



Minutes of CSA Executive Board Meeting

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Tuesday, December 16, 2008

ABSENT: **Membership Classification:** Evelyn Santiago, Assistant Principals; Adrienne Edelstein, Principal-Special Schools.

Districts: Deborah Payne, 5; Luis Malave, 6; Roxan Marks, 7; Ezra Mathias, 9; Winston Simmons, 12; Modupeola Foluke-Adero, 16; Andrew Frank, 20; Mark Goldberg, 21; Stephen Leo, 26; Naomi Drouillard, 27; Sandra Johnson, 29; Francine Marsaggi, 30; Willie Quintana, Bronx HS; Ramon Namnun, Bronx HS; Robert Yanez, Queens HS; Elizabeth Fong, Manhattan HS; Lantigua Sime, Manhattan HS; Neil Lefkowitz, RC.

Excused: : Kenneth Lombardi, Elementary School Principals; Joanne Epstein, HS AP-Special Education; Sonia Nieves, Middle School Principals, K-8; Nancy Sing Bock, 2; Eileen Perez, 4; Benjamin Soccodato, 11; Ramona Adorno, 15; Mary Barton, 22; Jermaine Garden, 28; Mercedes Qualls, Queens HS; Martin Fiasconaro, Brooklyn HS.

The meeting was called to order by Peter McNally.

1. **The minutes of November 18, 2008 meeting were accepted as written.**
2. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Ernest Logan**
(Peter reported in Ernest's absence.)
 - 2.1 **Council Member Melinda Katz was welcomed.**
 - 2.2 **Political/Legislative Update** – President-Elect Obama has nominated Arne Duncan from Chicago as the Secretary of Education. We are very pleased with this. There is a CSA statement on the website. We will have an outreach to the Secretary of Education once he officially takes office to express some of our concerns.
 - 2.3 **City/State** – NYSFSA will have a conference call with Duffy Palmer to discuss the Governor's proposed budget. Duffy Palmer arranged the conference call before the budget is announced so we will be given the opportunity to ask some questions and hopefully get some answers.
 - 2.4 **Budget Update** - The city, state, federal and international economies are in great trouble. The state is presenting the budget, but many people are referring to it as a doomsday budget. Governor Paterson as well as other governors around the country are going to the federal government and asking for some of the bailout money. We are told that what was presented is not a true case scenario. The budget has cuts for education in the sum of \$698 million. That is for the State of New York not New York City. According to the

blogs, that sum is translating into \$347 million for New York City. We have scheduled a conference with the strategic planner for the chancellor and the Office of Labor Relations to discuss what the ramifications are of this additional budget cut to us. For fiscal year 2010, we were told to prepare for a 5% budget cut of about \$365 million. The mayor was asking for a 7% cut (\$500 million) for the DoE. Adding on the \$347 million from the State, we are now close to \$850 million in budget cuts. That is hopefully the worst case scenario.

- 2.5 Day Care Community Budget Cuts** – Administration for Children Services had a \$68 million budget cut for child care departments. Any of the day care centers that did not have full enrollment would not get their full funding. Initially, it was 22 centers that were losing funding, but after further investigation that number has been reduced to 14 centers. We are still working on getting the number lower than 14. The Commissioner informed us that Day Care will no longer be handling kindergarten. The 5-year olds are going to be transferred to the Department of Education public schools. 3,500 5-year olds will be in the public schools come this September.
- 2.6 PPR** – The PPR process for ‘07-‘08 is now being completed. We are aware of some problems. If you have any issue, please let your directors know. We are having an official meeting with the DoE to go over the PPR process as it has been completed this year and to look over the modifications that need to be made for next year.
- 2.7 Celebration of Teaching & Learning March 6&7, 2009** – We are very pleased that once again we are a major sponsor of the largest education conference in New York City. We will be honoring our Aspiring Principals in our ELI ALPAP Program, New Leaders for New Schools Aspiring Principals and The Leadership Academy Aspiring Principals. Ernest will have a key role to introduce one of the major speakers. Please utilize your professional development money to get your staff there. We definitely want a NY presence to be felt.
- 2.8 Executive Leadership Institute** – We are the subcontractor for the Leadership Academy. We are under contract to provide a number of workshops; we have certain topics we must cover. Progress Reports, Quality Reviews, Special Education, Middle School Initiatives. If there any other major areas, please let Ada know. We fought very hard to be advocates for professional development of school leaders and to get funding. We are the only organization that provides it free. We ask you to please be our advocates. It is very important that even the most senior supervisors learn about Progress Reports.
- 2.9 School Closings** – We haven’t been given the total number. They have not made the final decisions on the H.S. Division. It is going to be approximately 15 schools. That has been the average for the last few years.
- 2.10 Day Care Contract** – We have been without a contract for almost 3 years; we are in a very terrible battle with ACS. We just had another negotiation session last week. The issue is health benefits. They want major give-backs. We do not want to give back and neither does our sister union 1707. So we are trying very hard to fight that battle. They

are looking to break a union, to get a union to agree to give health cut-backs. We are not going to be the one because it's not the right thing to do. We are trying very hard. We have submitted proposals and we haven't received a response. Hopefully 2009 will be a better year for the Day Care community.

2.11 Change of Executive Board Meeting to January 27 – We apologize that we are changing the date, but our President, Ernest Logan, who is also the Vice President for AFSA, will be out-of-town. We are trying to make sure that AFSA is in the forefront of our national education politics. Ernest will go to Washington on January 20th for the inauguration.

4. FIRST VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Randi Herman

(Audrey reported in Randi's absence.)

4.1 Day Care Press Conference Dec. 9 – I did not attend the press conference, therefore Randi will report at our next meeting.

4.2 School Safety – I am part of the committee that meets regularly with NYPD and School Safety. In your folder you will see a letter that a Principal wrote to Director Garcia and Chief Secreto commending the actions of the School Safety Agents in his building. The meetings are really helping improve communication between the Principal and Safety Agents as they work towards providing a safe environment in schools. We urge you to make contact to the level 3 School Safety Agent, to your department, to your directors. We do have all the information in terms of the borough persons.

4.3 OSE – We continue to meet monthly. The one thing that we are focusing on is school projections. There are some concerns about moving forward next year with the budget implications that we may have. We are certainly not wanting to have high register projections at a time when there are cutbacks.

4.4 Parking Permits – The arbitration will be held December 22nd. We would like to thank you for your correspondence on this issue. Barbara has been working feverishly preparing the case.

5. ACTION ITEMS

5.1 Endorsement for the 32nd Council District 2009 Special Election – Upon the recommendations of the Legislative Committee and the Advisory Committee, it is hereby resolved that the Council of School Supervisors and Administrators (CSA) endorses Frank Gulluscio for the New York City Council.

Action Passed.

6. GOOD AND WELFARE

6.1 Condolences to Carol Atkins on the passing of her father.

6.2 Congratulations to David Grandwetter and his wife Rachel on the birth of their son, Nathan, on November 14th.

- 6.3** Welcome to Chiara Coletti, new CSA Director of Communications.
- 6.4** Best wishes to Bernie Feinstein, CSA Controller, on his retirement coming up in mid-January.
- 6.5** Welcome to Monica McDonald, who joined the ELI Staff as Special Assistant to the Executive Director.
- 6.6** Congratulations to Vice President Nancy Russo on the marriage of her son, Christopher, on December 7th.

7. DISCUSSION

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. Meeting was adjourned at 6:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward J. Torres