

BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8

**MINUTES OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON OCTOBER 28, 2014
AT THE BOARD OFFICE, 5676 RIVERDALE AVENUE**

PRESENT

Sylvia Alexander
Marvin Goodman
Rita Pochter Lowe
Tricia Mullen
Judith Green
Andrew Gooden

AFFILIATION

Education Committee, Chair
CB8
CB8
Community Resident
Community Resident
Teacher, In-Tech, MS/HS 368

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

There was discussion regarding the signing up of 17 & 18 year olds to vote. Judith Green who is a member of the League of Women Voters, informed us that Councilwoman Helen Rosenthal, 6th District, Manhattan has a proposed resolution No. 281-A which calls for a Student Voter Registration Day (SVRD) to be established to be observed annually on the third Friday of March, on or near Democracy Day, the day 18 year olds won the right to vote. The resolution includes calling on NYC Schools to observe SVRD with civic education activities and discussion for citizen and non-citizen students and voter registration for eligible 17 and 18 year olds. It also asks that the Mayor issue an Executive Order requiring public schools in NYC to observe SVRD. In addition, the Chancellor will be asked to give her support to SVRD. Judith will keep the committee informed as to the progress of this resolution.

The Chair reported that there is interest at the state level by the Board of Regents regarding the renewal of Vocational courses. Career & Technical education programs with required math, science and liberal arts credits will count toward academic achievement.

The Chair also spoke about the large firing of Superintendents as part of the overhaul of the education system. The new crew will be burdened by expectations of them to aid troubled schools including help getting rid of bad teachers and incompetent school leaders. No schools in the Bronx have been given new leadership. Chancellor Farina's goal is to create a handpicked group of lieutenants capable of whipping the nation's largest school system into shape. Chancellor Farina wants to make sure every child is in a school where they can be successful.

Under old business, the chair informed the committee that last month's speaker Esther Nelson and the chair will meet with the librarian at the Kingsbridge Library to see if Ms. Nelson's program would be of interest.

Under new business, Tricia Mullen informed the committee she is now working in the afterschool program thru Riverdale Neighborhood House at In-Tech and would be interested in students who are involved in community service work be candidates in our Community Service Forum, if we have one this year.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sylvia Alexander, Chair
Education Committee