

March, 2009 District Manager's Report

Highlights from the District Service Cabinet Meeting (3/11/09)

26th Pct (See Stats)

30th Pct (See Stats)

PSA-6 Reported a significant increase in crime with Grand Larceny (Identity Theft) being a major factor in increase. PSA-6 and the District Attorney's Office will be holding a Workshop "Your Rights and Responsibilities When Interacting With the Police" (Stop, Question, and Frisk Procedures) the Workshop will be held on Tuesday, March 31st, 2009 7pm – 9pm at the PSA-6 Headquarters, 2770 Eighth Avenue @148th Street. For further info. Please contact Community Affairs at (212) 694-7723.

Patrol Borough Manhattan North (See Stats)

P.O. Rijos reported that there will be a decrease in deployment of Officers in the District due to upcoming Parades and Special Events during the Spring/Summer season.

DEP (See FAQ)

Sanitation - Summer hours will be in effect 4/10/09; Sanitation is not responsible for removing ice and snow from sidewalks only responsible for curb cuts and Bus Shelters.

NYCHA – Manhattanville Tenant Patrol Room 90% complete scheduled to be finished by Spring of 2009; Cameras to be installed in development May, 2009.

Parks Dept. - reported an increase in Graffiti at the Hamilton Playground and Jacob Schiff Park stated cameras (Flash Cam) with motion sensors would be installed at Jacob Schiff Park. The Jackie Robinson Band Shell is closed due to construction; therefore Events (Concerts and Live Entertainment) will increase at St. Nicholas and Morningside Parks. Reports of dumping from area businesses at the Broadway Mall (148th St.), Sanitation will increase enforcement.

DOT – reported on staircase lighting (wall-pack Luminaries) at the 135th Street stairs in Riverside Park to be installed late Summer/Fall of 2009; flood lights installed at 134th Street (Via duct @12th Ave)

HRA – reported on Pilot Program allowing clients to recertify for services by phone, the following concerns were raised: handling of documents, what steps would be taken in case of emergency, and what policies/procedures would be put into place to discourage Fraud and Identify Theft; these concerns will be addressed at the next DSC meeting.

MBPO – Announced “Citizenship Assistance Day and Free information about Immigration services” (See Flyer)

Highlights from the Borough Service Cabinet Meeting held (February 27, 2009)

Community and Citywide Education Councils (CECs) are education policy advisors responsible for reviewing and evaluating schools’ instructional programs, approving zoning lines, advising the Chancellor and holding meetings at least every month with the superintendent and the public-at-large to discuss the current state of the schools in the district. CECs are an essential and critically important part of the public decision-making process in the New York City’s public schools. Each council consists of at least nine elected parent volunteers who provide hands-on leadership and support for their community’s public schools. The Community Education Council consist of nine (9) elected parent leaders who have a child attending a public school in the district; two (2) residents and/or local business owners appointed by the Borough President; and one (1) non-voting high school senior who lives in the district and is an elected leader at his or her school. (See Attached)

Borough President Report (See Attached)

Updates/Announcement(s):

Summer Playstreet Applications are available at the Community Board No. 9 Office, deadline for submission to the Board is May 1st, 2009.

What is a Summer Playstreet?

A summer playstreet is a city street reserved for recreation for school age children and others during the weekday daylight hours of the summer. Playstreets operate, under adult supervision, five days a week, Monday through Friday, between 8AM and 5PM. In 2009 summer Playstreets may begin in July 1st or thereafter, and continue through August 28th. NO PARKING and NO THROUGH TRAFFIC is permitted on the block during Playstreet hours. This restriction must have the consent of the residents of the block for a street to be designated as a summer Playstreet.

NYCHA is pleased to support our proposal to establish a “Memorial Senior Reading Garden” in honor of *Sadie Winslow* on the grounds of General Grant Houses west of the George Bruce Library located at 518 West 125th Street.

Employment Opportunities:

Dept. of Sanitation is hiring Emergency Snow Laborers; interested individuals can register at any local district garage between the hours of 7am to 3pm. The rate of pay begins at \$12 per hour and increases to 18 per hour, after completing the first 40 hours. For more information on how to register, call 311 or visit www.nyc.gov/sanitation .

Street Closing(s) – Crane Operations:

Masonry Services will be closing West 143rd Street (between Riverside Drive and Broadway) for the use of a Crane at 620 West 143rd Street. The closure will take place on the following dates from 8am to 4pm: March 18, 20, 23, 25, 27, 30, 2009. Please note Flagmen will be posted to redirect traffic.

