

Public Meeting of the CB12M's Youth and Education Committee Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 9, 2019

7:00 - 9:00 pm

Location: CB12M Office 530 West 166 Street, 6th Floor, New York, NY 10032

Committee Members Present: Maria Luna; Curtis Young; Deborah Nabavian; Jonathan Nunez-Formeta

Committee Member(s) Absent: Fe Florimon (Excused); Glennis Aquino; Carolina Charles (Excused); Gabriela Estrella; Mariam James; Omar Tejada (Excused)

General Public: Jazmin Del Valle; Tatiana Mahoney; Juana Luna; Al Kurkland; Stephanie Tavaréz; Jocelyn Contreras; Leonie Haimson

The meeting was called to order by Curtis Young, acting as Chair at 7:02 pm.

Discussion that took place as indicated below:

Members of the Committee and the audience were introduced by the Chair followed by the review of agenda.

Stephanie Tavaréz presented resources available through Dominican Women Development Corporation:

I. Healthy Relationship (Material provided in Spanish) and Domestic Violence. These resources are provided through the Nuevo Amanecer Program. They provide the following to the community:

- **24-hour hotline:** The hotline is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and is staffed by Spanish/English speaking counselors.
- **Support Groups:** These groups provide a safe space in which formerly battered women and women who are currently in violent relationships can convene to share their experiences, offer support to each other in their healing processes.
- **Information & Referrals:** Information and referrals, are provided based on individual needs. In addition to helping women apply for crime victims' compensation.
- **Individual Counseling:** We provide one-on-one support services to women dealing with domestic violence issues.
- **Advocacy:** *Nuevo Amanecer's* advocates accompany and advocate on behalf of and serve as interpreters at various institutions such as criminal courts, police precincts, hospitals and housing centers with the intent of empowering them to access services independently.
- **Community Educational Presentations:** Presentations are usually made to both parents and students at local schools, community centers, and churches. In

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addition, *Nuevo Amanecer* has also developed mini-presentations that are given at local businesses

II. Presentation from Class Size Matters (Leonie Haimson)

- Class size is strongly linked to student success in every way that can be measured.
- Benefits for kids of color and disadvantaged students especially large.
- NYC has the largest class sizes in the state.
- NYS Contracts for Excellence law passed in 2007 obligated NYC to reduce class size in all grades over five years.
- In 2007, DOE submitted a plan to lower class sizes to no more than 20 students on average in K-3; 23 on average in 4th-8th and 25 in HS.
- Yet class sizes increased substantially since then.

What these class size averages do not show:

- There are extreme disparities in class size across the city.
- The number of students in very large classes has grown sharply since 2007 in grades K-8.
- On April 16, 2018, CSM and 8 NYC parents filed a lawsuit vs. the city & state for failure to lower class size
- Johanna Garcia, former president of CEC6, is one of the plaintiffs.
- On August 27, 2018, Acting Supreme Court Judge Henry Zwack ruled against us. Yet his decision was only a few pages long, didn't touch on any of the facts of the case, but basically said it was up to State Ed Commissioner to decide, who has refused to make NYC follow C4E law.

New 2020-2024 Capital Plan

- 56,917 Seats funded in new five-year Capital Plan (1600 for design only)
- Yet nearly half (23,284 seats) rolled over from former Plan (33,633 new seats)
- Funds only about 69% seats necessary, according to Nov. 2017 DOE identified seats need
- No new seats need projections included in the plan – for the first time since 2011.
- Source: 2020-2024 Capital Plan

Other problems with new five-year plan

- No funding for replacement seats – even though SCA removes TCUs, replacing annexes and losing leases every year
- No new funding in the category called class size reduction
- Very back loaded so that 50,000 of 57,000 seats in the plan will not be completed until 2024 or later
- No new seats for District 6
- Mayor de Blasio will have built fewer seats during each of his 2 terms than any of Bloomberg's 3 terms.

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District 6 is still an overcrowded district

- District 6 Elementary Schools AVERAGE 106% overcapacity.
- District 6 Middle Schools are at 78% capacity.
- 43% (17) of K-8 schools in District 6 are overcrowded (at or above 100% target utilization) with 7,113 students.
- 81 cluster rooms are missing from District 6 schools according to DOE's utilization formula
- DOE school capacity formula aligned to above average class sizes in grades 4-12 & would tend to push class sizes even higher in these grades

Data source: 2016-2017 Blue Book.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:24 pm.