



COMMUNITY BOARD 11
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May 2, 2017

Education, Culture & Youth Services Committee Meeting Minutes

PRESENT: Diane Norris, Chair; Linda White, Co-chair; Bernadette Ferrara; Marnie Rodriguez and Shradhanand Pirtam.

EXCUSED: Danny Monti.

ABSENT: Gabriella Musto.

GUEST: Michael Windram and Jacqueline Frey, Pathways for Learning Charter School; Dawn Holloway, NYPL.

The meeting was called to order by Diane Norris Chair at 7:15 p.m..

Mr. Windram spoke about students dropping out of school (7000). Do not have literary skills necessary. Pathway for Learning wants to start a charter school in Community Board, District 11. Their purpose is to engage families and kids and give them a school choice. Pathway for Learning will focus on literary. They hold a special lottery. Charter school responds to learning. Pathway for Learning means building families and communities for the disabled. Some of the opportunities will be NY Botanical Garden. We could take field trips and apply what is learned in our classrooms. Applying what is being learned in the classroom. Want children to understand what they are reading. Specialist, specialized teachers 12-2 Program. Children do community service. Children choose a learning course and community service. Special learning needs – establish reading specialist and special education. 97% of children fail 3rd grade exams.

The letter of intent is July 7. We requested this geographical area because of how close it is to Botanical Garden. They want to hear from us. She asked the Community Board what are the things we are looking for. Bernadette said that our community needs middle schools. K-5

Pathways for Learning is looking for children in the building by when they are 4.

Pathway for Learning selected this district because CB11 had the highest charter per seat. 6.7 applicants for one seat.

Linda stated that if we had more k-8 the percentage would be better. If we could get something like that.

Ms. Frye stated that motivation in charter schools has become politicized. We provide pathways where the kids and parents are making decisions. Where the parents have 4 or 5 service opportunities, parent involvement. If you have schools that partnership with the library, they want to let parents engaged with parents. Mr. Windram of Pathways stated they do not have a building yet. He wants a community school. It will provide a medical care doctor.

Ms. Frye stated they are charter management attaches In certain populations,

The focus is on a great education component. Special education component.

NYS law says admission of the school is done by lottery. Ms. Frey stated that we can make a preference. Who will fund this school?

Linda- Bronx for Excellence would have to find a building and have an ___ funding for the building. Ms. Frey stated that you ask to co-locate.

Mr. Windham stated that he would work with Department of Education. Tax payers would be funding the school. They want families out in the neighborhood giving back. Our asking is about being a presence. September 2018 he wants to open the school. Time is the vision. It is not for fund raising. The interest is in community service.

Bernadette spoke about PS481. She Is happy a school comes back in that location. Asked have you looked at 1681 White Plains Road. She met the principal with Van Nest Alliance. We need k-8

Ms. Frye wants the feedback forms filled out to help them with their planning. They partner with the libraries. She is requesting a letter from the Community Board for a K-8 Charter School.

Dawn Holloway stated that the library is entering into a writing program. They welcome everyone.

She is asking people to increase capital funding and operating funding. They get funding after school to expand hours Mon, Thur 10-7. She has extra letters. PS 83 Health Fair. Board Health Fair is on May 6. Wallace Avenue new charter school. Applied for a permit to do street closing. Bernadette reported that Victor Street was closed. Advocacy Programs, events, library Swag programs. Job Fair in June. Jacobi is having a barbecue. Linda invites Dawn Holloway.

Old Business

Bernadette ___ business is with Jay and his partner and with the principal of PS481. She has to follow up with him for PAL at St. Dominic's gym. Play streets and other programs. Commission Iris Rodriguez has not responded, We want to invite the principal Katrina Rojas of PS 481 at 1684 White Plains Road and Van Nest Avenue W 718-239-5600 C 646-763-1052. Email krojas3@schools.nyc.gov.

New business

Off the record discussion about Pathways for Learning Charter School. Will come back to the full Board meeting. We need K-8.

Meeting adjourned 8:30 p.m.

Minutes taken by Diane Norris.