Submitted by,



Eutha Prince
District Manager



Prepared: 3/9/2009

City/Boro/Precinct Report

Precinct 026

Report covering the period 3/2/2009 through 3/8/2009

Crime Complaints

	Week to Date			28 Day			Year to Date			2 Year	3 Year	11 Year
	2009	2008	% Chg	2009	2008	% Chg	2009	2008	% Chg	% Chg	% Chg	% Chg
Murder	0	0	*** *	0	0	*** *	0	1	*** *	*** *	*** *	*** *
Rape	0	0	*** *	2	0	*** *	2	2	0.0%	*** *	-60.0%	0.0%
Robbery	5	7	-28.6%	16	18	-11.1%	33	40	-17.5%	17.9%	50.0%	-45.0%
Fel. Assault	1	2	-50.0%	7	7	0.0%	15	19	-21.1%	0.0%	0.0%	-44.4%
Burglary	1	1	0.0%	5	2	150.0%	10	8	25.0%	42.9%	-54.5%	-73.0%
Gr. Larceny	8	4	100.0%	26	18	44.4%	52	52	0.0%	4.0%	-20.0%	-29.7%
G.L.A.	1	0	*** *	5	4	25.0%	13	8	62.5%	30.0%	333.3%	-38.1%
Total	16	14	14.3%	61	49	24.5%	125	130	-3.8%	13.6%	-5.3%	-43.4%
PSB	10	14	-28.6%	44	40	10.0%	100	104	-3.8%	28.2%	-16.0%	-53.7%
Transit	1	0	*** *	2	3	-33.3%	5	7	-28.6%	0.0%	150.0%	0.0%
Housing	5	0	*** *	15	6	150.0%	20	19	5.3%	-25.9%	81.8%	*** *
Sht. Vic.	0	0	*** *	1	0	*** *	1	0	*** *	-66.7%	-50.0%	*** *
Sht. Inc.	0	0	*** *	1	0	*** *	1	0	*** *	0.0%	-50.0%	*** *
Rape 1	0	0	*** *	2	0	*** *	2	2	0.0%	*** *	-50.0%	*** *

Arrests*

*Includes ALL arrests by NYPD and all other outside agencies (FBI, DEA, Pvt. Sec., etc) within the confines of this precinct

All Arrests	81	66	22.7%	309	222	39.2%	662	489	35.4%	19.9%	14.1%	4.3%
Murder	1	0	*** *	2	0	*** *	2	0	*** *	*** *	*** *	*** *
Rape	0	0	*** *	0	0	*** *	0	0	*** *	*** *	*** *	*** *
Robbery	2	1	100.0%	9	9	0.0%	21	23	-8.7%	5.0%	10.5%	-32.3%
Fel. Assault	1	2	-50.0%	6	5	20.0%	10	14	-28.6%	-28.6%	-28.6%	-58.3%
Burglary	0	0	*** *	1	0	*** *	7	2	250.0%	0.0%	250.0%	-36.4%
Gr. Larceny	1	0	*** *	10	0	*** *	16	8	100.0%	128.6%	6.7%	33.3%
G.L.A.	0	0	*** *	0	0	*** *	0	0	*** *	*** *	*** *	*** *
Total	5	3	66.7%	28	14	100.0%	56	47	19.1%	16.7%	3.7%	-37.8%
Gun	0	1	*** *	0	2	*** *	0	2	*** *	*** *	*** *	*** *
Narcotics	5	11	-54.5%	36	25	44.0%	84	57	47.4%	15.1%	-20.8%	-12.5%
DWI	4	0	*** *	13	9	44.4%	22	21	4.8%	22.2%	175.0%	175.0%
VTL 511	14	14	0.0%	62	42	47.6%	108	70	54.3%	111.8%	100.0%	92.9%
PSB	47	31	51.6%	173	106	63.2%	299	227	31.7%	27.2%	6.8%	-9.4%
OCCB	2	8	-75.0%	19	12	58.3%	45	26	73.1%	25.0%	114.3%	-19.6%
Det. Bureau	6	3	100.0%	24	15	60.0%	59	43	37.2%	11.3%	-24.4%	-29.8%
Transit	10	18	-44.4%	48	57	-15.8%	139	126	10.3%	24.1%	25.2%	26.4%
Housing	15	2	650.0%	39	19	105.3%	106	46	130.4%	0.0%	29.3%	116.3%

