



BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #1

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EDUCATION & YOUTH

MINUTES

May 10, 2018

LEWIS KATZ NEW RENAISSANCE BASKETBALL ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL

Ms. Monica Majors Director of Education & Youth from the Bronx Borough President's Office said I want to defer my time to my guest but I wanted to say hi and I visit thank you so much for having me and this will not be my last visit. I definitely want to introduce my guest who is going to talk about the Lewis Katz New Renaissance Basketball Academy Charter School.

Mr. Dan Klores said that about six years ago I started a non-for-profit called the New Renaissance Basketball organization I'm an older guy with three young boys I played basketball most of my life. I have a history of being involved in non-for-profits thirty years ago I'm proud to say with the singer Paul Simon and the Pediatrician Dr. Irwin Redlener we started something called the Children's Health Fund in four boroughs where in those days it was free healthcare to what you would call homeless children we were associated with Montefiore for years with a series of blue vans make regularly scheduled stops the vans are examination rooms. We're now in nineteen different cities across America and I am very proud to be part of that.

The Renaissance Program named after the old team the Harlem Ren's an historic team out of New York City we wanted to give youngsters grades two to eleven a chance to be in an atmosphere that was safe, educational and cultivating and teaching the right lessons and also the basketball is pretty competitive. I would say 98 percent of the kids are from diverse households. What made us different was the things that we've done off the courts we provide free one-on-one tutoring to any and all child in our program. I learned quickly and we made a deal with St. Francis College in downtown Brooklyn their educational department that you can't have a child expect to do this and be successful by having a child come to St. Francis what if he lives in the South Bronx, what if he lives in Coney Island, what if he lives in Mount Vernon to have to go to the child that's what makes us different one-on-one for free to the child's home, local library or school. The parent must be involved from second one, the Teacher and the School must be involved from second one they miss two they're out, we have a 100 percent success rate. Number two we provide free SAT Prep for the older kids this means that we raise the money because these are graduate students at St. Francis still have to pay them and pay for their transportation. Free SAT Prep that's not one-on-one. By the way the reason we do one-on-one is because that's the best way to learn not two kids not three if you have the opportunity to teach one-on-one you will be successful in my opinion. Lastly we provide free medical care I learned the term it's called for the underserved. For a lot of these

kids their idea of going to the Doctor is the local emergency room it doesn't work. Healthcare for the uninsured families for the unhappy families for free. So I want to build this school and now we're getting close. I have the real estate the State says they're going to build it and that comes from the Governor down.

Ms. Monica Major said that they're at the Letter of Intent stage and the Letter of Intent goes to the State SUNY Charter Board on May 31st and that's the phase they're at right now.

Questions and Comments

The Chairperson called for a motion for a Letter of Support for the proposed Lewis Katz New Renaissance Basketball Academy Charter School.

Motion made to provide a Letter of Support to the proposed Lewis Katz New Renaissance Basketball Academy Charter School. Motion duly seconded. Motion called and passed with 1-abstention and 1-opposition.

MAYOR'S OFFICE TO ADVANCE NEW YORK CITY

Mr. Irfan Ahmed said that it's the first time I'm here in the South Bronx to present this initiative. The New York City Soccer Initiative is a five year initiative our objective is to build 50 Soccer Fields throughout the Bronx and the City. We are in public/private partnership the Mayor's Office of Advance New York City is a non-profit organization our objective is to fund raise with private dollars to help support public programs. So you taxpayers don't have to worry about it, it's all private dollars. We are five partners The Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City, the US Soccer Foundation, the New York City Football Club (NYCFC), Adidas Inc., and Etihad Airways we are all fund raising to support this project in the next five years. It comes with a Maintenance Fund so we build these Soccer Fields and we also have that additional support if the fields are to degrade overtime over the course of the five years we will come back and render those repairs. We're working with partners so in order to identify areas we're working with agency partners to tell us what land is available so we work with Parks and the NYC Department of Education. Of course the field is pretty useless if it doesn't come with something special and that something special is a free After-School Program targeted for the kids of the community and not only the school. I want to be very clear about that the Program Soccer for Success has been implemented by the Soccer Foundation across the country. So we have the Soccer for Success that we are implementing in each of these sites the idea is that the kids will get three days of clinic per week 24 weeks per year. What makes the parents most happy is that the kids get free gear as a result of their participation. If you go the next page you can see the impacts this program has made on a national level and which we hope to bring to your community here. So as you can see there are a lot of educational efforts but also that the curriculum can be tailored as per the organization so working with a special group of children that have certain abilities work with that and tailor it to fit their needs and the curriculum can be formed and modeled in that way and we do support any programs that tailor it to that particular population. So I know that's not the only school that's there but it's Lincoln Academy as well as three other co-located schools. So if you take the 2-train and you're coming across on the bridge you'll see that there is a massive empty yard that's not slated for any future investment that's why it popped up on the radar yes it's something you should consider for the Soccer Initiative. So when we went out there to

