

COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8 BRONX

MINUTES OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 23rd, 2010 AT RIVERDALE MENTAL HEALTH, 2ND FLOOR 5676 RIVERDALE AVENUE

Attendees:

D. Bowden
S. Alexander
B. Bender
A. Cole
C. Hanley
M. Khury
R. Press
J. Dinowitz, Assemblyman
K. Green
G. Adames
M. Lam
R. Padmore
H. Patchment
H. Ring
N. Soria
L. Sambolin

Affiliations:

Chairperson, Education Committee
Vice Chairperson, Education Committee
CB 8 Board Member
CB 8 Board Member
CB 8 Board Member
CB 8 Board Member
Board Member

Committee Member
Committee Member
Riverdale Review
PS 360

PS 360
PS 360

The meeting was called to order at 7:35PM by Chair Debbie Bowden.

The guest speaker, Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz, handed out his letter to NYS Education Commissioner David Steiner opposing a waiver for Ms. Cathie Black to become chancellor. Assemblyman Dinowitz said that Ms. Black had no education background whatsoever, was not a parent of a child in a public school and sent her children to private schools which she herself attended. He then spoke of the decision of the panel set up by Commissioner Steiner not to give a waiver (at this time), and suggested that Ms. Black withdraw her name.

Assemblyman Dinowitz then spoke of the almost eight years of mayoral control, saying that he did not vote for it either time, and that he does not think it has done any better than the process it replaced. Assemblyman Dinowitz then answered questions about several different topics.

Renee Padmore, Parents Association President of PS 360 on Kingsbridge Terrace spoke on an October 18th PA meeting that happened at PS 360, where Department of Education officials came to talk about the truncation of the schools two sixth grade classes to other schools without naming any schools other than MS 244 (the old MS 143) a school in need of improvement. The DOE said that they wanted to add a second pre-k class at PS 360 in place of the two sixth grade classes. Ms. Padmore then spoke of a declining enrollment at PS 360, and taking out the two sixth grade classes

would severely effect the schools budget. A request was made to the education committee for a letter of support of the current grade structure, to which the committee voted to have the chair write a letter of support for the current grade structure.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as written.

The chair gave her report on the subject of bullying in the schools, and said that in early 2011 a speaker will come before the education committee. The chair added that another letter will be sent to PS 24 to invite the principal or school representative to address the committee about the current status of PS 24.

Motion to adjourn at 9:25PM.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Robert Press

Please note that Debbie Bowden, Chairperson thanks Robert Press for executing minutes of this meeting.