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EDUCATION YOUTH & LIBRARIES

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 18, 2022 – 6:30-8:30PM

Hon. Stephanie Palmer, Chair

Meeting began at 6:35PM and was held via Zoom.

The meeting was chaired by Hon. Stephanie Palmer, Committee Chair

AGENDA

I. WELCOME/ INTRODUCTIONS

A. Member Roll Call

- I. COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Stephanie Palmer (Chair), Shawn Brannon, Asena Tui'one, Tiffany B., Genisha Metcalf, Milan Reed, Dana Points, Maat Mack, Crystal McKay, Verna Diggs, Valone Brown Jr., Derek Perkinson, Marquis Harrison
- II. COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: None
- III. COMMITTEE MEMBERS EXCUSED: None
- IV. BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: None
- V. STAFF: Jasmin Heatley, Shatic Mitchell
- VI. PRESENTERS: Smitha (Varghese) Millik, Dr. Dawn DeCosta
- VII. GUESTS: Moisella Long, Alisa Ryu, Tefone Herring, Janelle Taylor, Dr. K

II. PRESENTATIONS

A. Smitha (Varghese) Millik, New York City Campaign Coordinator - Alliance for Quality Education (AQE)

I. Key takeaways:

A. Background -

AQE is a coalition, mobilizing communities across the State. Big cities are usually where equity is an issue because these schools aren't adequately funded, which goes to our mission of mobilizing across the State to keep New York true to its promise of ensuring a high quality public education, to all students, regardless of zip codes. Focus is on equitable school funding, basically in a nutshell.

Available to support parent training in a wide spectrum of areas. Focus is on supporting parents.

II. *Action Items:*

A. Followup re: Charter School funding in District 3 -

Regarding how much increased state aid went to charters specifically in District 3, we know how much per student goes to charter schools based on the enacted budget for 2023. Charter school tuition is on a lag, so we are looking at 2021-22 amounts. For every NYC student that attends a charter school, DOE pays \$16,844 per student. It doesn't matter which charter. All you need to know is the # of enrolled students in the charters you are referring to and you can estimate how much money they are getting.

B. Followup re: Charter School funding overall -

Below are the total amount that goes to charters:

2021-22	2020-21	2019-20
2,929,198,995	2,639,780,039	2,412,936,731

If you do the math, you can see that the increase from 2020-21 - 2021-22, that goes to charters, was \$289.4 million. The increase in Foundation aid was \$308 million, which is why it was so stark for us. Remember though that charter payments are a combination of state and local money, so presumably the DOE would use some of the city tax levy money to pay charters.

C. Question re: libraries -

State law doesn't mandate every school has a librarian. Every school must have a library. Middle and HS have to have a librarian if they are big enough per regulations.

D. Question - When charters get an increase in funding, don't public schools get an increase as well?

The answer is no. When public schools get an increase, according to state law, charters must also get an increase in funding. However, if charters get an increase in funding, the same does not apply for public schools.

E. AQE has a parent group of equity-minded parents.

We meet regularly once a month to work towards pushing our position in parent spaces and figuring out how to educate other parents who need to be brought in - separate from the Ed Warriors program.

B. Dr. Dawn DeCosta, Deputy Superintendent - Community School District 5, NYC Department of Education

I. Key takeaways:

A. Our vision is to reimagine the Renaissance. This was a collective vision that was created with educators, with leaders, with parents. Our goal is to build more cohesion amongst our schools, with instructional practices, so that we can have a holistic approach. Our priorities are around relationships, restoration and healing. To measure our success we are looking at academics, attendance, enrollment, social emotional learning, special education and referral rates, using a proactive restorative approach to avoid suspension, targeting raising test scores in ELA & Math. District 5 had the worst attendance rates during the pandemic, so targeting resources here. Enrollment has dropped as well. Social emotional training happening for the staff. Implementing black studies curriculum via partnership with Teachers College, Columbia University. Hiring from an excess teacher pool only at the moment, and not from external sources, because of a hiring freeze. 4 schools in District 5 are part of a Dyslexia pilot where they're screening all students.

II. Action Items:

A. Need rebranding and marketing for District 5. Wanting more partnerships with private organizations for internship/career experiences. Need more libraries & librarians. Need tutors and academic intervention support. Need Professional Development in Math for teachers.

C. Aja Stubbs, Youth Career Monitor - Center for Alternative Sentencing & Employment Services (CASES)

A. Did not attend.

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Harlem Holiday Toy Drive

- We should target the churches in the Harlem community and not ask them for toys, but ask them for warm clothing, hats, and gloves.
- We want to start much earlier than we did before, and get all of our parent coordinators actively involved.
- Barnard was a previous partner & they actually had a synopsis of each book that was wrapped, and an age range and gender.
- Derek Perkinson - One of our goals is to increase the number of partners for the toy drive, so hope that NAN will be able to be a partner.
- Goal: 10,000 kids in our district and want to support them all.
- Black ERG collective - Meta, NBA, Twitter, Nike, Anheuser Busch. They've committed to donating at least 200 toys, and the way it will work is that those groups will come together at a mixer on December 6th, at 40-40, and we would be one of the recipients.

B. Semiconductor Legislation Resolution, Asena Tui'one - Committee Member

- Share updated resolution with committee members for review before next month's meeting.

C. Participatory Budgeting, Genisha Metcalf - Committee Member

- Not enough time to present.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. District Needs Survey

- Need 100% committee participation.

B. CB10 Community Forum

- Happening this Friday to identify 7 key community areas of focus.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

I. Fundraising Example - Black Panther fundraiser at Magic Johnson Theatre coming up.

A. Friday November 11th; 5 tickets for the committee are available; Email Genisha for more info. genisha.metcalf@gmail.com

B. Invite a spectrum of business to make donations ie. ERG, 125th street businesses, etc.

1. "We ask you to sponsor X amount of toys for Y kids which amount to Z dollars"

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:35PM