

**Youth, Education & Libraries Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**April 8, 2015**

Committee Members Present: Judith Insell, Shaun Abreu, and Tisha Jackson,

Meeting called to order by Committee Interim Chair- Judith Insell at 6:45 P.M

Introductions were made by all present.

**Presentation:** Ms. Chatura Smith, Harlem Dowling-West Side Center for Children and Family Services, presented on various programs targeted towards youth issues: job readiness, health services and particular programs for counseling young people living with AIDS and AIDS prevention. She also spoke, at length, about their Emergency Food Pantry Program offered to adults and families.

[www.harlemdowling.org](http://www.harlemdowling.org)

**Presentation:** Mr. Talib Hudson, of the NY County District Attorney's Office, presented information on the ongoing "Saturday Night Lights": a weekend professional sports training program for kids ages 11-18. The program is provides skill training in the following areas: basketball, volleyball, soccer, lacrosse, and tennis at various locations citywide. – **Free Program**

[www.manhattanda.org/saturday-night-lights](http://www.manhattanda.org/saturday-night-lights)

**Committee Discussions:**

**Debrief on visit to Columbia Secondary School:**

Touched on issues expressed by Principal Nightengale: limitations, in regards to the co-location with 2 other schools: (all "common" spaces: cafeteria, auditorium, etc...), lack of rooms for special education classes classified as "self contained," no arts education rooms (no art or music room), no library.

Brief discussion of the "In Kind Services" offered by Columbia University and YEL Committee recommendations for future services/funds to be provided to Columbia Secondary School.

**Brief discuss re:** planning a school visit to The School @ Columbia.

**Discussion re: YEL Spring Youth Expo:**

Committee has begun the final planning for the "District 6: Lives Healthy Expo," in collaboration with Committee Education Council 6 (CEC6). The event will take place @ PS 153 on Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup> from 10am-2pm. The event is set to reach hundreds of students, families, and school administrators in School District 6. Flyers have been created and exhibitor invitations with be going out over a 2 week period.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

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<http://www.chalkcenter.org>

**Presentation:** Proposed Charter School: Harlem Charter School of Global Finance, Arts, Technology, and Entrepreneurship-Sabrina Lamb

Ms. Lamb and a member of the Board of Directors for the proposed charter school have requested a "Letter of Support" for the school, as required by the application process for NY State. They present background on the 10 year old program where the charter school derives its' basis: "World of Money Youth Financial Education Institute," an after school and summer program.

The proposed school is set to serve the elementary school population of Harlem, beginning with grades Pre-k, K-2, adding a year to reach grade 8. They are applying to have the school open for fall 2017. There is no designated location for the school, thus raising the committee's concerns about the proposed school being assigned a "collocation" with other school in our district. Their preference is to have their own space and not collocate.

We ask for extensive data to be forwarded to the committee, before we consider supplying the "Letter of Support." Ms. Lamb will send the data in a follow up email.

<http://worldofmoney.org>

**Committee Discussions:**

**District Needs Statement FY16:**

Distribution of previous statement to members present. All are asked to review last years' statement and submit any suggestions for next year's needs statement.

**Forum for Teachers College Community School:**

Proposal set forth to bring together stakeholders to help them heal after the death of the founding Principal, Jeanne Worrell-Breeden. CB9 YEL would like to host or co-host (with the TCCS Parents Association) a meeting including parents, Teachers College Administration, & Dept. of Education Administration to help support all concerned with moving forward the mission of the school. Jen Silverman will reach out to the TCCS PA, to see if we can partner with them.

**Discussion re: YEL Spring Youth Expo:**

Final planning for the "District 6: Lives Healthy Expo," in collaboration with Committee Education Council 6 (CEC6). 25 exhibitors are set to participate; discussion of volunteers and duties for the event.

**Development of June Agenda:**

Scheduled guest presenter: Superintendent of School District 6, Manny Ramirez  
Theme for the meeting: The State of School District 6

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.