to come. Agreed to set up 3 tables at the April Queens meeting like a mini resource fair
* Rose was asked to contact/invite local politicians for the April meeting. Craig will contact OPWDD to see if they can send a representative.
* Paullette brought up interest in District 20 about doing a joint event for parents with children in special education. IEP rep on CEC 20 is writing a resolution about d75 accommodations asking for CCSE support.

3. Discussion about IEP Conference

* Ellen confirmed that Councilman Brannan and DiBennedetto have confirmed along with Assemblyman Reilly. Noah Gotbaum suggested inviting Helen Rosenthal
* Carol Lee Hines from PEACE Institute may be able to speak.

4. Approval of Minutes- Tamara appointed Timekeeper

* January 9 Working minutes-Gloria 1st motion, Erika Newsome 2nd 8 approved ,1 abstain
* January 23 Business minutes- Gloria 1st motion, Erika 2nd 7 approved ,1 no, 1 abstain
* February 6 Business minutes-Ellen 1st motion, Gloria 2nd 7 approved, 2 abstain

5. Daniel Garcia-McGuire from Public Advocates office is excited to work on behalf of students with IEPs. Please forward concerns to his office for support and guidance.

6. Noah reported that the ECC Legislative Committee wants a law for Charter schools to reapply for new contracts in cases of expansion. Steering Committee also presented to the Chancellor for more pre-school seats citywide.

7. ECC Resolutions

* Resolution on Campaign Fiscal Equity- Noah 1st motion, Margot 2nd-All approved
* Resolution on Charter Accountability and Transparency-Noah 1st motion, Margot 2nd- 7 approved, 2 no

8. Budget is presented. Gail needs to send invoice so we can decide if we need to move money from non-contracted services to member re-imbursements. Vote will be taken at next business meeting

9. Azalia is going for a training on April 29 provided by the Practicing Law Institutre(PLI). 3 other members volunteered to attend also.

10. Carmen Robles from CCHS reported that 2 members have resigned.

11. Margot gave advanced noticed that she cannot attend the March 19th joint meeting with CEC 15 due to HS Parent/Teacher conferences

Azalia motioned to adjourn. Margot 2nd motion. Meeting ended 8:34pm.