



The City of New York

## Queens Community Board 11

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

**Michael Budabin** Chairperson / **Joseph Marziliano** District Manager

**TO: All Board Members**

**FROM: Justin Chew, Education Committee Chair**  
**Jack Fried, Public Safety and Licensing Committee Chair**

**DATE: April 18, 2022**

**RE: Shooting at Cardozo HS and the Disciplinary Code**

---

On Thursday, April 14, 2022, the CB11 Education and Public Safety and Licensing Committee met via Zoom teleconference to discuss the above-referenced items.

*Present*

Justin Chew – Education Committee Chair  
Michael Budabin – Board Chair  
Eileen Miller – Board Member  
Rosemarie Giudice – Board Member  
Adriana Aviles – Board Member  
Henry Euler – Board Member  
Patricia Levy - PTA Member  
Captain Charlie Kim – 111<sup>th</sup> Precinct Executive Officer  
Jena Lanzetta – Board Member  
Lourdes December – Board Member  
Stephan Popa - Board Member  
Dino Sferrazza – UFT Chapter Leader Cardozo HS  
Kate Boehme – Representing Queens DA  
Michelle Fields – Board Member  
Office of Vicky Paladino  
Dave Solano – Non-Board Committee Member  
Mohan Jethwani – Board Member

*CB11 Staff*

Joseph Marziliano – District Manager  
Christina Coutinho – Community Associate

Justin Chew opened the meeting by saying that tonight's discussion will be regarding the shooting at Springfield Blvd. and Horace Harding Expressway. Mr. Chew introduced the 111<sup>th</sup> Precinct Executive Officer, Captain Kim.

Captain Kim stated that the shooter has been arrested and in custody. Mr. Chew asked for basic details. Captain Kim said on March 25, 2022, at approximately 15:10 hours there was a 9-1-1 call received that a male was shot at a bus stop. The victim and two other perpetrators are students of Cardozo HS but do not live in the district. The shooter may attend a school in Queens South. They are still looking for one more perpetrator. Captain Kim said they are not able to question the perpetrators because they have retained attorneys. He thinks that this is a case of mistaken identity. There was a fight during the day in school and the shooter mistook the victim for someone else at the bus stop. There was a gun found on one perpetrator but that may not be the gun that the shooter used.

The 111<sup>th</sup> Precinct started a dismissal plan for Cardozo HS and heightened patrol around local high schools in the event of retaliation. A question and answer period followed. Discussion ensued regarding metal detectors. Cardozo HS does not have a permanent metal detector. Mr. Chew said after the incident they have a scan machine. It was asked if the incident was associated with a gang or group. It was also asked if there is outreach between the students and NYPD Officers or if there is an increased presence of police. Captain Kim said there is an increase of officers at the school, and he did not believe this incident was gang related. Captain Kim stated that this incident happened off school property, therefore, the students will not be suspended. It is not known if the student had the gun in school. Captain Kim said the DA's Office has given the top charge to the shooter. The discussion of metal detectors was brought up again. Captain Kim said metal detectors are requested and installed depending on resources. Metal detectors need a logistical plan i.e., where will students line up, what will be confiscated, and what will be done if something was found on a student. Captain Kim said that there is an uptick in crime in the district because people in the area think they live in a good neighborhood and let their guard down. People need to educate themselves on how not to be a victim. He also said that many perpetrators are repeat offenders due to bail reform. Captain Kim said that school administrators do not like police patrolling the schools. He feels they are trying to protect the rights of the students. School safety will handle most cases. Ms. Aviles said that at a CEC meeting, officers being in the schools was discussed. Ms. Aviles said officers are welcome and there is no policy stating officers are not allowed; it is up to the school to contact the NYPD.

Patricia Levy, PTA Member, said that a part of being a student is going to school and hanging out after school. Now it is a big concern. Parents are scared to send their children to school. Several families are moving. They see no solution. She said there are different opinions among parents regarding officers in schools; students have rights. Parents want social workers to be trained. Ms. Levy said there are fights in schools and smoking in the building with no consequences. She said that the Dept. of Education (DOE) should communicate with the parents; if the disciplinary code does not work, it needs to be revised. She said parents are outraged as to what is going on. Mr. Chew asked what the parents thought of metal detectors at Cardozo HS. Ms. Levy said they understand lines will be long, but some parents have expressed that they would feel safer with permanent metal detectors. Mr. Chew said that the metal detector question is tricky; there is an image problem that comes with metal detectors. Mr. Solano asked if her concerns were addressed to the Citywide Council of HS (CCHS) to advocate for parents. Ms. Levy said they are somehow being heard. Letters have been sent. Ms. Aviles said that she sent letters to CCHS, and she received a response that they are having conversations with the Superintendent and District for High Schools. A question and answer period followed. There was a concern with what weapons are being brought into the school and how many incidents happen at the school. Dino Sferrazza, UTF Chapter Leader Cardozo HS, said there are quite a few fights that take place in the school. It was stated by a Board Member that in her day this was not tolerated, why isn't this recognized as a problem.

Mr. Sferrazza stated that this has been going on for a longtime. He said it has been the same complaints over the past 10 years. In the past, CB11 has written a letter and that's it. He said that CB11 needs to fight for the schools in the district (Cardozo HS). He said that the disciplinary code is online and can be read. It has changed over the last decade, in such a way, that it has taken away any kind of consequences for misbehavior. If a student curses out a teacher nothing happens, not even a detention. If a student gets into an altercation nothing happens,

not even a detention. The Mayor's Office will say there is a progressive ladder of discipline, which sounds nice, but nothing happens. No calls to parents, no meeting with guidance because there is no staff to cover all the students. He said officers are welcome at Cardozo HS. He felt officers are removed because it makes students uncomfortable. Mr. Sferrazza said there are 30 plus doors at Cardozo HS. A student will find a way to bring something into the school. There are students that just do not care because there are no consequences. He said that this shooting should not be the reason for attention; there have been prior problems. In summary, Mr. Sferrazza said help is needed for the students that are academically failing for years at Cardozo HS. There are Safety Community meetings held by Cardozo HS. He said resources are needed, detention and restorative measures are needed. He said there are a handful of students that take up 90 percent of their time when they are trying to maintain order in the building. He is asking for resources, alternative learning centers, and proper settings for students that cannot function in an academic environment. He sent a petition to Mr. Chew that is asking Mayor Adams to help restore order in NYC schools. Discussion ensued regarding measures that could be done to help students, how parents need to get involved and there needs to be additional school safety agents. He asked that a request be made to local elected officials for the hire of additional school safety agents.

There was also discussion regarding how taking away gifted and talented programs will ruin schools in the community. Ms. Aviles said that District 26 is the only district in the City that still does zoning. District 26 allows a neighborhood student to attend a school in the district; she said that is something to fight for.

Mr. Chew said that the Committee agrees to write a letter to change the disciplinary code to respond to actions like a shooting. Ms. Guidice asked if elected officials can get involved. Mr. Budabin said that he was uncomfortable with asking for the disciplinary code to be changed without reviewing the document and having detailed knowledge. He asked for specific areas that need to be changed. He requested a follow up meeting with the DOE and elected officials. Mr. Sferrazza said the petition outlines some of the changes. Mr. Budabin asked Mr. Chew to review the petition and disciplinary code then set up a follow-up meeting and include DOE representatives and elected officials. It was agreed to have a follow-up meeting.

The meeting adjourned 9:10 PM.