

(Pending Committee Approval)

**BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8
EDUCATION COMMITTEE MINUTES OF 9-27-16
Held at Board Office, 5676 Riverdale Avenue**

PRESENT

Sylvia Alexander
Marvin Goodman
Rita Pochter-Lowe
Judith Green

AFFILIATION

Chair, Education Committee
CB8 Committee Member
CB8 Committee Member
Community Committee Member

Guests

Ben Goodman
Faye Landsman
Marvin Shelton
Priscilla Ayber
Anaisa Gruevron
Dane Nebron
Joshua Stephenson
Lisa Herndon
Robert Press

School Construction Authority
Community Resident
Community Education Council
Parent, PS24
Community Resident
Reach One To Teach One
Rep. Councilman Andrew Cohen
Riverdale Press
Bronx Voice

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

The Chair called upon the invited speaker, Mr. Ben Goodman, Community Affairs Director of the School Construction Authority. Mr. Goodman started by showing some slides pertaining to the new renovation of Our Lady of Angeles to accommodate PS315. Discussion ensued as to the decision to move PS315 instead of PS 307 which is in the same area and has a larger population with no gym, no auditorium and houses more students in their building, and has a lease which is up for renewal. The Chair inquired why the Community Board was not involved but found out from the Buildings Department who informed the Board of the proposed construction. Mr. Goodman also showed a slide of an early childhood space placed in a private building without consultation with residents.

The Chair asked about the promised 456 seat new school in the Riverdale/Spuyten Duyvil/Kingsbridge area which was funded in a previous budget and does not show up in the present 5 year plan of the School Construction Authority. Mr. Goodman said this school is still funded but a site has to be determined.

Budget priorities are submitted by our local schools because the needs are important for the safety of the students in their schools. The Board submits these to the Office of Management and Budget and are considered by School Construction Authority but they are not deemed for funding because they are not in their 5 year plan. A copy of last year's Education Budget Priorities was given to Mr. Goodman to make our point.

The Education Committee would like to foster a positive relationship with the School Construction Authority and came away from this meeting feeling we now have someone to contact. The Committee fielded some additional questions and Mr. Goodman will get back to us with some answers and supply us with a person at the Division of Education Facilities for more information.

Marvin Shelton, President of the Community Education Council (School District 10) was very informative in sharing some interesting issues.

Judith Green, Community Committee Member spoke about Councilman Andrew Cohen's Participatory Budget and offered to submit the Education Committee's Budget Priorities to be considered.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

**Sylvia Alexander, Chair
Education Committee**