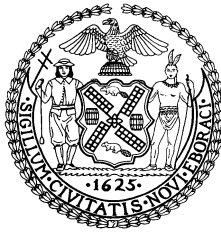


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**The City of New York
Manhattan Community Board 8
Youth & Education Committee Meeting
NY Blood Center Auditorium
Monday, June 9, 2014 at 7:00 PM**

Community Board Members (Present): Lori Bores, Sarah Chu, Ed Hartzog, Sophia James, Craig Lader, Hattie Quarnstrom, Barry Schneider, Judy Schneider, Debbie Teitelbaum, Rebecca Seawright

Community Board Members (Excused): Lorraine Johnson

Community Board Public Members (Excused): Michael Hoffman

A. Introductions were made by everyone present.

B. Video Presentation followed by Principal Linda Hamil of Talent Unlimited High School, 300 East 68th Street, joined by Assistant Principal Pierre Orbe and Guy Ortmann, PTA

- Talent Unlimited High School is located in the Julia Richmond complex and has 500 students enrolled
- Talent Unlimited High School aims to cultivate students as "Citizen Artists". A Citizen Artist is one who is artistically proficient, academically proficient, intellectually engaged, artistically invested, professionally and personally ambitious, socially aware and responsible, and a caring humanitarian.
- The school different from other performing arts schools in the City in that it strives for an equal balance of academics and arts, students perform at an earlier age (some as early as freshman year), and is the only CTE Certified Performing Arts school in NYS.
- As a CTE school, students have internships in the arts
- The school has an "A" rating and the curriculum infuses arts into academics.
- Admission to the school requires an audition demonstrating exceptional talent in performing arts, as well as evidence that the student will be able to meet the academic expectations. Students can audition for dance, drama, musical theater, instrumental music, or vocal music.
- School performances are open to the public, last year, the students performed the opera Carmen in French.

C. Reducing SMOKING among students and information on smoke free HOUSING for Tenants/Landlords/Owners by Abraham Palma of the YM & YWHA of Washington Heights and Inwood. (Joint—issue with Housing Committee)

- Goal is to get the next generation of children to be smoke free, as smoking is the #1 cause of preventable death.
- Mr. Palma said they are targeting the Point of Sale locations. Going to local stores and asking them to place the tobacco products in a place of less prominence.
- Going to Schools to talk to young students.
- Bring youth to Albany to get elected officials to change the law.
- There is one senior housing location consisting of 99 units they have converted to be smoke free.
- We will continue this discussion in the fall and see if we can put a resolution together which could be implemented by our city and state elected officials to prohibit smoking with-in 500 feet of a school.
- See attached flyers on this issue.

D. Old/New Business

- Update on High School Admissions Process
There will be 2 workshops:
 - Workshop 1: Fiorella LaGuardia High School, 100 Amsterdam Avenue
Wednesday, July 16th at 6:30 PM
 - Understand how to find a High School that fits your needs
 - Become familiar with the High School Directory
 - Get important tips on filing out High School Applications

- Workshop 2: Hunter College, Kaye Playhouse at 695 Park Avenue (enter at 68th Street)
Tuesday, July 22nd at 6:30 PM
-Learn about admissions to the 9 Specialized High Schools and the Specialized Test
-Hear from a panel of specialized High School Faculty and Students
- Update on Educations Meetings as reported by Sophia James
 - On Monday, May 19, 2014, the Community Education Council District 2 (CECD2) held a Town Hall with NYC Schools Chancellor Carmen Farina. Chancellor Farina responded to parents on a number of issues; of which the main included:
 - The way in which the achievement gap is addressed in city schools, such as the reduction of school closings and implementation of guidance and resources for struggling schools; expansion of career tech schools; professional development for teachers; and enhancement of intervention services.
 - Installing speed zones in school areas.
 - Large need for repairs to old or deteriorating school buildings.
 - New teacher contract, what it means not just for teachers but also children and the quality of learning.
 - G&T schools vs. zoned schools, maintaining equal and quality education for all children.
 - Assemblyman Dan Quart hosted a Community Forum on After School Programs on Tuesday, June 3rd, 2014 at Wagner Middle School. The Assemblyman invited representatives from the Lenox Hill Neighborhood House, DYCD and CECD2. The invited panel spoke to several topics, including the types of available programs, parent involvement and upcoming financial awards to middle schools.
 - One program of interest is the Real Arts Program, held in an Upper East Side location, that focuses on original art by the students, based on thematic expression. Another component to the program is digital arts, which is offered to older students. Real Arts also offers recreational activities and homework assistance. Also mentioned was the 92nd Street Y (located on 92nd Street and Lexington Ave) because of its wide variety of programming for youth; Josh Hyman at the 92nd Street Y was the recommended contact.
 - Further discussion among the parents and panelists touched upon transparency of after school development; parent involvement and communication, such as identification of priorities and critical program needs; resource-building and continuity among school programs; utilizing community partnerships; and implementation of community service and civic leadership in programs. There are presently 12 proposals for middle school after school programs, which will be formally announced sometime this month (June).
- Update on CD8 Pre-K Seats and Middle School After School Programs
 - As of today it seems the 54 new pre-k seats in CECD2 are all below 34 Street
 - (As of June 16th Matt Walsh of Assembly Member Quart's Office, informed us that **East Side Middle School** and **Ella Baker Middle School**, in CD8, will receive money for their after school programs as mentioned in Assembly Member Quarts forum above.)

F. Future Meeting Dates;

- The committee will not meet in July and August
- Monday, September 8th: Will line up some speakers, as schools will just be reopening

The meeting was adjourned.

Hattie Quarnstrom and Judith Schneider, Co-Chair, Youth and Education Committee