

November 20, 2009

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The purpose of Parents in Partnership is to work within the Hudson City School District to enhance the opportunity that all children receive the best education our schools can offer. Parent Support & Resource Rooms have been established as a platform for added parent and community involvement.

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CALL TO ORDER: 12:30pm, Conference Room, Hudson Junior High School. Present were Cheryl Goldstein, Dan Udell, Mary Udell, George Davis, Peter Meyer, Ellen Henderson. Derek Reardon and Rosalie Cornell joined the meeting at about 1:00.

SPECIAL GUEST: Cory Fleming, Director, Hudson Area Association Library. Mr. Fleming, a native of the Bronx, came to HAAL last June. He said has spent some time getting to know the area and sees the library as a great asset to the community, which he believes has been underserved. He explained that he was very grateful that Hudson passed the recent referendum, allotting the library more City funds. This would allow him to initiate more programs and collaborations with community groups. The library now has six computers and more are on their way.

So far he has started a tutoring program, in collaboration with Bard, Columbia Greene Community College, and Time & Space Limited. He has started a Young Boys Reading Group for middle schoolers, a Toastmasters group, and story hours for teenagers.

He is working on getting collaborations with the Hudson Youth Center and the Hudson City School District. What he would like to do with the latter is get the school to promote library cards for ever child and promote access to partnering with the Afterschool programs. He hopes that he can get the schools to let kids know about the services the library offers. He wants to offer SAT prep courses, for instance. And he hopes he can get programs at the library that would earn students extra credit in their courses.

Both Mr. Reardon and Ms. Cornell said they were very excited about these ideas and were very open to collaborations with the library.

The Udells said they were anxious to find students who would be interested in their film program. And Ms. Henderson suggested that students in the In-School Suspension program might be a place to start.

The meeting ended at 1:45.

Ms. Henderson gave Mr. Fleming, George Davis, and the Udells a brief tour of the High School and showed them the Parent Resource Room.