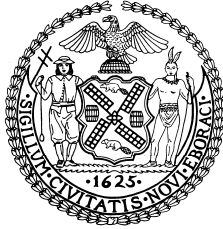


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**The City of New York**  
**Manhattan Community Board 8**  
**Youth & Education Committee Meeting**  
**NY Blood Center, 310 E. 67<sup>th</sup> Street, Auditorium**  
**Monday, October 21, 2013 at 7:00 PM**

**Community Board Members (Present):** Jim Clynes, Ed Hartzog, Lorraine Johnson, Sophia James Hattie Quarnstrom, Judy Schneider, Debbie Teitelbaum, Barry Schneider, Sarah Chu,

**Community Board Members (Excused):** Lori Bores

**Community Board Public Members Present:** Michael Hoffman

**A. Introductions** were made by everyone present.

- B.** Presentation on PS 290 Principal Sharon Hill, with the PTA Co-Presidents Frank Fuchs and Marina Niceta de Palazzi
- PS 290 is located at 311 East 82<sup>nd</sup> Street and has an enrollment of 673 students, while the school has been able to enroll all the students from their wait list, the school is crowded.
  - The school embraced the Common Core Standards wholeheartedly as they reflected the standard of education that the school had already been providing – literacy is integrated across the curriculum and mathematics does not focus on memorization, but rather on understanding mathematical concepts and how to unpack them.
  - Teachers are provided extensive professional development and are given the opportunity to collaborate and understand instruction across levels.
  - The PTA funds professional development opportunities for the teachers.
  - The PTA strives for 100% participation where every family donates no matter how large or small. However no one is obligated to give money.
- C.** Update on Rhinelander Children's Center by Ellen Santoro, Early Childhood Director
- Children's Aid Society has decided to sell the property at 350 East 88th Street. The school will close at this location in June, 2014.
  - Both the parents and the teachers of the Rhinelander Children's Center are working on becoming a 501 c 3 and they are investigating two potential locations in the neighborhood. (They own the name.)
  - They need to raise \$250,000 to accomplish this goal. This will allow them to continue their scholarship program, in which many of the children take part. They also have payment plans for the parents.
  - The early childhood programs are for ages 2 ½ to 5 and there are after-school programs. They serve about 400 children, Programs run from Monday to Friday, 9 am to 6 pm, depending on the program.
  - The afterschool program picks the children up after school and they are at the center until 6. Part of the program is help with homework.
  - 90% of the children in attendance feed into the public schools in the surrounding neighborhood. This is truly a local school.
  - They start teaching the Common Core standards and enrichment classes and this is a safe haven for these children.
- D.** Update on new Middle School at PS 158
- The new middle school has a number M177.
  - The principal will not be selected until January, 2014. It is a 50/50 screened and limited unscreened school. More information will be forthcoming on how this will work, once the new Principal is in place.
  - Parents will do their middle school admissions in the fall and state their choice.

- There will be another round of school fairs for the New Middle Schools in NYC in about February. At that time M177 will be represented and the parents can make a second admission application for M177 if they are interested.
- The outcome will be that notifications are passed out in spring, your child may possible be accepted to two schools.
- There will be an update next month, if we have any additional information.

#### E. Old/New Business

- **2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue Subway Community Information Center**, 16 28 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue (84/85 Streets), information has been sent to all the schools and pre-schools in the district. The schools can contact Laura MacNeil at 646-449-8700 or [laura.macneil@2avesubway.com](mailto:laura.macneil@2avesubway.com) to arrange to come to the center or have them come to the schools with a program presentation for the children on the building of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. Subway.
- **Gifted & Talented** request for applications for K to3 admissions have until November 8<sup>th</sup>. The website is: [schools.nyc.gov/Academics/GiftedandTalented/Calendar/Default.htm](http://schools.nyc.gov/Academics/GiftedandTalented/Calendar/Default.htm)
- Matthew Chook asked to announce **PTA President's Council Meeting** for District 2 will be at 333 7<sup>th</sup> at 9am on November 25<sup>th</sup>.

#### F. Future Meeting Dates

- November: Change of date due to holiday to Tuesday the 19<sup>th</sup> and change of location to PS/IS 217 school library. PS/IS 217 Principal Beckman and Cathy Dove, Cornell Tech will be the speakers
- December 9: Presentation by Robert L. Ward of Children's Village

The meeting was adjourned.

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