

Citywide Education Council for District 75

CALENDAR MINUTES

Date: January, 22, 2015 **Time:** 6:00-9:00PM

Location: Tweed Courthouse, 52 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10001

MEETING CALLED BY	Gloria Corsino , President
TYPE OF MEETING	CALENDAR MEETING
FACILITATOR	Gloria Corsino , President
ROLL CALL & NOTE TAKER	Rebecca Green , Secretary
TIMEKEEPER	Aliya Rasool , 2 nd Vice President & Public Advocate Appointee
ATTENDEES	Gloria Smith , Treasurer and Public Advocate Appointee, Audrey Dunlap , Council Member, Able Alagbe -Council Member, Wanda Scott , Council Member, Jackie Pierre-Louis , Council Member, Valerie Williams , Council Member, Celia Green , First Vice President
ABSENT/EXCUSED	
Meeting Began	6:00 pm

Agenda Topics

- ❖ Call to Order and Roll Call
- ❖ Appointment of Time Keeper
- ❖ Superintendent's Report
- ❖ President's Report
- ❖ Carmen Farina, Chancellor, NYC Department of Education

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: GLORIA CORSINO

Welcomed the parents and informed them that the council hosted the Five Year Capital Plan Meeting Jan. 14th at Court Square. She thanked Superintendent Hecht and Deputy Superintendent Joseph for attending the meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: GARY HECHT

Superintendent Gary Hecht opened by mentioning the D75 Annual Parent Engagement events throughout the five boroughs beginning in April and encouraged all to attend. The dates and locations can be found on the D75 calendar of events @d75pd.org.

Relocation: P77K the school is in desperate repair working with space planning and SCA the program will be moved to another site for two years until the building is repaired.

Dual Language Programs: The Chancellors Program, 3 of district 75 schools were awarded grants to have Dual Language Programs: 469X, 186X and 721Q

Principals; Two principals will retire this year: Principal at 256Q retired in October the C-30 process is currently taking place. Principal at 77K will retire at the end of June and will take terminal leave at the end of January.

Pre-K Program: in October registered in Pre-K: 282 students, currently enrolled are 340 students.

Chapter 683: Begins on July 3rd ends on Aug. 13 its 30 days of instructions.

Superintendent Gary Hecht took some questions from the attendees:

Common Core:

Parents inquired about Common Core and how it relates to their children's instruction. He stressed that the Common Core must be aligned

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with the capabilities of the student. General Education in the 8th grade is different than an 8th grade student in Special Education.

IEP:

Having an IEP means we have to assess each student, look at the data and determine to the best support for the child. The current measurements are not accurate and need to be reviewed. He believes that alternate assessment will be better for some students. IEP's should be the determining factor of achievement and growth for our students.

School Safety:

Superintendent Hecht mentioned they are working closely with Safety Agents and Police Departments. There has been training sessions to help Safety Agents understand the needs of these D75 schools.

Parent Involvement:

The Superintendent also informed the attendee's parents, teachers and advocates that they must work collectively together to provide input in what's best for our students.

SPECIAL EDUCATION FORUM, CHANCELLOR CARMEN FARINA, NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Chancellor Farina mentioned there will now be a total of 7 borough offices special education component. Brooklyn and Queens will have two offices each and the remaining boroughs will have one. The offices will be fully staffed, the directors will be chosen by the Chancellor. All services needed can and will be assessed based on individual need.

The Chancellor believes that schools should not be closed. Chancellor Farina thinks that schools in need should first receive help and support to improve.

She also discussed Superintendent Support for Principals: A three tier system for supervision based on performance, their needs and support. The better the principal the more autonomy they will receive.

DFA's: Superintendents in addition have District Family Advocates who will receive specialized training on how to run programs for parents. Based on what parents are asking for and parent trainings, i.e. resume writing, computer courses other than- including their child's education.

Chancellor Farina feels teachers should be given professional development in regards to working with English Language Learners and Disabled Students. Speech services will be part of her focus. She strongly believes in these practices and feels all educators and their students would benefit from training. Inclusion is not for everyone, however the Chancellor welcomes the opportunity for our students to participate and receive appropriate evaluation and support. She is a firm believer in assistive technology and she already has several pilot programs in effect.

The Chancellor mentioned how there must be proper training provided to leader. Better care should be given to matching AP's to their respective students. In other words, a former elementary special education teacher turned AP, will be assigned to an elementary school. She is excited about the new Pre-K programs and shared how they all will truly make a difference.

Chancellor Farina closed by mentioning she has faith in superintendents to support and supervise the needs of school communities, Principals and they will be held accountable as well.

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ITEMS SUBMITTED BY THE COUNCIL	
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RESOLUTIONS & VOTES	MOTION MADE	VOICE -VOTE TALLY

ADJOURMENT	9:00PM
CAL	Submitted by Ramona Garcia, Administrative Assistant , CEC D75