

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
JUNE 9, 2010**

ATTENDANCE: Denise Taylor-Moye, Chair; Richard Bonney, Lydia Martinez,
M. Yvette Brantley.

OTHERS: Lisa Pavlich, Parent Center

CALL TO ORDER

Council Member Taylor-Moye called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

**INFORMATION SESSION WITH LISA PAVLICH, COORDINATOR
OF THE PARENT CENTER.**

Council Member Taylor-Moye asked Ms. Pavlich what kind of information that the parents were receiving. Ms. Pavlich said that all the information that the Center receives comes directly from the Superintendent's Office and is passed on to the Executive Committee. She then said that there had recently been a short presentation about Roosevelt and Dunbar schools being closed. She added that there was no way to know what would happen with the teachers until Human Resources informs her of what decisions have been made.

Council Member Taylor-Moye said that she was concerned about the school based health centers (SBHC). Ms. Pavlich said that many of the schools already have SBHC and depending on which school the Roosevelt and Dunbar students were assigned to, the students would have access to the services.

Council Member Taylor-Moye asked about the pre-K program. Ms. Pavlich said that she had a list of the pre-K programs and that there are a number of them including Batalla, Columbus, Marin, Barnum, Skane, Park City Magnet, and Read. Council Member Taylor-Moye said that the parents of a number of children who were in pre-K program wanted the children to remain together. Ms. Pavlich explained that the students that are currently in the pre-K would be in kindergarten next year and would have been assigned to their new schools accordingly.

The discussion then focused on the classes that will move from Roosevelt to a new location. Ms. Pavlich said that she had spoken to one Roosevelt administrator and he said that he would like the students be kept together at the swing site. He pointed out that the Dunbar students are already bussed and it might be easier to send them to different locations.

Council Member Taylor-Moye asked if Ms. Pavlich knew what the average attendance for the PAC was. Ms. Pavlich said that she did have that information and would be happy to send Council Member Taylor-Moye copies of this. Ms. Pavlich said that for many years, there had been district PAC meetings every month. This year, there has been a change of focus to work on the school level. The district PAC meetings are in September, December and March. Monthly, the Executive Board meets and receives the training and the leaders go back to their schools to relay the information. This has resulted in increased attendance numbers on the school level and engagement on student success.

Council Member Martinez had several questions about Ms. Pavlich's role in terms of the Board of Education, which Ms. Pavlich reviewed with the Committee. She said that she meets with the home school coordinators and provide the training to the coordinators.

Council Member Bonney asked how often she receives from the Supervisor's office, and how accurate the information. Ms. Pavlich said that the information that she is expected to share comes directly from the Superintendent's Office. Often she hears other incidental information from other sources. She added that there are different departments that deal with issues like textbooks or supplemental tutoring, even though it may be a concern to the parent. The administration can contact the parents directly.

Ms. Pavlich said that she has been with the Parent Center since 1997. She then gave a brief overview of her work history at the Parent Center. She has been the coordinator of the program for almost five years, with ten staff members. Her role is to make sure that all the programming that has to do with adult education and engagement actually happen. Ms. Pavlich then reviewed the material in the information packet and summary of the various programs available. There are four Family Resource Centers, which are at various school locations through out the City.

Ms. Pavlich said that the program Kith and Kin was geared towards training the family caretakers and they receive training in areas like CPR and manipulative. There is also a program for teen parents. Ms. Pavlich then explained that there were a number of flyers from programs that the Family Center has offered in the packet. She said that today, there was one program on Marrakesh House in one area of the Parent Center and another program for Grade One through Two teachers on the effect of lead poisoning.

Ms. Pavlich said that she also attends Pupil Placement Team (PPT) as a parent advocate because it can be intimidating for the parent. Discussion followed on Out of District placements and information about the role of the Special Education Ombudsman, Iris Delopez.

Ms. Pavlich said that she had just received word the City had been awarded a matching grant that will be used for backpacks and supplies. Council Member Brantley said that her District would be having a back to school party for the East End students. Council Member Taylor-Moye said that the South End also has a non-profit organization that keeps a supply closet with school items for students who need paper, pencils, etc.

Council Member Bonney asked why the parent course was eight weeks. Ms. Pavlich explained that was the length of the curriculum and that this particular program was done during the summer. There are numerous other parenting classes that run throughout the year. Discussion then followed about the transitional programs for dislocated families.

Approval of Committee Minutes of April 13, 2010
Approval of Committee Minutes of May 12, 2010

There were no copies of the minutes available to approve.

ADJOURNMENT

- ** COUNCIL MEMBER BRANTLEY MOVED TO ADJOURN.**
- ** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ SECONDED.**
- ** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services