



# Community Education Council District 26

## New York City Department of Education

Address: 61-15 Oceania Street, Bayside, NY 11364 Phone: (718) 631-6927 Fax: (718) 631-1347 E-mail: [CEC26@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:CEC26@schools.nyc.gov).

**Adriana Aviles**  
President of the Council

**Karen Rose Scutt**  
First Vice- President

**Cassandra Louie**  
Second Vice President

**Sandra Lau**  
Recording Secretary

**John Gavros**  
Treasurer

**Council Members:**

**Norman Cohn**  
**Alan Ong**  
**David Wong**

**Todd Friedman**  
**Dilip Nath**  
**Logan Grodsky**

**Danielle Giunta**  
Community Superintendent  
District 26

**Website: [www.CDEC26.org](http://www.CDEC26.org)**

### **November 12, 2020 Calendar Meeting:**

**Present:** Alan Ong, Adriana Aviles, Cassandra Louie, Norman Cohn, Sandra Lau, David Wong, John Gavros, Todd Friedman, Dilip Nath, Karen Rose Scutt and Logan Grodsky

Welcome –Adriana Aviles

Meeting called to order 6:06 PM

I. Welcome

II. **Superintendent Danielle Giunta Report:**

I know that we're entering the space today with some anxiety frustration and downright madness. And I think the community for your advocacy and whatever we can do as a district team and together because together is better. We will continue to remain committed to so that our despite all the challenges in front of us and the wider world that we're navigating right now that we continue to thrive together across district 26 so I'm going to share a little bit about some updates around classroom and school closures and what's happening in the district. I really want to kick off my superintendents report with that joy and celebration of a symbol of all of our schools but says specifically one of our schools tonight, and I want to deeply and profoundly think the CDEC for providing the space at their monthly meetings for the rest of the year. In this remote space we're pivoting from our annual and practices of spotlight visits of spotlighting and equity and excellence initiative at a different school each month where we used to be able to invite the community into a school and see what does computer science look like in practice. We want our leaders to see the actual work our schools, teachers and students are approaching and embracing blended and remote learning and so it is my profound honor to welcome to my report today principal Laura Hawkins, and the incredible team at PS 94 in little neck at the David Porter elementary school.

III. **P.S. 94Q Laura Avakians- District 26 Spotlight – Computer Science for All.**

**REMOTE LEARNING – WHAT WE HAVE LEARNED SINCE MARCH 2020....**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Organization of Google Classroom               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Cohesive layout among classes</li> <li>○ Structure</li> <li>○ Content</li> <li>○ Accessibility</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Different Proficiency Levels of Technology               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Supported parents and staff</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Live Teaching               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Streamlining grade-band synchronous time</li> <li>○ Programming</li> <li>○ School wide platform – Zoom</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Building Capacity in Staff               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Moderator</li> <li>○ Paraprofessionals</li> <li>○ School Aides</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Flexibility with submitting assignments               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ mindful of students' age, proficiency, tech, devices, language</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Small Group Instruction               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Differentiated tasks</li> <li>○ Breakout rooms</li> </ul> </li> <li>● TC Assessments               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Administered TC assessments online for the 1st time</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
--	---

Promising practices every classroom. We do this for every child in every classroom to see how they are doing.

# PROMISING PRACTICES

## SEL CHECK-IN

**Beginning of Day Check-In**  
As your day begins, please complete the questions below to let me know how you're doing!  
\*Required

First & Last Name \*

Your answer

What is today's date? \*

Date

How are you feeling today? \*

READY TO WORK

LAFELY

SEL CHECK-IN

Student voice

2nd-grade classroom

# PROMISING PRACTICES

## SEL COMPONENTS

**"Meaningful Monday" Quotes from our Guidance Counselor for staff and students**

**BREATHE EASY, STRESS LESS**  
This Monday by meditating, taking your attention on your breath, to settle your mind and extend kindness.

THEME: "We are all a piece in the puzzle, and together we are united against bullying."

Anti-Bullying Week: November 16-20, 2020  
Guidance Counselors visit our Physical and Remote classrooms

### Anti-Bullying Week- Overview

The theme for the week: "We are all a piece in the puzzle, and together we are united against bullying."