Summons Activity / Reports

Parking	250	216	17.0%	1,685	1,551	7.7%	2,707	2,500	7.7%	0.7%	37.6%	45.7%
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Report Covering the Week of 03/02/2009 Through 03/08/2009

Crime Complaints

	Week to Date			23 Day			Year to Date			16Year
	2009	2008	% Change	2009	2008	% Change	2009	2008	% Chg	% Chg
Murder	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	-100.0
Rape	2	0	**** *	2	2	0.0	3	2	50.0	-76.9
Robbery	7	2	250.0	21	18	16.6	37	50	-26.0	-75.3
Fel. Assault	2	3	-33.3	10	9	11.1	27	23	17.3	-76.1
Burglary	1	5	-80.0	6	7	-14.2	12	16	-25.0	-92.0
Gr. Larceny	4	2	100.0	12	14	-14.2	26	34	-23.5	-65.3
G.L.A.	1	0	**** *	4	6	-33.3	13	12	8.3	-74.0
TOTAL	17	12	41.6	55	56	-1.7	118	137	-13.8	-79.0
PSB	17	12	41.6	54	54	0.0	116	131	-11.4	-79.3
Transit	0	0	**** *	1	1	0.0	2	4	-50.0	**** *
Housing	0	0	**** *	0	1	-100.0	0	2	-100.0	**** *
Shooting Vic.	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	2	2	0.0	-90.4
Shooting Inc.	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	2	1	100.0	-90.4
Rape 1	1	0	**** *	1	1	0.0	2	1	100.0	-83.3

Arrests*

*Includes ALL arrests by NYPD and all other outside agencies (FBI, DEA, Pvt. Sec., etc) within the confines of this Pct.

All Arrests	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	-100.0
Murder	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	-100.0
Rape	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	-100.0
Robbery	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	-100.0
Fel. Assault	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	-100.0
Burglary	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	-100.0
Gr. Larceny	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	-100.0
G.L.A.	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	-100.0
TOTAL	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	-100.0
Gun	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	-100.0
Narcotics	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	-100.0
DWI	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	**** *
VTL 511	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	**** *
PSB	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	-100.0
OCCB	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	-100.0
Det. Bureau	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	-100.0
Transit	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	-100.0
Housing	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	-100.0

Summons Activity / Reports

Parking	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	**** *
Moving	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	**** *
Criminal	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	**** *
ECB	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	0	0	**** *	**** *
DIR	41	33	24.2	147	151	-2.6	346	382	-9.4	**** *



CompStat

Report covering the period 3/2/2009 through 3/8/2009

Crime Complaints

	Week to Date			28 Day			Year to Date			2 Year	8 Year	16 Year
	2009	2008	% Chg	2009	2008	% Chg	2009	2008	% Chg	% Chg	% Chg	% Chg
Murder	0	0	***	1	2	-50.0%	7	8	-12.5%	40.0%	-61.1%	-88.7%
Rape	5	6	-16.7%	14	24	-41.7%	27	45	-40.0%	-18.2%	-38.6%	-69.0%
Robbery	45	44	2.3%	163	162	0.6%	403	482	-16.4%	-14.6%	-32.8%	-75.8%
Fel. Assault	19	41	-53.7%	81	128	-36.7%	258	325	-20.6%	-8.8%	-41.6%	-70.1%
Burglary	25	31	-19.4%	110	94	17.0%	234	297	-21.2%	-21.2%	-58.7%	-88.2%
Gr. Larceny	85	78	9.0%	320	322	-0.6%	814	919	-11.4%	-17.2%	-11.1%	-58.3%
G.L.A.	14	11	27.3%	47	52	-9.6%	126	131	-3.8%	-7.4%	-55.9%	-93.1%
Total	193	211	-8.5%	736	784	-6.1%	1,869	2,207	-15.3%	-15.4%	-34.9%	-77.8%
PSB	172	190	-9.5%	658	702	-6.3%	1,669	1,975	-15.5%	-16.2%	-35.3%	-80.2%
Transit	3	1	200.0%	21	17	23.5%	58	62	-6.5%	7.4%	-42.0%	***
Housing	18	20	-10.0%	57	65	-12.3%	142	170	-16.5%	-13.4%	-26.4%	***
Sht. Vic.	1	1	0.0%	4	4	0.0%	21	17	23.5%	23.5%	-30.0%	-86.1%
Sht. Inc.	1	1	0.0%	3	3	0.0%	16	15	6.7%	33.3%	-46.7%	-88.9%
Rape 1	4	3	33.3%	12	11	9.1%	18	26	-30.8%	-25.0%	-41.9%	-74.3%

