

MINUTES OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 24, 2006
AT THE BOARD OFFICE, 5676 RIVERDALE AVENUE

PRESENT

AFFILIATION

D. Bowden	CB#8 Education Committee Chairperson
B. Bender	CB #8
P. Friedman	CB #8
J. Reyes	CB #8
S. Alexander	Clerical Associate
R. Press	Committee Member
M. Shelton	Committee Member
R. Schwartz	
N. LaRosa	

September 26, 2006 minutes were accepted without correction.

Chairperson's report included the following education issues:

- New policy entitled "empowerment" where principal's have more control over school spending, staffing and curriculum; also get more money;
- City math scores showing scores decline thru upper grades;
- Pre K, Kindergarten and 1st grade children who wish to apply for two new Region #1 Gifted and Talented classes will have to take the Otis-Lennon School Ability Test and GRS (Gifted Rating Scale); applications can be obtained through Region 1;
- elimination of evening H.S. classes; instead there will be an extended school day for struggling High School students;
- U.F.T. workshop for parents to help their child succeed in school on October 26, 2006;
- Education Option for Children with Special Needs on November 1, 2006;

Report from Marvin Shelton, President of Community Education Council of District 10 on proposed Region 1 Gifted and Talented classes starting in September 2007 at P.S. 24 and P.S. 54.

The Chancellor of the City of New York responses to unanswered questions at last May's meeting, were then read to the committee. The full text of his replies are on file at Community Board #8 office and are available for public inspection. Report on the difficulty on getting the names of the new Parents Association Presidents to update our mailing list and the names and phone numbers (cell phones which are supplied by the Department of Education) of the Parent Coordinators in each school.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Bowden
Chairperson
Education Committee

DB:db