**Monday Nov 16th**  
We will be watching "April Means how to stand up to bullies". There is no one right way to deal with bullying. What may feel right for one person may not for another. What's important, is that you look at what's happening, what you've tried so far, and what your options are. Then figure out a plan and decide who can help you along the way.

**Tuesday Nov 17th**  
Read "One" by Kathryn Otoshi K-2 All Students  
Our School Counselors will come in to read "One". "One" talks about everyone belonging and making every ONE count. Blue is a quiet color. Red is a loud color. Blue picks up Blue. All the other colors don't like what they see, but what can they do? What are one words, one things get out of hand- until One comes along. After reading this book, you'll know that one person can make a difference and that person might just be YOU.  
"One Bullying Year" Ring Bind K-2 Blended Learning Students  
The video sets the tone for the anti-bullying presentation. It represents children learning how to show others respect and kindness.  
Don't Cook up Trouble on the Internet! The Technology TAT to Make Grade 3-5 Our School Counselors will read! The Technology TAT about internet safety. Students will come up with what computer rules are and read your own computer rules to know how their computer to help them remember!  
Cyberbullying Awareness @ 4th The interactive lesson will define the meaning of Bullying, Cyberbullying, and Peer Conflict. Students will be able to discuss and brainstorm ideas on what they should do if they are faced with a bullying situation.

**Wednesday Nov 18th**  
"Bullying prevention bookmarks"  
Students will get bullying prevention bookmarks to color. The bookmarks include positive sayings to encourage kindness and strategies you use if being bullied. Make the bookmarks super colorful and share how you are kind to others!  
Grade 4 Family Page @ 8:30 pm

# PROMISING PRACTICES

## JAMBOARDS

To promote student thinking and discussion

**Observation**  
Use these prompts to help I see/notice... I wonder... Why...

I see people, Evan.L

what do you love most about yourself?

3rd-grade classroom

# PROMISING PRACTICES

## Document Cameras & Digital Curriculum

to support students visually

$4 \times 3 = 12$   
 $4 \times (3 \times 2) = 24$   
 $4 \times 6 = 24$   
Associative Property

$4 \times (3 \times 2) = 24$   
 $4 \times (2 \times 3) = 24$   
 $(4 \times 2) \times 3 = 24$   
 $8 \times 3 = 24$   
Commutative Property

**Share and Show**  
Find the product of 3, 2, and 3. Write another way to group the factors. Is the product the same? Why?  
 $10 \times 3 = 30$  or  $5 \times (2 \times 3)$   
 $5 \times 6 = 30$   
Because grouping

another way to group the factors. Then find the product.  
 $3 \times 11 \times 7$        $3 \times 3 \times (3 \times 4)$

1st-grade classroom

# PROMISING PRACTICES

## Formative Assessment

Zoom Polling To determine student understanding--formative assessment

1. Finish the sentence: Today, during the math lesson I was...

Subsequent: I understood what I am doing and I do not have any questions at this time. (77%) 52%

Need Feedback: I'm working through the assignment, but I have a few questions. (23%) 43%

Stuck: I am stuck on this lesson and I need help moving forward. (0%) 5%

3rd-grade classroom

# PROMISING PRACTICES

## Formative Assessment

Teacher Made worksheet to determine student understanding

Math Vocabulary Quiz Chapter 3 (copy) - A

Student	Score	Returned?	Submission Date
STUDENT A/STUDENT A	4/8		Nov 15, 2020, 7:57 PM
STUDENT B/STUDENT B	5/8		Oct 30, 2020, 1:01 PM
STUDENT C/STUDENT C	6/8		Oct 30, 2020, 1:00 PM

Name	Earned	Possible	Earned %	Possible %	Score	Timestamp of Submission
student	4	8			50%	8-Apr-19/20/2020 12:17 a.m.
student	5	8			62.5%	8-May-19/20/2020 4:31 p.m.
student	6	8			75%	8-Jun-19/20/2020 5:52 p.m.
student	6	8			75%	8-Jun-19/20/2020 5:52 p.m.
student	6	8			75%	8-Jun-19/20/2020 6:47 p.m.
student	6	8			75%	8-Jun-19/20/2020 5:58 p.m.
student	6	8			75%	8-Jun-19/20/2020 5:53 p.m.
student	7	8			87.5%	8-Jul-19/20/2020 4:40 p.m.

