



Chairman Brandon Ganaishlal - District Manager William Rivera

Youth & Education Committee Meeting Summary

May 11, 2023

Board Members Present: Ram Halder, Lashei Deoleo, Wajied Hakim, Alizia McMyers, Lena Johnson, Lenora Easter

I. Introduction

- A. Committee Description:** The youth & education committee represents the community's interests with regards to education and programs that target the youth and acts as a liaison between community members and the NYC Department of Education including Parent Advocates, PTA's, Educators and Principals, School Safety, the Administration for Children Services, the District Attorney's Office, NYC department of Youth & Development and local organizations and nonprofits.

II. Speakers

A. District 8, PS 36x The Rising Stars School – Principal Quyen Quach

The school serves 730 students in Grades PreK to 5. P.S. 36 is committed to creating a safe, nurturing environment in which learning and teaching are exciting. They provide each student with a diverse education that promotes independence, creativity, and excellence in learning. They believe that when educators, parents, and students collaborate, students achieve personal and academic success. P.S. 36 offers students extracurricular activities including: Rising Stars Basketball Team, Computer Science Club, Student Council, Art Club, Green Team, and Chorus in addition to other programs such as LEAP Arts Residency, BioBus, Erik the Reptile Guy, Scaramouches Puppets, Bronx Academy of Arts and Dance, Paul Simon Residency, Minecraft Battle, Girls in STEAM, Bullseye Math Competition, and Zerowaste Projects.

A deck with more information was presented and can be shared upon request. CB9 offered to partner in upcoming activities wherever community input can be helpful.

B. Dion Powell, Parent Choice Program

Mr. Powell presented regarding the importance of running for office, namely county committee: <https://www.repmyblock.org/>

He shared that the Children's Scholarship Fund expands educational opportunity by providing scholarships to families in need so children can attend the K-8 schools that are the best fit, regardless of their ability to pay or where they live: <https://scholarshipfund.org/>

Mr. Powell presented on the history of the School Choice: <https://www.edchoice.org/school-choice/what-is-school-choice/>; <https://www.edchoice.org/school-choice/types-of-school-choice/education-savings-account/>; <https://www.nbhe.net/>;

and Governor Cuomo's bill which proposed a tax credit to individuals and corporations that make donations to "educational scholarship organizations" for children to attend private schools, including schools that provide religious education:

<https://www.nyclu.org/en/legislation/legislative-memo-opposition-parental-choice-education-act> and <https://www.nytimes.com/2015/05/18/nyregion/cuomo-promotes-tax-credits-for-families-of-students-at-private-schools.html>

Mr. Powell also discussed the impending parochial school closings, including Holy Family in CB9: <https://www.asumag.com/facilities-management/article/21260582/12-catholic-schools-in-new-york-city-to-close-at-the-end-of-the-academic-year>;
<https://www.google.com/search?q=holy+family+school+bronx&og=holy+family+school+bronx&ags=chrome.0.0i20i263i355i512j46i20i175i199i263i512j0i512i3j46i175i199i512j0i512i3j0i390i650.3725j0j7&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8#bsht=CqVic2hocBIECAQwAQ>
Mr. Powell's contact is as follows: 646-345-4263, dion.powell@gmail.com

III. New Business

A. June Agenda Items

- The NYC Kids RISE Save for College Program is a scholarship and savings program designed to make college and career training more accessible for all NYC public school students— regardless of family income or immigration status: <https://infohub.nyced.org/in-our-schools/programs/nyc-kids-rise-save-for-college-program>
- Mayor Bill de Blasio announced that the City will expand its vision screening program to all 130 Community Schools and will partner with Warby Parker to provide a free pair of glasses to every student in need. Based on student needs, the City estimates the NYC-based tech company will provide glasses to approximately 20,000 students over the next four years: <https://www.nyc.gov/site/communityschools/schools-and-partners/partnership-with-warby-parker.page>
- Information regarding Free/Low Cost Dental benefits for New Yorkers can be accessed here: <https://www.nyc.gov/site/doh/health/health-topics/oral-health.page>

OFFICE INFO

District Manager William Rivera - wrivera@cb.nyc.gov
Phone (718) 823-3034 - Fax (718) 823-6461 - Office Email bx09@cb.nyc.gov - Website nyc.gov/bxcb9
Office Hours - Monday thru Friday 9AM to 5PM