evaluate it the surface is not doing too well you'll also see that there is a lot of activity taking place. We know that in the next five years it is not slated for any future investments. So we spoke to the school and we said what could we do to bring a Soccer Pitch to your community this field is actually open to the public. So it is open and we selected the perfect area which is away from the baseball space. It's a very large yard you could see from the aerial view we chose an empty part of the yard which is adjacent to the handball court so you can still enter the handball court. So we said to ourselves you have this big empty space there's no future investments happening we're thinking that would be the most ideal space. We would rehabilitate that part of the land would cure it and the materials we use are base acrylic. I know when you think of soccer you think of turf and you think of grass. The problem with turf that after time it degrades very quickly it's very hard to maintain studies are showing that as it degrades black beads start to emerge cancer causing. So we're not moving anywhere near turf we are sticking with acrylic well known throughout parts of Europe and Latin America. It's a water base acrylic perfectly safe and comes with a bolted down goal post. On the next page you see the before and after of what we've achieved. This is year two of the initiative in year one we knocked out nine sites throughout the city. It was received with great excitement by both the community and schools. It is still being used today I hear wonderful stories but there's one place that I haven't been able to do a Pitch and that is here in your community. So I'm hoping with your support puts this forth and makes it happen this year. It's a big year actually and probably the best year to do this because we have the most upgraded model the year one as the 1.0 model you're getting the 2.0 model. The newer model is much stronger and sturdier I would think also it's the World Cup. So there's a lot of things happening this year with the World Cup and we have these great international partners interested in that particular space so I think it's an exciting opportunity to get your support and I'm very open to hearing any questions that you have.

Questions and Comments

The Chairperson asked for a motion for a Letter of Support for The Mayor's Office to Advance New York City New York City Soccer Initiative and Pitch installation at HOSTOS Lincoln Academy.

Motion made to provide a Letter of Support to The Mayor's Office to Advance New York City New York City Soccer Initiative and Pitch installation at HOSTOS Lincoln Academy. Motion duly seconded.
Motion called and passed unanimously.

ACHIEVE CHARTER SCHOOL IN THE BRONX

Mr. Dominique Lee CEO/Founder said that the mission of the Achieve Community Charter Network (ACCN) for to provide students with needed individual support and world-class learning so that they develop skills, character, and the values preparing them for college. In order to achieve this CAN has developed a unique instructional model whose foundation is rooted in an individualized college and preparatory curriculum and instruction.

The ACCN assists students during developmental years to empower them to be decision makers and partners in their own education. We work to ensure that every child begins to build his/her own value system in intellectual curiosity and personal identity. AT the core of our values driven school culture is its scholar value system called DREAMS, diligence, respect, empathy, appropriate self-expression, model citizenship and self-control.

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ACCN not only focuses on the importance of college but also develops what we call and Innovator's DNA, associating, questioning, observing, networking and experimenting and to assist with this computer science has been made a core subject for every student.

In order to attain scholar success we ensure that parents working with each one on an individual basis and the community are involved in the scholars overall development.

We provide a specialized and integrated trauma informed intervention system allowing staff to proactively identify needs of every student to be able to match them with tailored supports and resources. A platform has been built for sharing student-centered data across all systems, as well as education, health care, and family services we believe that this data approach will allow the school to go to the next level in personalized learning in providing a holistic approach to ensure that all students are successful.

Questions and Comments

The Chairperson called for a motion for a Letter of Support for the proposed opening of an Achieve Charter School in the Bronx.

Motion made to provide a Letter of Support to the proposed opening of an Achieve Charter School in the Bronx. Motion duly seconded. Motion called and passed with 1-abstention.

The Chairperson called for a motion to adjourn.

Motion made to adjourn. Motion duly seconded. Motion called and passed unanimously.

MEETING ADJOURNED.