Arrests*

*Includes ALL arrests by NYPD and all other outside agencies (FBI, DEA, Pvt. Sec., etc) within the confines of this precinct

All Arrests	1,368	1,352	1.2%	5,357	5,219	2.6%	11,856	11,962	-0.9%	-4.4%	-1.4%	39.9%
Murder	2	1	100.0%	4	3	33.3%	9	8	12.5%	-30.8%	-47.1%	-78.6%
Rape	1	4	-75.0%	10	19	-47.4%	28	37	-24.3%	16.7%	3.7%	-30.0%
Robbery	26	25	4.0%	102	95	7.4%	237	302	-21.5%	-7.1%	-25.7%	-61.8%
Fel. Assault	24	44	-45.5%	90	116	-22.4%	259	270	-4.1%	-9.1%	-40.2%	-47.0%
Burglary	7	10	-30.0%	24	24	0.0%	68	66	3.0%	-34.0%	-39.3%	-71.8%
Gr. Larceny	26	11	136.4%	115	57	101.8%	252	191	31.9%	66.9%	77.5%	68.0%
G.L.A.	0	0	***	2	7	-71.4%	12	21	-42.9%	-60.0%	-80.0%	-92.3%
Total	86	95	-9.5%	347	321	8.1%	865	895	-3.4%	0.5%	-22.1%	-50.2%
Gun	6	8	-25.0%	32	24	33.3%	84	86	-2.3%	50.0%	35.5%	-74.7%
Narcotics	223	257	-13.2%	896	1,044	-14.2%	1,952	2,400	-18.7%	-25.5%	-45.0%	-34.1%
DWI	36	42	-14.3%	132	131	0.8%	319	320	-0.3%	16.8%	157.3%	***
VTL 511	134	106	26.4%	612	438	39.7%	1,245	990	25.8%	11.5%	61.9%	***
PSB	789	710	11.1%	3,009	2,878	4.6%	6,301	6,568	-4.1%	-2.5%	22.5%	38.3%
OCCB	168	225	-25.3%	705	853	-17.4%	1,635	1,824	-10.4%	-23.8%	-53.3%	44.3%
Det. Bureau	121	99	22.2%	449	365	23.0%	978	941	3.9%	2.0%	-4.0%	194.6%
Transit	139	197	-29.4%	536	574	-6.6%	1,324	1,296	2.2%	4.0%	40.4%	16.3%
Housing	117	84	39.3%	522	436	19.7%	1,277	1,050	21.6%	4.0%	8.7%	30.3%

Summons Activity / Reports

Parking	4,601	4,930	-6.7%	21,442	20,066	6.9%	51,100	49,960	2.3%	-5.6%	-43.4%	***
Moving	2,325	2,370	-1.9%	10,415	9,769	6.6%	25,372	23,309	8.9%	4.5%	7.8%	***
Criminal	1,055	1,384	-23.8%	6,051	6,653	-9.0%	13,050	15,929	-18.1%	-26.4%	5.5%	***
ECB	1	1	0.0%	11	19	-42.1%	25	55	-54.5%	-78.3%	-97.4%	***



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is AMR?

The installation of a citywide automated meter reading (AMR) network is an important next step in the New York City Department of Environmental Protection's comprehensive transformation of its Bureau of Customer Service. AMR systems consist of small, low-power radio transmitters connected to individual water meters that send readings to a network of rooftop receivers throughout the city. DEP's system will leverage DoITT's New York City Wireless Network (NYCWIN).

How does AMR work?

DEP will attach a small device to your meter that automatically transmits readings to electronic data receivers throughout the city. These receivers will provide DEP with all relevant billing information and eliminate the need for meter readers to visit your property.

How does AMR benefit me?

- AMR eliminates, with rare exceptions, the need to estimate your bill.
- AMR tracks consumption and can alert you to costly leaks.
- AMR eliminates the need for a meter reader to visit your premises.
- AMR ensures that you receive a more accurate bill each month.

How will AMR affect my bill?

