BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8
Amended Minutes of the Education, Libraries & Culture Affairs Committee
Held on November 25, 2025

PRESENT	AFFILIATION
Sylvia Alexander-(Zoom)	Chair, ELCA Committee
Althea Eboh	CB8-Committee Member
Miriam Filer	CB8-Committee Member
Emily Hausman	CB8-Committee Member
Daniel Nunez	CB8-Committee Member
Georgia Santiago	CB8-Committee Member

ABSENT	
Dr. Julia Gomez	CB8-Committee Member
Adiana Rivera	CB8-Committee Member

GUESTS	
Julie Reyes (Zoom)	CB8-Chair
Farrah Kule Rubin	CB8-District Manager
David Weisberg	Principal-MS/HS368-Speaker
Rebecca Brown Barbier	Riverdale Branch Library-Manager
Maria Gomez	Jerome Branch Library-Manager
Adriell Lewis	CUNY School of Public Health

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:35PM.

The minutes of the September 30, 2025 meeting were discussed and corrected to show that the Managers of the Riverdale Branch Library and the Spuyten Duyvil Library Manager were omitted from the attendance report. Both were present at the September meeting. So Sorry! With this correction noted the minutes were approved.

The Chair called on David Weisberg, Principal-MS/HS368. The Chair asked him to speak to us about the mandate to ban cell phones in public school. His school is a middle school; the age group is obsessed with cell phones. The parents were afraid that during an emergency they would not be able to reach their children. However, the ban has not hindered the result. The students are socializing more freely during change of classes and socializing in the lunchroom. The students give up the cell phones on arrival, and they are returned at dismissal. If the phones are necessary during tech classes, they are returned for that class. The committee hopes other successes are being experienced in schools in our district.

School bus union wanted a 5-year commitment to the new contract but settled for 3 years to which they agreed. The new Mayor-elect has said he is not interested in Mayoral control of Public Schools in NYC. We will have to wait and see what develops.

A question was asked by an attendee about the two new schools that District 10 will be getting and when. The one at Review Place and Van Cortlandt Park South is to be completed by 2028. The one at West 254 Street and Broadway should be completed by 2029. The Chair will contact School Construction Authority for an update shortly.

Each month the Education, Libraries & Cultural Affairs Committee has at least two managers present at each meeting. The managers of the branch libraries gave their reports. The libraries in our district have many programs available for adults and young children and many resources available to students of all ages. The libraries have websites containing calendars showing the time and branch offering many different programs.

The speaker from CUNY – School of Public Health spoke about legislation before the City Council Committee on Education requesting a letter of support. Since the legislation was not sent to the Education committee, before the meeting, the Chair asked that it be sent to our office for consideration. The City Council heard testimony and then laid the issue over.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00PM. Wishes to everyone for a Happy Thanksgiving,

Respectfully submitted,

Sylvia Alexander, Chair-ELCA Committee