



COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 3

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RESOLUTION TO OPPOSE THE LIMITED BLENDED LEARNING OPT IN PERIOD

(Approved at the Nov. 2, 2020 Special Calendar Meeting by Roll Call Vote of all Council members present (10): K Berger, L Byrd, N Hasan, L Liu, M McCarthy, D Morgan. D Garrett Scott, Assietou Sow, K Watkins, E Wright)

The Community Education Council District 3 (CEC 3) is comprised of parents who have been elected or appointed to serve as stakeholders of the district, representing over 15,000 public school students. The following resolution offers CEC 3's position regarding the October 26, 2020 policy change concerning the blended learning opt-in period:

WHEREAS, when the Department of Education released its plans for the 2020–2021 school year parents were given the option to elect 100% remote learning or default into a blended learning plan; and

WHEREAS, parents were informed in August 2020 that they would have opportunities at the close of each marking period—roughly in November 2020, January 2021, and March 2021—to opt into blended learning if they had previously selected 100% remote learning; and

WHEREAS, on October 26, 2020 Chancellor Carranza and Mayor De Blasio announced that there would only be one opt-in period to blended learning, November 2–15, 2020; and

WHEREAS, this is yet another example of the Mayor and Chancellor providing inconsistent information, unclear plans, and changing timelines regarding reopening and blended learning as well as their continued exclusion of school community stakeholders when making such decisions, which sows distrust with all families and school partners; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 cases are climbing nationwide, including in many neighboring states, and health experts are concerned that the virus will spread widely throughout the winter months when people spend more time indoors; and

WHEREAS, because of this decision by the NYC DOE, New York City parents will be forced to choose between their child forgoing an entire year of in-person instruction or returning just in time for flu season and the start of inclement weather, which will limit opportunities for time outdoors during the school day; and

WHEREAS, we fear that if a bulk of families choose blended-learning at this single moment, the conditions will set the stage for spread of the virus potentially impacting the rolling average threshold that requires a complete shutdown of the schools, making all students 100 percent remote and disrupting all the learning impact schools have created with each cohort over the past month; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Community Education Council District 3 calls upon the Mayor and the Chancellor to:

1. Immediately reinstate the previously promised quarterly windows for enrollment in blended learning.
2. Continue to allow students to opt into fully remote learning at any point.