



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10

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Education /Libraries & Youth Committee
December 18th 2012

ATTENDANCE: BOARD MEMBERS: Karen Horry, Marquis Houston, Deborah Yates, Co-Chair, Crystal McKay, Christopher T. Woodley

GUESTS: Joseph Rogers, Jr., Evelyn Collins, Onyx Academy; Gale Reeves, District 5 Superintendent; Valarie Babb, NYC Charter Center; Delois Johnson

SUMMARY:

Gale Reeves, District 5 Superintendent begin her presentation by highlighting some 2012 successes. She mentioned the Anti-Bullying Conference held October 27, the STEM event in June among others. Ms. Reeves spoke at length regarding the priorities of the school district and listed five of these priorities. Priority 1 improve ELA performance by 5%, Priority 2 increase proficiency in math at the elementary and middle school level by 5%, Priority 3 is to increase the percentage scoring 75% or above on ELA and 80% on the Math Regents, Priority 4 improve graduation rates in District 5 and Priority 5 is to improve schools that did not meet their annual yearly progress targets. Superintendent discussed plans to ensure the teaching staff has the support and training they need to adequately perform.

Valerie Babb Director of NYC Charter School Center came before the committee to start a conversation regarding the role and futrue of Charter Schools. She believes there is a lot of misunderstanding in the community regarding Charter Schools. The Charter School Center's role is to help new schools get started, support existing charter schools and to build community support for these schools.

Evelyn Collins from Onyx Academy came to the meeting to present updates regarding her Charter School Application. Onyx is working with the National Black Theatre regarding a space and plans to occupy the building next door to the theatre. Ms. Collins came before the committee last year but has since withdrew her application to allow a more thorough application. She plans to resubmit her application in September of 2013 with a planned opening in 2014. Ms. Collins also mentioned that she will be holding information sessions starting in January 2013 at the National Black Theatre.

Joseph Rogers thanked the committee for their participation in collecting books over the holidays. He stated they collected over 1,000 books.

Submitted by: Deborah Yates