

Education Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, January 17, 2017  
6PM- 7:30PM  
Cedric McClester, Chairman

The meeting took place at the Offices of the Unitas Therapeutic Community, Inc. located at 830 Southern Boulevard, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor.

Members of the Committee who attended were Board Members Cedric McClester, Richard Sherman, Rev. Moses Oladosu, and Jesse Harris. This did not constitute a quorum as three members of the committee who have not attended any of the previous Education meetings in the current term were not present.

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Members of the Community Board who were not voting members of the committee, but who attended were Larry Robinson and Dr. Francis Onukwue. Liana Acevedo, Hunts Point Library Manager, who has applied for committee membership, Angela Centeno, a community resident, and Maggie Ortiz, community resident also attended the meeting.

Oneida DeJesus, from the Bronx Community Board 2 District office represented the new District Manager, Ralph Acevedo.

Dr. Onukwue, a current Board Member of Bronx Community Board 2, asked for a letter of support for his proposed school- Health Care Technical Charter School. This is a reissue of the letter of Support that was approved by the Community Board a couple of years ago. Dr. Onukwue needs the update for the package concerning his proposed School that he is sending to the NYS Department of Education. This school will begin with grades 6 through 11. It is a redesign of the original 9 through 12— Dr. Onukwue citing current research supporting the change. Dr. Onukwue also conducted a needs assessment and stated that the school would be located in the confines of Bronx Community Board 2 Previously, he had included School Districts 7, 8, 9, and 12.

Mr. Sherman proposed that the Committee recommend to the full Board to reissue the letter of support for the Health Care Technical Charter School noting that the Education Committee could not vote on a motion because lack of quorum. Mr. Sherman also stated that members listed on the Education Committee who have not shown up (at Education Committee meetings ) this current term (since September 2016) be expunged from this committee membership. This would change the quorum requirements of the committee. Mr. Sherman also invited Angela Centeno and Maggie Ortiz to apply for committee membership as they are frequently at meetings. He also asked that Liana Acevedo be approved for committee membership.

Dr. Francis Onukwae has also been licensed to open a Home Care Agency and is looking for space and licensed professionals.

Liana Acevedo, Hunts Point Library Manager, spoke of a program that will begin in the Hunts Point Library in the month of February 2017. Families of incarcerated individuals will be able to speak to their incarcerated family member through a Video Visitation program. Each family would get one hour between the hours of 2PM to 7PM on Tuesdays and Thursdays. This is an intergenerational program that will allow the children of the incarcerated person to "visit" through video means. This is a pre-arranged program that involves the Corrections Dept. It involves any prison, city, state, or federal. Special staff makes the preparations. It is a very structured program. The Brooklyn Public Library has been doing this for two years.

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Contact the Hunts Point Library for information about this program. On the days that the program is in effect, the public bathrooms will be off limits as people involved will be using the room near where the facilities are located.

Richard Sherman spoke of a plan by the Department of Education to co-locate a school for children with autism with other schools on the campus of 116X located on 977 Fox Street. The New York Center for Autism Charter School Bronx (NYCACS) will be replicating a program found in their Manhattan location starting in September 2017 (if approved). The school will be joining The School of Performing Arts, Entrada Academy, and South Bronx Classical Charter School (SBCCS). The Autism based school will be joining Middle Schools that were in the Renewal School program. Entrada Academy is a school of grades 6<sup>th</sup> through 8, South Bronx Classical Charter School is from K through 8. The Autism school is non-graded- will go up to 12 years of age.

NYCACS Bronx will begin with 10 to 20 students, and will have that amount the second year of the program. The School of Performing Arts will have 290 to 320 students, and during the following year will have 300 to 330. Entrada will have 245 to 275 students and increase to 270 to 300. SBCCS will have 390 to 480 students and increase the second year to 410 to 500 students. The building utilization rate will start with 75% to 88% and increase to 79% to 92%.

Programs run by SOBRO and SISDA will also be present in the 116X Campus.

A public hearing will be held at 116X on February 9, 2017 at 6PM. Speaking time registration ends 15 minutes before the hearing starts. Comment by phone 212-374-5159 or email [d12\\_proposals@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:d12_proposals@schools.nyc.gov). care of Yoti Folch, Office of District Planning

A vote on the Co-location will take place by the PEP on February 28<sup>th</sup>, 6PM at Prospect Heights HS, 883 Classon Avenue, Brooklyn NY.

Concern: Security of the students with autism in regard with the students from the other schools in the building. Question: Do the Parent Coordinators in the school system adequately represent parent concerns since they are hired by school

personnel and report to the principal? Should another office (e.g. Public Advocate) be in charge of the Parent Coordinator program?

It was thought people were not coming to Education Committee meetings because of the location. In February, the meeting will be held at the Community Board office.

Respectfully submitted by Richard Sherman, recorder

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