AMR will eliminate estimated bills and increase billing accuracy. AMR can also help alert you to household leaks so you are able to fix them before they become costly problems. You will continue to receive your water and sewer bills in the mail in accordance with your normal billing schedule, though DEP is also finalizing a new, customer-friendly bill that will explain consumption data in a clear, easy to read format. We anticipate that you will begin receiving these bills in 2009.

When will an AMR transmitter be installed on my meter?

DEP contractors are performing transmitter installation door-to-door beginning in the winter of 2009. Installing transmitters on all 850,000 meters in New York City will take approximately three years. Installations will occur first in Brooklyn and Queens, then in the Bronx and Manhattan, and then in Staten Island. You will receive a letter from DEP when AMR installation contractors are in your neighborhood. In addition, you may call 311 at any time to schedule a transmitter installation - performed by DEP contractors - for your property.

Will DEP need access to my home?

DEP may need to enter your home, depending on where your current meter is installed; and we may need to shut off your water. In addition, a very small number of old meters may need to be replaced before an AMR transmitter can be properly installed. DEP will pay for these replacements.

How long will the installation take?

Installation of the transmitter will take around 30 minutes.

What are the benefits of AMR to DEP?

- AMR increases customer satisfaction by ensuring that bills are based on actual usage.
- AMR allows DEP to more closely monitor citywide consumption and more effectively manage the city's water supply systems.
- AMR is a less expensive way to read meters especially those where monthly readings may be difficult or inconvenient. It is efficient, accurate and can reduce costs.

Does AMR equipment meet industry and Federal standards?

Yes. AMR technology is designed to function at very low power levels and is in widespread use throughout the utility industry. We will use AMR equipment that has been tested and is compliant with American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and Federal Communication Commission (FCC) standards. Similar systems are already used by many other major cities, including Dallas, Detroit and Washington, D.C.

Will AMR interfere with TV, personal computers, or other electronic equipment?

AMR equipment operates on a low-power frequency band reserved specifically for this purpose. It is highly unlikely to interfere with the operation of any other electronic equipment.

Where can I find more information about DEP's AMR system?

More information is available on DEP's website at nyc.gov/dep. Additional information is also available by calling 311.



COMMUNITY AND CITYWIDE EDUCATION ELECTIONS

POWERTOHPARENTS.ORG

**Tollfree Hotline:
1-877-NYC-VOTE**

info@PowerToTheParents.org

2009 COMMUNITY AND CITYWIDE EDUCATION COUNCIL ELECTIONS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Background Information

What is a Community or Citywide Education Council?

Community and Citywide Education Councils (CECs) are education policy advisors responsible for reviewing and evaluating schools' instructional programs, approving zoning lines, advising the Chancellor and holding meetings at least every month with the superintendent and the public-at-large to discuss the current state of the schools in the district. CECs are an essential and critically important part of the public decision-making process in New York City's public schools. Each council consists of at least nine elected parent volunteers who provide hands-on leadership and support for their community's public schools.

How many Community or Citywide Education Councils are there?

- There are 32 Community Education Councils (CECs) in New York City. Each CEC oversees a Community School District that includes public elementary, intermediate, and junior high schools.
- In addition, there are two Citywide Education Councils that represent the interests of high school and special education parents. These are the Citywide Council on High Schools (CCHS), and the Citywide Council on Special Education (CCSE).

Who makes up these Councils?

Community Education Councils:

Nine (9) elected parent leaders who have a child attending a public school in the district.

Two (2) residents and/or local business owners appointed by the borough president.

One (1) non-voting high school senior who lives in the district and is an elected leader at his or her school.

Citywide Council on High Schools:

Ten (10) elected parent leaders; two from each borough- with children attending high school in that borough.

One (1) high school senior who is an elected leader at his or her school.

Citywide Council on Special Education:

Nine (9) elected parent leaders who have a child attending a district 75 school.

Two (2) specialists in special education appointed by the Public Advocate.

One (1) non-voting high school senior receiving public special education services.

How can I find my Community Education Council?

There is a Community Education Council (CEC) for each of the city's 32 school districts. If you do not know your school district, you can look up this information online at maps.nycboe.net. CECs have office locations in each

of the 32 districts they represent. The two Citywide Councils have office locations in Long Island City. Councils meet in schools or DOE buildings as designated by their calendar.

Eligibility

Who may serve on these Councils?

