

# BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 8

## MINUTES OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 24, 2011, AT RIVERDALE MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION 5676 RIVERDALE AVENUE

### PRESENT

Damian McShane  
Bob Bender  
Amy Moore  
Robert Press  
Julie Reyes  
Karen Green  
Heather Kagedan  
Nikki Dowling  
Miawling Lam

### AFFILIATION

Chair, CB8  
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Community Committee Member  
Riverdale Mental Health Association  
Riverdale Review

1. Approval of minutes of November 23, 2010  
Unanimously approved.
2. Presentation by Heather Kagedan on Bullying
  - Focus is on cyber bullying.
  - Involves emails, text messages, web pages (hate web pages), video games and social networking sites.
  - More intense: more witnesses, anonymous nature often leads to crueler taunts.
  - Signs: Depression, uneasiness about school, avoids cell or computer.

New York has legislation to address the problem, but it is somewhat loose on a curriculum requirement mandated for middle schools.

School Response: There are specific programs, but these are not “cyber bullying” specific – may fall through the cracks.

Ms. Kagedan noted 141 is proactive in addressing bullying.

What to do? See attached handout.

Riverdale Mental Health Association offers support services for victims, but also for the bullies to address why they do this. Contact Ms. Kagedan directly for more information.

3. R. Press reported –
  - Frank Patterson is the new principal of PS 7. It was recommended that he be invited to a future meeting. Also suggested for PS 37.
  - Noted creation of new schools within JFK.
  - Teacher layoffs are rumored to be in the offing.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Submitted by,

Damian McShane