4th-grade classroom

# PROMISING PRACTICES

## Zoom Features

Slides as backgrounds & Breakout Rooms for small group instruction

Using slides, what is the sum?  
 $8 + 8 =$   
18      17

1st-grade classroom

- Family Leadership Coordinator- We are working with parent-leaders by holding office hours where PTA can come in. In partnership with CEC26, we hosted resilience parent workshop and parenting workshops.
- The city and state Covid are rising and we are monitoring that carefully. We had 67Q where we had a 24 hr. closures and we had 1 isolated case which led to one room closure. More recently, PS 18 closed for 24 hrs. and PS 213 went into extended closure for multiple which they are opening it back again today. We just got the news that PS 266 will have extended closure and Principal Greenridge are working hard to get back.
- We are making sure all digital curriculum is available both students and teachers.
- We are making sure that all devices are ready to go .
- We want to pivot without a hitch.
- I do want to say that schools are on top of communicating with families in the district. Even possible Covid are being communicated to families.
- We are here and anything you need, please reach out to us.

IV. Mary Vaccaro- I am really excited to introduce David Waltzer as District 26 UFT District Representative

V. Cathy Grodsky- President Council President

VI. **Dilip Nath proposed resolution to include Diwali as a holiday(See Addendum B).**

- Public Comment:

1) Vijay Ramjattan:

Thank you so much Adriana. How are you name is a Vijay Ramjattan. I'm the CEC president of District 28. And I'm so happy to visit your CEC. I was at your business meeting and wonderful job to superintendent. Thank you for your work that you're doing to and all the team members. We appreciate all the work because the city, however, our Chancellor talks about equity in excellence all students right. Our chancellor echoes the idea that, you know, all kids need to have fair play in the city's arena, especially when it comes to school. Our school classroom should reflect our curriculums. Right. And no one talks about the Diwali in school. And for a long time ago, very long time ago. Queens residents have been celebrating everyone else's holiday wholeheartedly because we are not angry or don't have that everyone else has a holiday. But we're saying to ourselves, why not us. Give us one we're asking for one holiday and we celebrate the holiday based on the moon calendar and this year it falls on Saturday. But , when we do have a holiday that is not on the weekend , our kids get penalized and they should not be penalized. And I want to use the word persecuted because that's what it feels like for celebrating who they are, especially when my kids have to stay home for all the other holidays, They tell me daddy, do you know what is all this. I'm like, Yes. Tell me more. And you can tell me so well about the others. I will love to have them tell me about. There's also a celebrated confidence to know that their space is also fear equal and equitable and then we can have excellence for everyone. I want to thank deliver bringing this resolution to this Council last week I introduced this to my counsel and it was passed unanimously, because we stand up for equity excellence and queens, as you know, is the most diverse congressional district in the world. We should be a pillar of representing equity stands for therefore I'm encouraging all of you, fellow council members to vote, in favor of this resolution, and it says a very clear message and I myself my and deliberate continue to work across the city. We need send the very the mayor very clear message and the Chancellor, that this is government is by the people, for the people and we the people have spoken be want it holiday Thank you for inviting me. Thank you for letting me speak and great job. Thank you.

**Dilip Nath motioned to approve Diwali as a holiday.**

**Motion approved unanimously.**

**VII. Proposed Resolution Against Revised Blended Learning Opt-in Period (See addendum C)  
- Public Comment**

**Adriana Aviles motioned to approve Resolution Against Revised Blended Learning Opt-in Period**

**Motion approved unanimously.**

**VIII. Public Comment**

1) Cathy Grodsky: Thank you thank you all, for allowing me this moment to speak. I am the president of president's council for district 26 and it is a pleasure and an honor to work hand in hand with the CEC.

