



CITY OF NEW YORK MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD 10

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Hon. Marquis A. Harrison
Chairperson
Kendall D. Glaspie
District Manager

Education, Youth & Libraries Committee Meeting Notes Date: February 17, 2026

1. Call to Order & Welcome

- Meeting called to order at 6:35 PM by Vice Chair Eliza Saunders
- Chair Cherise Wykoff joined shortly after
- Acknowledgement of:
 - Committee members (in-person & virtual)
 - Community attendees
 - TAG Youth participants (continued engagement noted)

2. Agenda Overview

Key agenda items included:

- District 3 & 5 updates (standing item)
- Community partner presentations:
 - Uptown Boogie Health Project
 - Apollo Theater
- Old Business:
 - Capital Grants
 - District Needs / Budget
 - SYEP & After-school programming
 - PS 197 Book Drive
- New Business:
 - Teen Advisory Council
 - Charter school engagement
 - FERPA discussion (not deeply covered this meeting)

3. Presentation: Uptown Boogie Health Project

Program: NextGen Ag Sector (Agriculture Impact Summit)

- Focus: Youth exposure to green careers & the agriculture industry
- Target: Ages 17–25
- Event Details:
 - Date: March 21, 2026
 - Time: 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM
 - Location: Forum @ Columbia (126th St)

Program Offerings

- Career panels (agriculture, sustainability, tech, business)
- Resume workshops & LinkedIn setup
- Professional headshots (business attire required)
- College readiness (CUNY/SUNY guidance)
- Certifications & career pathways

Key Takeaway

- Strong workforce development pipeline opportunity for Harlem youth
- The committee requested flyer distribution and follow-up

4. Presentation: Apollo Theater (Ayo Carbon)

Key Initiatives

- Harlem School Art Contest (Launching March 2)
 - Open to Harlem-based students (residence OR school-based)
 - Categories:
 - Visual Arts
 - Performing Arts (winner performs at Amateur Night)

Opportunities

- Winning artwork featured in:
 - Apollo lobby, café, gift shop
- Committee invited to:
 - Serve as judges
- Additional:
 - Free tickets to the American Black Film Festival event

Partnership Opportunity

- Apollo Family Day (in development)
 - Potential partnership with CB10 (pending sponsorship)

5. District 3 & 5 Liaison Report (Stephanie Palmer)

A. Capital Grants

- Supporting 12 schools across Districts 3 & 5
- Funding supports:
 - Auditoriums
 - Computer labs
 - Infrastructure improvements

Challenges

- Application complexity (portal issues)
- Mid-cycle rule changes (new Borough President requirements)
- Deadline conflicts with school break
- Need for School Construction Authority (SCA) coordination

Committee Role

- Hands-on support:
 - Application navigation
 - Principal coordination
 - Submission assistance

B. Budget & District Needs

- NYC facing \$5B budget deficit
- Risk of cuts to:
 - After-school programs
 - Youth services

Committee Priorities

- Restore after-school funding
- Maintain capital investments in schools

- Protect youth programming

C. SYEP (Summer Youth Employment Program)

- Key concerns:
 - Limited providers in Harlem (2 major providers)
 - Capacity constraints → not all eligible youth served
 - Youth unemployment in Harlem significantly higher than national average

Next Steps

- Invite SYEP providers to upcoming meeting
- Gather data:
 - of eligible youth vs. # served
 - Program reach & site distribution

6. PS 197 Book Drive (Committee Initiative)

Goal

- Rebuild PS 197 school library + student access resources

Progress

- Donations actively coming in:
 - Books (Amazon list + community donations)
 - Drop-off sites expanding (community partners, Harlem Arts Alliance)

Strategy

- Continue beyond initial deadline until needs fully met
- Engage:
 - Elected officials
 - Community orgs
 - Publishers (e.g., Hachette)
 - Youth volunteers (TAG)

7. New Business

A. Teen Advisory Council (Major Initiative)

- Purpose:
 - Integrate youth voice into decision-making
- Rationale:
 - Decisions currently made without direct youth input
- Early Ideas:
 - Structured council (ages ~13–18)
 - Potential benefits:
 - Community service hours
 - Leadership development
 - Recommendations / advisory role

Next Step

- Develop framework, criteria, and compliance requirements
- Launch planning for next board year

B. Charter School Engagement (Discussion)

Key Themes

- Need for:
 - Inclusion of all Harlem students (district + charter)
 - Awareness of student experiences across school types

Strategic Framing

- Focus on:
 - Student outcomes, not politics
 - Data, access, and equity

Key Focus Areas Identified

1. Recruitment Practices
 - Fairness across schools
2. Resource Equity
 - Facilities, funding, access differences
3. Academic Structures
 - Interventions, tutoring, program models

Opportunities

- Best practice sharing across schools
- Community-wide education landscape mapping
- Potential:
 - School guide/resource (digital)
 - Community survey