



# COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 3

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## Vol. 18 (P) No. 4 Resolution on Separation and Detention of Immigrant Children

**Approved as amended at the June 20, 2018 CEC3 & CSD3 Presidents' Council Joint Calendar Meeting by a Roll Call Vote of the CEC3 members present at the time of the vote (9 in favor / 0 opposed / 0 abstain)**

**WHEREAS**, the members of Community Education Council 3 (CEC3) in New York City took oaths to support the Constitution of the United States of America and the Constitution of New York State, both of which affirm the right to equal protection of the law for all persons;

**AND WHEREAS**, the members of CEC3 are tasked with representing the parents and children of Community District 3 in New York City, including immigrant parents of all statuses;

**AND WHEREAS**, the administration of President Donald J. Trump has implemented a “zero tolerance” policy for illegal entry into the United States of America and has detained all adults, including those seeking asylum, for criminal prosecution;

**AND WHEREAS**, this policy choice has resulted in the separation of over 2000 children from their parents since its implementation earlier this year on the southern border;

**AND WHEREAS**, the administration has separated so many children who are infants and toddlers that they have opened three so-called “tender age” shelters -where reports say babies are sometimes kept in cages - and are planning for a fourth;

**AND WHEREAS**, even children with severe disabilities such as trisomy-21 have been separated from their parents and sent to detention centers;

**AND WHEREAS**, there are already documented cases of parents pleading guilty in immigration court and being deported without their children and with no knowledge of where their children are;

**AND WHEREAS**, thousands of academics, mental health care professionals, and school professionals have issued statements warning that this infliction of entirely avoidable harm upon children risks lasting consequences for those so harmed;

**AND WHEREAS**, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) has interpreted its mandate to include document checks within 100 miles of any port of entry in the United States;

**AND WHEREAS**, ICE has already been documented entering New York State court buildings in New York City to seize immigrants;

**AND WHEREAS**, the Secretary of Education of the United States of America has refused to make clear statements about her department's policies on whether or not public schools should act as informants for ICE;

**AND WHEREAS**, The Executive Order signed June 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018 temporarily ends family separation but replaces such family separation with indefinite mass family detention and offers no plan to reunite separated children with their families;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,**

CEC3 joins the thousands of mental health and school professionals who have voiced concern about the consequences of inflicting avoidable mental harm upon the children of detained immigrants.

**Be it further resolved**, CEC3 opposes, without equivocation, the policy of family separation and mass family detention and calls for it to cease immediately and for all elected officials in the City and State of New York to work for this goal for the good of all children for whose welfare and representation we are entrusted.

**Be it further resolved**, CEC3 calls upon the Mayor's office and the Department of Education to reaffirm its previous directive that school officials are not to allow ICE and other non-local law enforcement agencies access to public school facilities and to consult with a Senior Field Counsel before responding to any warrant;

**Be it further resolved**, CEC3 calls upon the city and the department of education to provide special counseling resources for all schools where immigrant children of all statuses might suffer trauma due to the administration's policies.

**Be it further resolved**, CEC3 calls for all elected officials representing the City and State of New York at all levels of government to condemn the practice of family separation and mass family detention and to affirm that it is contrary to values of a democratic society comprised of generations of immigrants and their descendants.