For the sake of all our families, I just want to say last week president's council had a meeting with our elected officials on was a very robust meeting. I guess the takeaway and the bottom line for our families in district 26 and around the city is that parents have had enough. We're tired. We're fed up, it's enough. I think you tweeted something out today with a hashtag enough is enough. It says it just simply and d that's true. I have the pleasure of saying that president's council has issued a statement today that if Adrian, if you would indulge me the opportunity to read it. I'd appreciate that. Cathy Grodsky: Thank you. ADRIANA. But before I do that, I again, I just want to say before I read it. This has no reflection on our incredible superintendent and her team are incredible teachers and principals parent coordinators and every staff member in our district 26 schools who have worked tirelessly and held up the ship for our children. So, with that, I'm going to read the statement.

The President Council of district 26 an organization. A PTA president that supports PTA and represent the interests of parents within our district makes the following statement.: This summer, the New York City Department of Education asked parents across the city to decide between blended and fully remote learning models for their children. This was one of the most complicated and grueling decisions that parents had to make in an already overwhelmingly difficult and complicated year These decisions were based on health and safety concerns finances accessibility to childcare, the ability of families to juggle varying days of drop off and pick up with multiple children and often precarious employment situation.

For many, the do is firm promises that parents choosing the fully remote model would have a quarterly would have quarterly opportunities.

To our back into blended learning was one of the few assurances to provide them any peace of mind.

On August 20 the do we went so far as to include this among other promises and a formal back to school pledge to families. On October 26 families had the rug pulled out from under them when Mayor de Blasio and cancel Carranza shockingly announced that there will be only one opt in, period. This entire school yea.: Giving parents only until November 15 to decide the mayor and chancellors last minute Gambit to press your parents to up in their lives. Once again, In order to justify a plan that was unworkable from the start is now inflicting more fear chaos and instability and on an already emotionally string population. This latest bait and switch maneuver are gut wrenching destructive and cool but not surprising.

To do a promise that there would be enough teachers for every class that did not happen, the deal. The deal we promise synchronous instruction on remote days for students in blended learning That did not happen. The. Do you do a promise that every single student in our city would have the devices they need to succeed during the pandemic.

That did not happen. The do we promise that students in school building would interact with live teachers, rather than spending more time on screens.

That did not happen. The do we promise a decision on middle and high school admissions and the SHAST exam. By the end of the summer, and then by the end of October. That did not happen.

Parents of district 26 have had enough putting pressure on parents to move to blended learning now is nonsensical and has absolutely nothing to do with the well-being of the children, families and educators of New York City.

This is clear to everyone accordingly district 26 district 26 president's council here by calls for the immediate reinstatement of the quarterly opt in plan.

Moreover, because of their complete failure of leadership district 26 president's council has voted no confidence in Mayor de Blasio and Chancellor Richard Carranza. We are appalled and Shannon that this crisis of leadership has brought us to this point, we highlight that this vote of no confidence does not extend to or reflect upon the incredible work performed by our district 26 superintendent and her staff school administrators or our teachers.

That was issued today the vote happened last week and again it gives us no pleasure to have to write that we are all suffering. And again, it's just what happened like the with the with the shift in the often period had crossed a line for many parents and it's just enough is enough.

So, with that, I don't think there's anything more to say. And I again. I appreciate all TC we're working together. I want to just give a huge shout out from our PTA president and our PTA as: Who are on the front line dealing with families every day trying to try to support and elevate parent voice. So, thank you.

2) Jim Gallagher- Provided updates on upcoming events.

IX. **Adriana Aviles proposed No Confidence of Chancellor resolution (See addendum D)**

- **Adriana Aviles states that the resolution has no reflection on our District 23 Schools , Principals, Teachers, Superintendent or our District Teams. This is a working resolution and we want to hear from our families so we will take**

- **Public Comments:**

- Serena Tow : Thank you CEC26 and President Council for all the support you give the families and school!

- HOLLY REED : Thank you for supporting our families and schools

- Tijger Tsou : I have no additional comments, but thank you. I agree with this no confidence vote.

- Diana Yeh : I completely agree with the vote of no confidence in the chancellor. Thank you for standing up for all parents and members of District 26.

-

X. **Public Comments.**

1) **Jim Gallagher-** Provided updates on upcoming events in District.

