

**MINUTES OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE
HELD ON APRIL 25, 2006
AT THE BOARD OFFICE**

PRESENT

Debbie Bowden
Marvin Shelton
Robert Press
Glenn Encababian
Philip Friedman
Gregory Adams
Julie Reyes
Bert Feinberg
Sylvia Alexander

AFFILIATION

CB#8, Committee Chair
CDEC 10, Committee Member
Committee Member
Committee Member
CB#8

CB#8
CB#8
CB#8, Clerical Associate

Chairperson's Report included the following items:

- discussion on extra 20 minutes of school day for remediation purposes;
- “narrowing the curriculum”- a nationwide pattern pushing math and reading subjects, less time for the arts, history, etc.;
- Chancellor's comments on schools since his and the Mayor's take over;
- \$15,000 housing bonus to encourage math, science and special Ed teachers to teach in NYC schools;
- Governor signs 11.2 Billion dollar bill for school construction;
- unannounced metal scanning program to increase school safety initiatives, some students object, others feel it is necessary for safety reasons; outreach re: information sessions to middle school students and parents regarding choosing a High School;

Correction to November 22, 2005 Minutes: on back page- “District 10's Education Council said Board of Education (not the Council) is working on upgrading new health HIV-Aids focus”.

Community Education Issues included the following:

- return of the Whitehall Annex for CB#8 children;
- desire for free full day pre-Kindergarten classes in District 10 (none in Community Board #8 area);
- want gifted programs in local schools;
- are Special Education students being mainstreamed?;
- overcrowding at JFK High School;
- the role of parents and the community in the schools; and
- need for additional schools due to mass construction in this area.

Procedures for Chancellor's meeting on May 23 were then discussed. Committee members will call two CB8 schools. Parent Coordinators to publicize this meeting.

BUDGET PRIORITIES FOR 2008:

CAPITAL

1. Acquisition of sites for and/or construction of full day pre-kindergarten classes for the children within the Community Board 8 area – 108200602C
2. Acquisition of sites for and construction of additional schools to relieve overcrowded school conditions in Community Board No. 8 area – 108199001C
3. Allocation of funds to immediately repair crumbling schools in Community Board No. 8 area, as identified from recent school report cards on infrastructure of the schools – 108200202C

EXPENSE

1. Funding for after-school remediation programs gifted and talented programs, career planting and educational/recreational arts programs – 108200201E
2. Allocation of funds to provide for meaningful reduction of class size in all grades- 108200519E
3. Complete the staffing of a full-time nurse, librarian, guidance counselor, a computer instructor (with lab technicians for science and computer labs) for every school – 108198611E
4. Request a larger slice of the City/State budget to be allocated to Education for appointments of more personnel in the following specialties: art, music, computer education and special education – 108200204E

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Bowden, Chair
Education Committee

DB:sa