- For Community Education Councils (CECs) – Parents of public school students in grade k-8 are eligible to serve on the CEC for the Community School District in which their child attends school.
- For Citywide Council on Special Education (CCSE) – Only parents of students receiving citywide special education services (e.g. students in District 75) are eligible to serve on the CCSE.
- For Citywide Council on High Schools (CCHS) – Parents of public high school students are eligible to serve on the CCHS representing the borough in which their child attends school.
- Parents may only apply to serve on one council.

Who cannot serve on these Councils?

- Current Parent Association and Parent Teacher Association (PA/PTA) officers from any Department of Education (DOE) school;
- Persons holding elective public office or elective or appointed party positions (except delegate or alternative delegate to a national, state, judicial, or other party convention, or member of a county committee);
- Current DOE employees;
- Persons who have been convicted of a felony;
- Persons who have been removed from a Community School Board, Community Education Council, the Citywide Council on Special Education, or the Citywide Council on High Schools for any reason;
- Persons who are serving on another CEC, the CCSE, or the CCHS;
- Persons who are determined to have a financial conflict of interest by the DOE Ethics Officer or another designee of the Chancellor based on the Conflicts of Interest Law of the City of New York; and
- Persons who have been removed from a PA/PTA, School Leadership Team (SLT), District President's Council, Borough High School Council, or Title 1 Committee.

My child attends a charter school, may I serve on a Council?

Parents of charter school students may only serve if appointed by the Borough President.

Applying

How do I apply to serve on a Council?

Eligible parents can apply to serve on a Council by completing a short application form online at powertotheparents.org.

When are applications due?

By midnight on March 14, 2009.

How long does it take to complete the Council application form?

The total amount of time to complete the Council application form is estimated at 25-30 minutes.

Can current PA/PTA officers serve on a Council?

No. If a PA/PTA officer wishes to become a candidate for one of the new Councils, he/she must resign from his/her elected position on the PA/PTA.

In addition to applying themselves, are there other ways for parents to be involved with the selection process for the Councils?

Yes, there are a variety of ways for parents to participate. You can help recruit other candidates to apply for the Councils; attend and ask questions of the candidates during Candidate Forums in late March/early April, help campaign for the candidates you support; and cast your vote during the online advisory vote April 6-12.

Are all candidates required to attend the Candidate Forum in their district?

Yes, candidate forums are mandatory. Candidates who fail to attend the Candidate Forum may be disqualified and removed from the ballot. In the event that a candidate is unable to attend the Candidate Forum in their district, they must notify the DOE immediately so that alternative arrangements can be made.

Elections & Voting

What's different about the 2009 Community and Citywide Education Council Elections?

This year, any parent interested in running for a Council seat or voting for Council members can do so **ONLINE**. This means **YOU** will be able to apply and vote from anywhere you can find internet access and a computer. Whether you log on from a school, a library or the comfort of your own home you will be making history by participating in this exciting local process.

When are the CEC elections held?

The "Straw Vote" or advisory vote in which all parents can participate will be held from April 6-12, 2009. The PA/PTA official selector vote will occur May 12-14, 2009.

Where do I need to go to cast my vote?

Votes can be cast online at powertotheparents.org

Can all parents vote in the CEC elections?

Yes, all parents who have a child enrolled in a New York City Public School are eligible to vote in the online "Straw Vote" which will be held from April 6-12, 2009.

How will parent members of the Education Councils be selected?

Parent members are selected through a two-step election process. First, an advisory vote of all parents will be held from April 6-12, 2009. Then, the official vote will be held May 12-14, 2009, in which the President, Secretary, and Treasurer – collectively referred to as "Parent Selectors" – of every PA/PTA in the district will be eligible to cast one vote.

I'm married, can my spouse vote too?

No, only one parent per child may vote.

I have children in different public schools, where should I vote?

A parent is eligible to vote in each school/district that their child attends. However, if you have more than one child in one school you may only vote once in that CEC election.

How and when will I be notified about the outcome of the election?

The results will be certified by the election vendor and made available online in late May/early June 2009.

What happens if the Parent Selectors in my district choose to elect a different slate of Council members than those voted by parents? Is there an appeal process?

The "Straw Vote" or Advisory Vote is not binding and there is not an appeal process. However the Parent Selectors are expected to vote in good faith and take the results of the parent's Advisory Vote into serious consideration.

