



The City of New York

Queens Community Board 11

Serving the Communities of Auburndale, Bayside, Douglaston, Hollis Hills
Little Neck and Oakland Gardens

Paul DiBenedetto Chairperson / **Joseph Marziliano** District Manager

TO: All Board Members

FROM: Jena Lanzetta, Education Committee Chair

DATE: May 8, 2025

Committee Members

Jena Lanzetta
Henry Euler
Christina Scherer
Rosemarie Guidice
Steve Pivawer
John Sullivan

CB11 Staff

Joseph Marziliano, District Manager
Jane Bentivenga, Community Coordinator
Christina Coutinho, Community Associate

Guests

Ben Goodman, External Affairs Manager, NYC School Construction Authority
John Wani, representing CM Lee

On Wednesday, May 7, 2025 the CB11 Education Committee met to hear a presentation from the NYC School Construction Authority (SCA) regarding a planned addition to P.S. 188, the Kingsbury School, located at 218-12 Harland Avenue.

Ms. Lanzetta called the meeting to order and gave Mr. Goodman the floor. Mr. Goodman screen-shared a brief PowerPoint presentation as this project is in the preliminary stage. He stated that a new addition will be constructed and will connect to the existing building along Hartland Avenue. This addition will provide 182 new seats and nine standard classrooms for grades Pre-K through 5. In addition, two project rooms will be provided. The addition will be ADA compliant with an elevator.

Mr. Goodman stated they are starting the design process which will take approximately 12 months. That will be followed by a three- to four-month period for bid and reward. Once construction begins, it will take approximately 24 months. The SCA anticipates the addition will open in September of 2029.

A question and answered period followed with Mr. Goodman responding that the construction hours will take place between 7 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday through Friday, a “dear neighbor” letter will be sent to homes adjacent to the construction once the work is scheduled to begin, a project manager will be onsite at all times during construction, there will be no nighttime work unless a special delivery needs to be made. Mr. Goodman also explained that asbestos abatement work would be done after school hours, typically on weekends or school holidays. Lastly, he confirmed that water testing for lead would be conducted by SCA’s colleagues from the Division of School Facilities.

Mr. Goodman stated that the principal is satisfied with the remaining playground space that will be available during construction. Mr. Goodman said the addition would match the existing building’s height. The need for air conditioning units and the possibility of a trailer office on site was discussed. The committee requested that the trailer be placed on the site rather than in the street, and that site security be present 24/7. Mr. Goodman agreed to return in the second quarter of 2026 with more definitive plans.

Next, Ms. Lanzetta announced the upcoming groundbreaking ceremony at Bayside High School. The ceremony will mark the renovation of the entire athletic field, including the turf, track, and scoreboard, with a budget of \$3.5 million. The renovation will feature the school's colors and is expected to be completed by the start of the soccer and football seasons.

Lastly, Ms. Lanzetta discussed the upcoming changes to the MTA Q31 bus route, which will negatively affect students and residents alike. The new route will only run on 32 Avenue between Corporal Kennedy Street and Francis Lewis Blvd. between 12:07 p.m. and 4:12 p.m. leaving students to walk from and to Bell Boulevard in the mornings or in the late afternoon if they attend extracurricular activities. Ms. Lanzetta has been advocating for the community and has informed various elected officials about the issue. The Bayside High School principal and administrators are also aware of the situation and may need to adjust their dismissal patterns. The MTA has been adamant that the changes are final, but Ms. Lanzetta and others will continue to advocate for the community. It was suggested that the school’s principal contact the elected officials as well. Committee members discussed the changes to the bus schedule in several neighborhoods, which they believe will also negatively impact seniors and handicapped people. Also discussed, was the potential need for additional public safety measures to ensure the safety of those high school students who will have to walk further to get the Q31 bus. Earlier sunset during the winter was also mentioned. Ms. Lanzetta said that she will need to speak with the Council district representative again. Committee members agreed to update all on this issue.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted May 8, 2025