2) **CPAC Representation-** She stated that I will share the information with the community in CPAC.

3) **David Wong-** We are fighting to get information about SHSAT admission.

4) Davinder Singh from CM Grodenchik, Soojin from Sen. John Liu's office and Anthony Lemma from AM Weprin's office was in attendance and shared information.

5) Tanny Teng Chang : Good Evening! I wanted to ask if there is any public information on the funding of D26 as compared to the rest of the city

6) V Chan: Have heard that schools and districts in parts of LI are considering moving either close schools from Thanksgiving break through to early January (potentially due to COVID) same as what is being done at Universities in LI. Is this in considering for NYC schools?

Adriana Aviles motioned to adjourn meeting 9:05 PM.

**November 12, 2020 Business Meeting: 6:00 PM**

**Present:** Alan Ong, Adriana Aviles, Cassandra Louie, Norman Cohn, Sandra Lau, David Wong, John Gavros, Todd Friedman, Logan Grodsky, Dilip Nath, and Karen Rose Scutt

- I. **Minutes** were reviewed for October 22, 2020 minutes and October 30, 2020 Special Meeting. Adriana Aviles motioned to pass the minutes. Motioned passed unanimously.
- II. **Budget Approval-** John Gavros motioned to approve budget . Motioned passed unanimously. See addendum A. .
- III. **CEC Presidents' Report:** We are waiting to hear back about grading and admission.
- IV. **Resolution for NO CONFIDENCE Proposed Resolution No Confidence in Mayor and Chancellor**

Adriana Aviles motioned to adjourn the at 6:50 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

**Addendum A:**



**Community District Education Council 26**  
New York City Department of Education

Address: 61-15 Oceania Street, Bayside, NY 11364 Phone: (718) 631-6927 Fax: (718) 631-1347 E-mail: CEC26@schools.nyc.gov.

Adriana Aviles <i>President of the Council</i>	Alan Ong <i>First Vice-President</i>	David Wong <i>Second Vice President</i>	Sandra Lau <i>Recording Secretary</i>	John Gavros <i>Treasurer</i>
Danielle Giunta Community Superintendent				
Norman Cohn Karen Rose Scutt	Todd Friedman Seth Breland		Cassandra Louie	Dilip Nath
District 26				
Website: <a href="http://www.CDEC26.org">www.CDEC26.org</a>				

**Budget Notes:** November 12, 2020

**Upcoming Workshops:**

Budget Line Items	Proposed 2020-2021 Allocated Budget
Non- Contractual Services(Copier) Object Code 433	\$1,548.00
Member Reimbursement Object Code 496	\$2,000.00
P-Card/Office Supplies	\$5,000.00
Supplies General (Workshops) Object Code 198	\$4,000.00
Food for Meeting & Transportation of Staff	\$2,558.00
Website	\$570.00
Vendor Payment for Workshops	\$8,000.00
Supplies Water	\$300.00
Equipment	\$1,000.00
Water rental	\$24.00
Total	\$25,000.00
Total Spent	\$0.00
Balance in Budget	\$25,000.00

**Addendum B:**



**Community District Education Council 26**  
New York City Department of Education

Address: 61-15 Oceania Street, Bayside, NY 11364 Phone: (718) 631-6927 Fax: (718) 631-1347 E-mail: CEC26@schools.nyc.gov.

<b>Adriana Aviles</b> <i>President of the Council</i>	<b>Karen Rose Scutt</b> <i>First Vice- President</i>	<b>Cassandra Louie</b> <i>Second Vice President</i>	<b>Sandra Lau</b> <i>Recording Secretary</i>	<b>John Gavros</b> <i>Treasurer</i>
<i>Council Members:</i>			<b>Danielle Giunta</b>	
<b>Norman Cohn</b>	<b>Todd Friedman</b>		<b>Community Superintendent</b>	
<b>Alan Ong</b>	<b>Dilip Nath</b>		<b>District 26</b>	
<b>David Wong</b>	<b>Logan Grodsky</b>			

[Website: www.CDEC26.org](http://www.CDEC26.org)

