



THE CITY OF NEW YORK BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 6

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Honorable Vanessa L. Gibson, Bronx Borough President

Honorable Oswald Feliz, New York City Council Member

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Board Chairperson

RAFAEL MOURE-PUNNETT

District Manager

Youth and Education Committee Meeting Minutes Tuesday, September 8, 2026 at 6:30 PM Laura James, Youth and Education Committee Chairperson

The Youth and Education Committee met on Tuesday, September 8, 2026, both in-person and via Zoom Video Communications. The following Board Members attended the Youth and Education Committee meeting: **Brigette Brantley, Frank Franz, Gail Irby, Laura James, Julio Jimenez, Magdamary Marcano, Reggie Powell, Carol Robinson, Gladys Sotomayor**, and Annette Wright.

The Youth and Education Committee discussed the following information:

- **Discussion of the Youth and Education Committee's Upcoming Events**

The Youth and Education Committee reviewed several upcoming events and ongoing initiatives. They reflected on the success of the recent Love Back to School Drive and Community Basketball Tournament event, which distributed approximately 100 pantry bags, 389 book bags, 428 hot dogs and burgers, and 100 bag lunches, and noted positive feedback from community residents. The Youth and Education Committee discussed plans for an anti-vaping and anti-marijuana campaign in local schools. They also discussed launching a clothing drive as soon as possible; a flyer and QR code have been prepared, with drop-off locations still to be confirmed. The Youth and Education Committee continued planning for its Winter Wonderland Toy Giveaway, tentatively scheduled for December 12, and discussed securing grant funding, venue space, and approval of the event budget. Members agreed that a written proposal and budget should be prepared for presentation to the full Community Board.

The Youth and Education Committee also discussed plans for a youth talent show, initially considered for November but now being explored for March. Members discussed potential venue arrangements, including a possible partnership with a local venue, and agreed to follow up regarding available dates. The proposed talent show would include three age categories, with three prizes per age group, for a total prize budget of approximately \$3,000. Members discussed seeking funding from prior supporters and requesting approximately \$1,500 from the Community Board to cover the remaining prize costs. The Youth and Education Committee also discussed participant release forms, video submissions, community voting, and establishing a "CB6 Choice Award." Members will continue working on venue arrangements, sponsorships, judges, and event logistics, with further updates expected at the next meeting.

Finally, the Youth and Education Committee received an update on the youth programming report being developed from interviews with youth program directors and organizations throughout the district. The report is expected to identify common challenges, successful practices, and program-specific needs, with a presentation to the Community Board anticipated in October or

November. Members also discussed outreach to local youth-service organizations and the possibility of inviting organizations to a future Committee meeting to discuss their programs and community-based violence-interruption work.

- **Discussion of Bronx Community Board 6's Preliminary Community District Needs for Fiscal Year 2028**

The Youth and Education Committee engaged in a preliminary discussion regarding Bronx Community Board 6's Community District Needs for Fiscal Year 2028. Members considered the process for identifying, evaluating, and prioritizing community needs and reviewed examples of requests and initiatives advanced by other Community Districts. The discussion addressed concerns related to traffic, street closures, neighborhood safety, and infrastructure, as well as the availability of funding and agency support for proposed improvements. Members also considered potential courses of action and the feasibility of advancing several items for further consideration as part of the Fiscal Year 2028 Community District Needs process. The Committee will continue its discussion and further deliberate on these matters at its meeting next month.