



**THE CITY OF NEW YORK
BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 6**

1932 Arthur Avenue, Room 403-A, Bronx, NY 10457

Telephone: (718) 579-6990 Fax: (718) 579-6875 Email: bronxcb6@bronxcb6.org

Honorable Ruben Diaz Jr., Bronx Borough President

MS. EVONNE CAPERS
Board Chairperson

MR. JOHN SANCHEZ
District Manager

Youth and Education Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

Lanell Garden, Committee Co-Chairperson

Audrey Harden, Committee Co-Chairperson

The Youth and Education Committee Meeting met on Wednesday, March 17, 2021 via Zoom Audio and Video Conferencing. The following members were present: Clarita Bailon, Milagros Cancel, Margarita Espinosa, Audrey Harden, and Matthew Martinez.

The following item was discussed:

- Protect NYC Special Education on their NYC Special Education Petition

Protect NYC Special Education is a diverse group of parents, and advocates that have mobilized in response to the failure of the New York City Department of Education and New York State to prioritize Students with Disabilities during the COVID-19 pandemic. They informed the committee that their Special Support Services and Protect NYC Special Education Petition is to prioritize space and staffing for the 66,000 students in self-contained programs (e.g., 12:1:1, 8:1:1, 6:1:1) including the 25,000 students in District 75 and 41,000 students in community schools. Prioritize all students in self-contained programs for in-person, 5-day instruction consistently (without alternating weeks), remove the Department of Education's guidance that blended remote ICT with 1 teacher is appropriate, remove the Department of Education's guidance that suggests teachers may double caseloads, prioritize hiring certified special education teachers to fill staffing gaps, improve remote special education services by offering students with disabilities small group instruction and individualized instruction during asynchronous learning periods and to improve remote special education services by offering small breakout groups during synchronous learning in order to address the needs of students with disability in New York City. In addition, a letter written by Assemblymember Andrew Hevesi, signed by City Council Education Chair Mark Treyger, Assemblymember Jo Anne Simon and Robert Carroll and many other elected officials in support of the importance of addressing the needs of the 200,000 students with disabilities in New York City and how their needs may differ for typically developing students. On March 10, 2021, the petition was sent to the Mayor de Blasio along with the letter. The committee recommended that letter of support be issued to Protect NYC Special Education in support of their petition.

Vacant,
City Council Member, 15th Council District

Honorable Rafael Salamanca Jr.,
City Council Member, 17th Council District