



CITY OF NEW YORK
MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10
215 West 125th Street, 4th Floor—New York, NY 10027
T: 212-749-3105 F: 212-662-4215

HENRIETTA LYLE
Chairperson

ANDREW LASSALLE
Assistant District Manager

Education/Libraries & Youth Committee

Tuesday, March 11, 2014

Board Attendance:

Present: Acting Chair, Deborah Yates, Daniel Clark, Christina Curry, Karen Horry, Tamara Martin

Excused: Jennifer Prince, Reverend Lisa Jenkins, Marquis Harrison, Crystal McKay, Stephanie Howze

Absent: Troy Gethers, Stephen Watkins, Michael Downie

Guests:

Shonte McQueen, Future Leadership, Inst
Maureen Campbell, Harlem Hebrew
Shanelle Washington, SNUG
Andrea Esper
Antwan Allen, St. Mark the Evangelist School
Kamala Redle, MMALC

Izzy Color, Future Leadership Institute
Joshua Morgan, SNUG
Eva L. Frazier, Children of Middle Passage
Saudia Garnett, Cititech
Ray Lasczcyh, St. Mark
Verna Gadson, MMALC

St. Mark the Evangelist School

Antwan Allen the principal at St. Mark stated that the school was founded in 1912 and they have been serving the Harlem community for 101 years. St. Mark was the first Catholic pre k – 8 schools in NYC dedicated to serving black children. Their students are 89% of African American decent 70% live and work in community 53% receive financial assistant. Tuition is \$3,500 a year. St. Mark uses a holistic approach to education. Regular school day 8-4 extended work in ELA and math as a regular part of the everyday experience. Every year the 8th graders go to the most competitive high school. St. Mark is working on early education so that children entering first grade are able to read. St. Marks has been guilty of not doing enough outreach in the community and serving the community. Mr. Allen believes in school choice, and want to let parents know that options exist. Moving forward the students at St. Mark should do community service. Capacity of the school is 305, enrolled this year is 280 so the majority of classes are full. Parents are involved, they attend several book fairs the school also has outreach for fathers.

Future Leadership Institute (FLI)

They have been in the community since 2005. They are a charter school which is a public school and their school is not a part of a network. They are authorized by the state and SUNY. What makes them unique is that they are a UFT school. FLI is a K-8 school using a holistic approach to the child. Blocks schedule for ELA and Math they also teach about self esteem. FLI also offers science every day in the classroom and they work hard to prepare the students for high school. FLI has reorganized in the last four years which has allowed the school to move from a D grade to a grade of B. FLI has more consistency in the staff and leadership team in the last 4 years. The regular school day is 8am-3pm and after school offers 15 different classes for enrichment, dancing, cooking, etc. taught by local performing artists. Demographics 15% receive free or reduced lunches. There is a Prep Academy that offers very extensive tutoring, in third thru 8th grade. Based on a reinforcement of what was taught that day. They have a Saturday Academy and Summer Academy as well that is based on the common core so the kids have a lot of opportunity to be engaged. FLI has a Lab of 25 hard drive computers every child is hands on a computer at least 2 hours a week. FLI also has 2 Laptop carts that go into the classrooms. One computer program they use is Success Maker which the children go on weekly, this program teaches them where they are in a particular subject so every child gets what they need. FLI has a 390 student capacity but the enrollment at this time is 378 and they find that 378 is a comfortable number. FLI has a very successful high school placement. Their board is actively involved with their time and also financially.

Deborah Yates asked the committee what their thoughts were on Charter Schools being asked to pay rent for space. Karen Horry stated she believed in school choice but is concerned with co-location. If the Charter School is having a negative impact on the school that they co-locate with then the charter schools that have more funding should look for other space. We as a committee should pay attention to these dire situations. Karen and other members stated that they would need to know how the money would be spent.

Education Forum April 12, 2014

Education, Youth and Libraries Committee have set a date of April 10th for their "State of Education in Harlem" Forum. It will be held at Harriett Tubman School located on West 127th Street. We have decided on four panels, Charter Schools, pros and cons; Special Education; Testing/Common Core and Role of Parents. We hope to offer breakfast and lunch. The day will begin at 8am and end around 4:00pm. We are asking the new NYC Education Chancellor to be our keynote speaker. We need to ensure that there are interpreters at the meeting and that security is provided. We are also looking at some potential partners. We have invited James Merriman and Michael Mulgrove. We have invited other Community Boards to partner with us. We want this to be a Forum that reaches River to River. We plan to invite organizations to have tables at the Forum to provide additional information to parents in attendance, i.e., Libraries, Gifted and Talented programs, special education, etc.

Announcements

Kamala Redle from Mid Manhattan Adult Learning Center (MMALC) is concerned about the space that they occupy now that it is co-located with Democracy Prep. It is one of the only adult programs that is free and does not discriminate on the basis of status. Free LPN programs in the country, certified nursing assistant, medical billing, air conditioning and refrigeration. MMALC programs are growing and they are being pushed out of their space. They want the community support as well as the Community Board support. Ms. Redle has been teaching at the Center for over 20 years. Ms. Redle stated that she believes that politicians and community members don't understand how tenuous this situation is.

NEXT MEETING April 15th, 6:30 PM