BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8
Education, Libraries & Cultural Affairs Committee
Minutes of Meeting held on April 22, 2025
Meeting Recording

PRESENT	AFFILIATION
Sylvia Alexander	Chair, ELCA Committee
Emily Hausman	CB8-Committee Member
Georgia Santiago	CB8-Committee Member (ADA-on zoom)

ABSENT	
Constance Barnes Watson	CB8-Committee Member
Johanna Edmundson	CB8-Committee Member
Adiana Rivera	CB8-Committee Member

Guests	
Julie Reyes	Chair-CB8/EX-Officio Member (on Zoom)
Farrah Kule Rubin	CB8-District Manager
Aga Chen	Manager-Spuyten Duyvil Library

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM.

The minutes from March 25, 2025, could not be voted on because there was no quorum present.

Chairperson's Report-
The Chair spoke of a report she received from the Independent Budget Office regarding "Art in Public Schools. The Chair will reach out to them to request a speaker to come to an ELCA meeting to fill us in on the subject. This will also fall under Cultural Affairs, bringing music, dance and art to students.

Aga Chen, the Manager of the Spuyten Duyvil Branch Library reported that all is well, and programs are well attended. Spoke about programs held in the park, weather permitting. Teens have their separate location in the library and things are under control. Aga said she will check with the downtown office to see if there is anything to add to our proposed budget.

The ELCA Committee will submit the following proposed FY27 Capital Budget:

1. ELCA-DOE: In-Tech Academy, Bronx-New or updated Building Management System (the computer) that runs and controls the heat and air conditioner in the school.
2. ELCA-DOE: Am Park Neighborhood School, Bronx=New furniture for small group instruction and a complete renovation of our school library.
3. ELCA-DOE_SCA: P. S.24, Bronx-Conditions are rapidly deteriorating due ti windows that were put into the walls that are causing the walls of the building to be ripped apart from the foundation. SCA has already closed 4 classrooms because of the danger to students. The school cannot follow legislation for smaller class size and has 30 students per class. It is anticipated that more classrooms will be closed in the future.
4. ELCA-DOE: Marie Curie High School, Bronx-Request an internal "Health Lab" with updated equipment such as mannequins, CPR/AED and BLS materials, etc. This would enable graduate scholars who join the health field ready to service our community.
5. ELCA-DOE-SCA: P.S,24, Bronx-Gym Renovation-Current gym has not been updated since the building was built, 60 years ago. Equipment is old and lacks capacity for events and team sports.
6. ELCA-DOE: E.L.L.I.S. Prep Academy, Bronx-Renovations Needed-Bathrooms for students and staff. Lighting to brighten hallways, windows that can open, window shades that can be opened and closed, and air conditioning is requested.

The ELCA Committee will submit the following proposed FY27 Expense Budget

1. ELCA-DOE: Continue 6-day library service of our 5 branch libraries that service our community.
2. ELCA-DOE: E.L.L.I.S. Prep Academy, Bronx-Request, a hydroponic lab for our environment science college class and our culinary classes.
3. ELCA-DOE: Marie Curie High School, Bronx- Requesting Chrome Books, involute carts (chrome book storage) and printers for our scholars. The scholar population is approximately 265 and printers for each cart.
4. ELCA-DOE: P.S.24, Bronx-Request PA System Replacement- Current system is over 25 years old and does not work consistently.

5. ELCA-DOE: In-Tech Academy, Bronx-Request new and replace student lockers for our middle school. Classroom lockers-37 classrooms with 35 half lockers in each room and 1 full staff locker in each room.

Georgia apologized for not calling to wish everyone a Happy Passover and a Happy Easter.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05PM.