If a PA/PTA president, secretary or treasurer resigns from their office to become a candidate for a Council, who take their place as a Parent Selector during the official election in May?

The person that fills the office, whether by succession or by expedited election, will be eligible to cast a vote in the official selector vote in May.

My PA/PTA has co-officers (Co-Presidents, Co-Treasurers, Co-Secretaries). Who will be the selector?

Each PA/PTA must select which of the officers will be the formal selector for each of the positions where a co-officer exists. This decision must be communicated to the Office for Family Engagement and Advocacy by March 15.

Serving on a CEC

What does a Council member do?

Council members are expected to:

- Promote the achievement of education standards and objectives relating to the instruction of students;
- Participate in training and continuing education programs;
- Approve zoning lines as submitted by the superintendent;
- Review the district's educational programs and assess their effect on student achievement;
- Hold meetings at least every month with the superintendent and public at-large to discuss the current state of the schools in the district;
- Liaison with and provide assistance to School Leadership Teams (SLTs);
- Complete an Annual Financial Disclosure form;
- Retain counsel if the council or a member is a defendant or respondent;
- Advise the chancellor and the city board of district concerns.

What kind of time commitment would I be making as a Council member?

Councils are expected to attend monthly meetings with the superintendent and public. In addition, members are strongly encouraged to participate in school visits and public forums where they can become better informed about issues faced by students in the New York City public schools

Is attendance at monthly meetings mandatory?

Yes. If a council member has more than three unexcused absences, they officially vacate their seat.

Do Council members get paid?

No, Council members volunteer their services. However, certain expenses are reimbursed up to \$126 a month.

When does the term for new Council members begin?

The new term for Council members will officially begin on July 1, 2009.

How long are Council members expected to serve?

The term for Council members is two years.

Will Council members be trained for their role?

Yes, Council members are required to participate in training within the first three months of their term. Trainings are designed to inform members about their powers, functions and duties, as well as the powers of other governing authorities responsible for public education. Additionally, the training sessions serve to acquaint Council members with the structure of the Department of Education and how to access information and resources. Council members are also mandated to participate in continuing education programs that keep them up-to-date on issues affecting public school governance.

How do I get more information on Community Education Councils, the Citywide Council on Special Education or the Citywide Council on High Schools?

Please go to www.powertotheparents.org, contact the Office for Family Engagement and Advocacy at (212) 374-2323, or call toll-free 1 877- NYC-VOTE



Manhattan Borough President

Scott M. Stringer's

Manhattan Monthly

NEWS FROM THE MANHATTAN BOROUGH PRESIDENT • FEBRUARY 2009



Photo by Victoria Nee-Larley

Borough President Stringer with Port Authority Executive Director Chris Ward announcing Port Authority building safety measures

Port Authority Pledges to Conform to City Building Codes

After weeks of discussion, Borough President Stringer held a press conference with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to announce the Authority's agreement to make public all building inspection records as part of its conformance with the City's stringent fire and safety codes.

After the death of two city firefighters in 2007's tragic fire at the former Deutsche Bank building, the Borough President began urging all entities exempt from city codes – which includes state and federal government buildings, quasi-independent authorities and foreign embassies and consulates – to conform to city building safety requirements.

The Port Authority's agreement is an important step forward for public safety and will set a standard of action for other building code-exempt structures in the city.

Stringer Leads Fight against MTA Service Cuts

On January 15th Borough President Stringer submitted testimony to the Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) Board of Directors objecting to the MTA's budget strategy.

"Instead of thinking creatively, the MTA has proposed a doomsday scenario of fare hikes and service cuts that will hurt every New Yorker, regardless of their need," the Borough President said, "The state legislature, for its own political reasons, is tiptoeing around the Ravitch Commission legislation because its recommendations include tax and toll increases, and they hope that their constituents will praise them for inaction rather than recognize their failure to lead. Meanwhile, we – the riding public – are prisoners of a process over which we have no control."

On December 4th, the Ravitch Commission, set up by Governor Paterson and headed by former MTA Chairman Richard Ravitch, released a rescue plan that called for a tax on employer payrolls, tolls on the East River and Harlem River bridges, and modest improvements in MTA services.

The MTA faces a \$1.2 billion budget deficit at the start of 2009 and awaits word from the State about whether the recommendations of the Ravitch Commission will be enacted, allowing the MTA to address its deficit without going forward with rate hikes and service reductions.

