**Citywide Council for Special Education**

**Thursday, February 6, 2020 6:00 p.m.**

**Lehman Educational Campus**

**3000 East Tremont Avenue, Bronx, NY 10461**

**Business/Calendar Meeting Minutes**

**Roll Call**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Cynthia Arbulu-Vacca | Present |
| Gloria Corsino | Present |
| Abi Myrna Fenelon | Present |
| Artelia Flowers | Present |
| Tamara Foye | Excused |
| Noah Gotbaum | Excused |
| Paullette Healy | Present |
| Ellen McHugh | Excused |
| Erika Newsome | Present |
| Azalia Volpe | Excused |
| Margot Weinstock | Present |

**Call to Order**

The Business Meeting was called to order by Co-President Gloria Corsino at 6:14 pm.

Roll Call - a quorum was not present at first Roll Call.

**Presentation - Understanding the NYC Department of Education Discipline Code**

Kenyatte Reid, Executive Director - Office of Safety and Youth Development/NYCDOE discussed the different types and numbers of suspensions (over 36,000 2017-2018 school year) overall. A further breakdown of suspensions handed out by borough and Principal vs Superintendent. The disproportionality of students with IEPs (19% IEP students enrolled and 40% receiving suspensions). Mr. Reid felt encouraged that with less suspensions, there was an increase in the graduation rate. Mr. Reid also discussed Social-Emotional Learning and Restorative Justice and best practices. Proposed changes to Discipline Code – policy respecting gender identity, revise mission statement, Student Bill of Rights, reduce number of school days of suspensions by Superintendents (not to exceed 20 days), provide options for disciplinary responses and info about bullying.

Roll Call – A second Roll Call established that a quorum was present.

**Budget Allocation** - $5000 Increase – members voted to split between Member Reimbursement ($2500) and Meeting Expenses/Travel ($2500).

**Member Reimbursement** – There was a brief discussion about member reimbursements and a reminder that reimbursements should be submitted monthly. AA Rose Morgan stressed the importance of submitting reimbursement requests monthly because the deadline for all reimbursements and P-Card transactions is Friday, June 19 4:00 pm. Although the Council is meeting on June 18, there is a short turnaround time to review, prepare and upload to FAMIS for approval by Grant Officer.

**Update on Annual Report-** Paullette Healy updated the Council that Annual report is almost ready for submission to the policy writer. Margot Weinstock was asked if she had anything to add for the Charter School portion. Margot expressed challenges faced on gathering accurate information regarding Charter schools. Annual report committee agreed to add addendums to the report for Charters and High School graduation portion since information available continues to change. Paullette reported we are hopeful to have a final draft available for consideration in the next coming weeks.

**Meeting adjourned 8:30 pm**