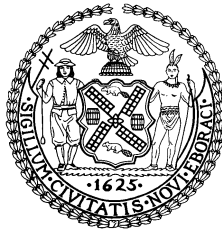


Nicholas D. Viest
Chair

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**The City of New York
Manhattan Community Board 8
Youth & Education, Committee Meeting
Hunter College, Hunter West Glass Café, 3rd Floor
Monday, November 10, 2014 at 7:00 PM**

Community Board Members (Present): Ed Hartzog, Sophia James, Lorraine Johnson, Hattie Quarnstrom-Figueroa, Barry Schneider, Judy Schneider, Debbie Teitelbaum,

Community Board Members (Excused): Lori Bores, Sarah Chu

Community Board Public Members (Present): Michael Hoffman

A. Introductions were made by everyone present.

B. Presentation by Principal Jennifer Rehn of Wagner Middle School and PA President Carrie Karabelas

- Wagner middle currently has 1,400 kids in grades 6, 7 & 8. The average class size is about 30-33 students.
- There are 16 classes in the 6th grade, 16 in the 7th grade, and 15th classes in the 8th grade.
- The school employs a house model in which groups of teachers work with the same group of students and students travel with their group to their different classes.
- Wagner is the zoned middle school so that students from 59th to 97th street have the right to attend. However, students can also select Wagner as a choice. Last year, the SP program was filled in the 3rd round.
- The school has two tracks of students – Special Progress (SP) and academic. SP students typically scored 3 & 4 on the Common Core test in the 5th grade and the Academic track students typically score 1 & 2. Both tracks follow the same curriculum, with the academic track receiving more math and English. The school evaluates students at the end of the year and will move students into the SP track if their grades warrant it.
- The school offers an Honors Math track to the top 99 entering 6th grade students based on the 5th grade test scores. Students in the Honors math are eligible to take the Regents math exam in 8th grade.
- Wagner offers a variety of electives including band, art, drama, and technology. The school has a 500+ student band, two brand new computer labs, and a spin studio.
- The school offers scholarships to students who need it so that no student goes without afterschool activities. There are a number of afterschool offerings such as sports, academic clubs, debate, student government, math, chess, and spin.
- As a stand-alone middle school, they are eligible for Universal free breakfast and lunch.
- The PA supplements the school budget and works with the Principal on various requests. They also try to involve all the parents in the school to make it a family atmosphere. They encourage all parents to participate in the PA and volunteering time is just as valuable as donating money. The parents are composed of a large international parent body and the PA is a new experience for many of these families.

C. Old/New Business

- Governor Cuomo is sponsoring Citizen Preparedness programs for groups. PTA/PA's can set up to have a program at their school for the parents by going to: prepare.ny.gov to make the necessary arrangements.
- Chancellor Farina and Borough President Brewer are holding a Manhattan Education Town Hall on Wednesday, November 12, from 6 to 7:30 pm at John Jay College, Room L61 at 524 West 59th Street (at 10th Avenue).

F. Future Meeting Dates;

- Monday, December 9: THERE WILL BE NO MEETING.
- Monday, January 12: To be Determined
- Monday, February 9: PS 158 & Construction Update on Community District 8 Schools

The meeting was adjourned.

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