

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
HELD ON OCTOBER 27, 2015**

PRESENT

Sylvia Alexander
Rita Pochter-Lowe
Judith Green
A.S. Ben-Merre

AFFILIATION

Chair, Education Committee
Vice-Chair, Education Committee
Community Resident
Community Resident

GUEST

Robert Press
Amy Joy Robateau
Michelle M. Goldman
Belkas Tappan
Carla Mapenn
Jennifer Neal Clark

CB8-Guest
CB8-Guest
Parent-PS24
Parent-PS24
Parent-PS24
Parent-PS81

ABSENT

Manuel Felix
Marvin Goodman
David Toledo

CB8-committee member
CB8-committee member
CB8-committee member

The meeting was called to order at 7:40PM.

The minutes of the May meeting were not approved because of lack of quorum.

The Chair informed the committee of some meetings attended in September and October.

1. JFK Town Hall meeting dealing with the explosion which occurred before school started In September but school opened on time.
2. Karen Argenti/Laura Spalter/Robin Sanchez-DEP-Met regarding a pilot program to Introduce students to the Jerome Park Reservoir. PS 95 was invited to participate In this pilot program and has accepted.
3. Education Forum/Ben Franklin Democratic Club-Dr. Rosa Member of NYS Board of Regents was the speaker. She addressed some of the concerns with Charter Schools.

Chancellor Farina announced the donation of \$22M for Public Education. She is committed to enlisting help from the private sector even if the City fund for public schools has raised less than in other years. In 2013 they raised \$48M. Founded in 1982 the fund is used by education department officials to bolster the city schools overall budget. Mayor Bloomberg used the funds to create new schools and experimental programs.

PSAL announced an expansion of their programs increasing the number of Girls Teams and Small High Schools Athletic Teams.

Mayor deBlasio presented his Equity & Excellence Proposal to raise achievement across all Public Schools.

Discussion ensued-

Parents of students at PS 24 expressed their concerns with the overcrowding and the loss of the Annex Lease at the Whitehall Building which has housed the 5th grade for many years. School Construction Authority did not negotiate the lease in time and the lease was given to Bright Horizon Pre-School.

Bright Horizon is expected to open at that site in September. Also PS 24 is expected to pay an increase of rent to remain until June. Extra space, such the as the library, has already been used as classroom space. There is talk of using trailers in the playground as classrooms but the parents are opposed to this solution. They request the DOE to come up with more appropriate answers.

PS 81 parents are upset because they are receiving tickets for double parking as they escort their children to the school doors. The double parking lasts only a short time and the students are too young to journey out by themselves. A suggestion was made to have an aide collect students and walk them the rest of the way. This would stop the double parking.

There was an announcement by producers of "Hamilton" to make tickets available at \$10.00 for 11th grade students. They will be available in April. This is a great tool to teach civics to students.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM.

The next meeting will be held on November 24, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,

Sylvia Alexander, Chair
Education Committee