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**CEC 13  
Business & Calendar Meeting  
April 7, 2020 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.  
Virtual Zoom Conference**

**Minutes**

- I.) **Meeting Start Time:** Unofficial meeting start time 6:37 pm  
**Members in Attendance:** Ayanna Behin, Chris Meador, Cynthia McKnight and Jessica Simmons
- II.) **President's Report:**
- The CEC has been using email and website to communicate updates.
  - We are working on social media platforms to add additional communication
  - Due to school closings the CEC budget is on pause and funds are not able to be used. The CEC will be lobbying to spend the remaining funds on community members in need
  - CEC will be submitting a Resource Spreadsheet that will help pair volunteers who are willing to help with those in need of assistance in language translation and technology assistance.
  - Community work will continue with Wxy the work is ongoing
  - Regents exams are cancelled
  - Awaiting clarity on graduation requirements: what is the celebration going to look
- III.) **Superintendent Report-**
- Superintendent acknowledged that the times we are in are unprecedented and the next two weeks will be critical to our city.

- We have to do what we must to flatten the curve: to help parents to keep kids at home and engaged. As educators, that is the main service we can offer the city, it is the role we play. This is biggest value to the process so that families have engagement time while home with parents.
- New district office staff member is among the number DOE staff that are volunteering at a Regional Enrichment Center (REC).
- Educators are volunteering to leave their house to provide service to children of front-line essential workers.
- It is becoming increasingly difficult to staff the centers as volunteers are becoming ill.
- Current REC locations are PS 56, PS 133 and Dock Street. These are all quality sites.
- Students are engaged in school time and enrichment activities after school.
- Drive/walk and go food centers are averaging 100 attendees a day per site. The schools serving as drive/walk and go food are: PS 44, PS 257 and PS 307
- Devices: Each principal has a link to follow up with device applications.
- Satellite East is 100% online connectivity.
- Brooklyn North is checking attendance and making sure students are being engaged.
- D13 lost a teacher at PS 9, Sandra Santos-Vizcaino. It was sad. However, it was inspiring to witness the students doing a vigil for the teacher the day after her passing on video learning during a class check in.

IV.) **Public Comment:**

- Ayanna thanks all DOE educators for the heavy lift that has been done over the past two weeks.
- Council member Jessica Simmons shared questions that were raised from the PS 133 community.
- Staff and parents are motivated to make sure that kids have what they need. There is a communication breakdown with information shared from the district and the department of education.
- How can we support our schools who are frustrated?

Response: Reach out to Chivon, CEC 13 AA to insure you are on the mailing list and receiving the updates that are sent out District Wide

- Discontinuing use of Zoom:

The transition off doesn't have to be immediate. Ensure that you are connecting to the students and make the transition gradual.

Superintendent Response: Friday evening an email went out that said we needed to transition from zoom.

Over the weekend we spoke to principals. Some schools did a hard stop with Zoom and some have done a gradual transition because of prior meetings scheduled on the

platform. Schools who have done a hard stop have received some complaints about the abrupt stop.

Right now, we have two jobs and those two jobs are 1) Flattening curve and getting as many kids access to a device with internet as possible 2). Communicating the correct information to the district. Communications are coming from central office is quickly and the information is rapidly changing.

- Patricia Hill: Kudos to PS 11 how will grading happen and what are the expectations of parent guided learning?

Superintendent Response: Socio-emotional well-being is the most important right now. Ensuring that you and your child are emotionally healthy is important. The school work is important and flexibility is necessary to make sure that parents and students are not overwhelmed.

- Natasha Cherry-Perez (Community Board 3) Bed-Stuy's Best which is an event that was going to take place this spring is being reimaged as a virtual event. She requested support from the District and asked for suggestions on what would be a good way to promote and celebrate educators and staff.
- Members and Superintendent agreed this would be a great way to honor teachers and school staff and discussed ways this could happen.

Important Notes:

Support Focus (Volunteer Help): Technology, Language and Providing mental health resources

VI.) **Meeting Adjourned** 7:47pm