

School Board 18 Calls for More Hirings

By Craig McGuire

Community School Board 18 is requesting 247 additional employees for next year in the areas of instruction, administration and security from the New York City Board of Education.

At its February meeting, the board unanimously adopted the District 18 budget estimate for fiscal year 1995, which was then submitted to the central board.

The total requested tax levy allocation is \$47,728,752, an \$8,028,183 increase over the previous year. This figure includes basic school staffing, but does not encompass textbooks, library books, or computer software.

"This budget is a request for basic services," said Eleanor Jakobovitz, deputy superintendent for District 18, which includes Canarsie and East Flatbush.

According to Jakobovitz, the "wish list" addresses an increase in teacher salaries, and hopes for a reduction in class size by providing additional instructors.

"Due to cuts in the past, we are now going back to basics. There are no frills in this budget," she said.

"Parents associations and members of the community were consulted in compiling and prioritizing our proposals," added Jakobovitz.

Addressing the board, Sindy Monaco, represent-

ing the parents associations in seven Canarsie schools, described the budget proposal as encouraging.

"We are pleased to see a budget that will keep District 18 at the forefront of the educational system," said Monaco.

Jakubovitz said she appreciated Monaco's understanding that "we tried to encompass all supportive staff services not at the expense of one another."

However, not all parent

leaders in District 18 were as enthusiastic as Monaco.

Daniel Joseph, president of the parents association at P.S. 235, 525 Lenox Road, said, "The withdrawal of magnet funds has left at least 50 to 60 parents up in the air and in dire need, and the budget doesn't address them."

Magnet funds are federal grants, and are not subject to city or state legislation. This budget does not ad-

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At the February meeting of Community School Board 18 the board unanimously voted to extend the contract of Dr. Harvey Garner, District 18 superintendent, through June 30, 1997.

Photos by Craig McGuire