The Borough President's petition to repeal the planned fare hike on Access-A-Ride has garnered nearly 5,000 signatures.

Medicare Demonstration Project

Lighthouse International seeks people with low vision due to macular degeneration, glaucoma or diabetes for a five year study. Participants will be reimbursed for vision rehabilitation services.

For more than 100 years, Lighthouse International has been a leader in serving the evolving needs of people across the full continuum of vision impairment - from low vision to blindness.

If you or someone you know may be interested in participating, please call 1-800-829-0500 for more information.

Free Tax Assistance for Low Income New Yorkers



Photo by Meaghan Baron

Borough President Scott Stringer talks to IRS-certified volunteers at the Annual Earned Income Tax Credit Day.

Stringer, Squadron Call for Better Pedestrian Safety Measures in Chinatown

In a tragic episode, four-year-old Hayley Ng and three-year-old Diego Martinez were killed on January 22nd when a truck left running and unattended drove into a crowd of preschoolers in Chinatown.

The day after the accident, Borough President Stringer along with State Senator Daniel Squadron, Justin Yu from the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association, Community Board 1, 2 and 3, and community residents and business leaders called for increased pedestrian safety measures and traffic solutions in one of New York's most crowded neighborhoods.

Borough President Stringer called it, "a wake-up call that more must be done to protect pedestrians in our city," saying that, "This tragedy cannot go unnoticed or without some fundamental change in terms of traffic policy for this neighborhood. Chinatown residents and businesses have suffered from dangerous traffic conditions for too long."

Borough President Stringer and Senator Squadron released a nine-point safety plan that included changes to the city's traffic management and sidewalk safety measures.

The plan calls for "zero tolerance" traffic enforcement, the banning of trucks and buses from traversing local streets, more pedestrian safety measures such as bollards and speed bumps, and a comprehensive traffic management plan.

According to State Department of Transportation data analyzed by the group Transportation Alternatives, Chinatown's zip code had 25 traffic fatalities and 1,149 injuries from 1995 to 2005, more fatalities than any other Manhattan zip code.

Borough President Stringer was joined on January 31st by United States Representative Charles Rangel in hosting the fourth annual Earned Income Tax Credit Assistance Day in Harlem. Certified Internal Revenue Service volunteers prepared tax returns at no cost for 100 low income New Yorkers and passed out information on food stamps, health insurance and public benefits.

The EITC is a refund of up to \$4,824 for individuals making less than \$20,000 per year or families making less than \$45,000 a year. The IRS estimates that one quarter of all eligible Americans either don't know the refund exists or don't realize that they qualify for it.

"Now more than ever, it is important to put money in the pockets of hard working New Yorkers who need it the most," said Borough President Stringer. "We must use every tool and program available to help spread the word and provide free assistance for every eligible taxpayer to receive this credit."

BP Honors Haitian Heritage

Borough President Stringer hosted his Second Annual Haitian Heritage Celebration on January 29th, honoring Patricia Beauvais, Raudline Etienne and Jacquez Jiha, three Haitian Americans that distinguished themselves in 2008 in the fields of journalism, business and media.

300 Haitian Americans attended this year's event as well as the Haitian Consul General Felix Augustin and Ambassador Leo Merores.

The Borough President said, "Between the storms of last summer, the growing food crisis, and November's tragic school collapse, we all know that this has been a difficult year for the Haitian community. But there is also another story to be told about Haitian Americans that isn't told often enough. Haitian Americans are our teachers, our advocates, our doctors and engineers. Tonight's honorees aren't just outstanding Haitian Americans, they're incredible citizens of the world and it is an honor to present them with proclamations tonight."

Upcoming Events

Manhattan Borough President's Office Senior Day Celebration February 8th, 2:00pm Carnegie Hall	Black History Month Trailblazers Award Ceremony February 26th, 6:30-8:30pm Alhambra Ballroom
Borough President's Office Mayoral Budget Hearings Lower Manhattan Hearing February 24th, 3:00-7:00pm Manhattan Borough President's Office 1 Centre Street, 19th Floor	Northern Manhattan Hearing February 25th, 3:00-7:00pm Harlem State Office Building Art Gallery 163 West 125th Street, 2nd Floor
Free Tax Assistance Day March 7th, 11:00am-1:30pm Henry Street Settlement 265 Henry Street	Citizenship Assistance Day March 14th, 10:00am-2:00pm Masjid Malcolm Shabazz 102 West 116th Street