

Education Committee
Minutes for Wednesday, April 21, 2010

PRESENT: Alan Abelson, Estela Toribio, Norm Scott, Seung Ok, Lisa North, Viola Plummer, Everbell Boampong-Bishop

GUESTS: Grassroots Education Movement (GEM)
<http://grassrootseducationmovement.blogspot.com/>

The grassroots Education Movement (GEM) to defend public policy education is a coalition of educator's community members and parents. We seek to educate, mobilize and organize educators, parents, students and our communities against corporate and government policies that serve to underfund, undermine, and privatize our public school system. GEM advocates for the equality and quality of public educational services as well as the rights of school workers.

Items addressed during this meeting:

Grassroots introduced themselves and their platform. They provided the following literature to the committee: *The truth about charter schools in NYC*, and *GEM news Volume 2* Copies of these items are in the district office.

Mr. Ok, a teacher at Maxwell and a member of Gem provided the committee with a summary of the feeling and climate of the Maxwell school community.

Highlights: after discussing the role of schools communities and communities at large in the fight to stop public school closings we compiled the following:

- Review and add addendums to the City council Resolution presented by Councilman Robert Jackson, for the next committee meeting.
- As a Community Board, we should be on the forefront of this issue by sending out a correspondence to all city community boards requesting their presence at a meeting tentatively scheduled for Saturday, May 15, 2010 at our Community Board. This letter should be written by our district manager to reflect the board's concerns on this issue as an opposed to solely the committee. The goal of this meeting is to effectively organize communities against school closures, charter schools, and other concerns regarding public education.
- As the Education committee we are planning an education forum centered around this issue to be held tentatively at Maxwell High School on Saturday, May 22, 2010 from 10am-2pm

NEXT MEETING: Community Board Office; Wednesday May 12, 2010 @ 6:30 pm

Respectfully submitted: Everbell Boampong-Bishop

Education Committee Members: Paul Washington, Shirley Oliver, Viola Plummer, Joannette Carter, Norma Cirano, Prince Lewis, Rita McCormick, and David Best

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