**Approved Resolution calling upon the New York City Department of Education to establish Diwali as an official holiday for New York City public school students.**

**November 12, 2020**

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

**Whereas**, According to the U.S. Census Bureau's latest American Religious Identification Survey in 2008, there were 582,000 Hindus, 78,000 Sikhs, and 1,189,000 Buddhists in the United States; and

**Whereas**, According to the Census Bureau's 2016 American Community Survey, there were about 227,825 New York City residents who identify themselves as Asian Indian, of which many are adherents of Hinduism, Sikhism, Jainism, or Buddhism; and

**Whereas**, Diwali, a five-day festival that begins on the 15th day of the Hindu month of Kartik (October/November), is the most important festival on the Hindu calendar, celebrating the triumph of good over evil and marking the New Year; and

**Whereas**, Diwali is commonly known as the Festival of Lights, with celebrants lighting millions of lanterns, symbols of knowledge and inner light, to dispel ignorance and darkness; and

**Whereas**, For Sikhs, Diwali is the day the Mughal Emperor released Hargobind, the revered sixth Guru, from captivity; and

**Whereas**, For Jains, Diwali marks the anniversary of the attainment of moksha, or liberation, by Mahavira, who was the last of the Tirthankaras, or the great teachers of Jain dharma; and

**Whereas**, Some Buddhists celebrate Diwali to commemorate the day King Ashok converted to Buddhism; and

**Whereas,** Despite the large number of Hindus, Sikhs, Jains, and Buddhists in New York City, Diwali is not recognized as a school holiday in the New York City public school system; and

**Whereas,** In 2007, the United States House of Representatives passed a resolution recognizing the religious and historical significance of Diwali, and in 2013 hosted the first-ever Congressional Diwali celebration; and

**Whereas,** In 2011 and 2013, the US Senate passed a resolution recognizing the historical and spiritual significance of Diwali for Hindus, Sikhs, and Jains; and

**Whereas,** Since 2003, the White House has held an annual Diwali celebration; and

**Whereas,** New York City has already acknowledged the significance of Diwali by suspending alternate side parking rules on Lakshmi Puja, the third and most important day of the holiday; and

**Whereas,** Currently, New York City public schools are closed on several religious holidays; and

**Whereas,** It should be noted that Chancellor's Regulation A-630 puts forth guidelines regarding the provision of reasonable accommodations for religious observance and practices for public school students; and

**Whereas,** Pursuant to Regulation A-630, reasonable accommodations include excused absences for religious observance outside of school grounds, as well as in-school provisions such as time for praying or sitting separately in the cafeteria during periods in which a student may fast; and

**Whereas,** Despite the intentions behind this regulation, many parents, students, and advocates have expressed concern that students who celebrate Diwali are still left at a disadvantage, having to choose between celebrating an important holiday or being absent from school, which can result in these students falling behind their peers, missing lessons and tests, and having lower attendance records; and

**Whereas,** Other American localities with growing Hindu, Sikh, Jain, and Buddhist populations have incorporated Diwali into their school holiday calendars, including Passaic and South Brunswick in New Jersey; and

**Whereas**, New York City is a diverse and dynamic locality in which tolerance and acceptance are central values, and the incorporation of Diwali as a public-school holiday would serve as an important embodiment of this tolerance and acceptance; and

**Whereas**, The New York City Department of Education has authority over the school calendar and, as a matter of policy, can incorporate Diwali as an observed holiday; now, therefore, be it

**Resolved**, That the Council of the City of New York and Community Education Council District 26 calls upon the New York City Department of Education to establish Diwali as an official holiday for New York City public school students.

***This Resolution was approved at November 12, 2020 Calendar Meeting by a unanimous***

***vote of members present including Adriana Aviles, Dilip Nath, John Gavros, Alan Ong, Cassandra Louie, Todd Friedman, David Wong, Norman Cohn and Karen Rose Scutt***

**Addendum C:**



## **Community District Education Council 26**

**New York City Department of Education**

### **APPROVED RESOLUTION AGAINST REVISED BLENDED LEARNING OPT-IN PERIOD**

**NOVEMBER 12, 2020**

The Community Education Council District 26 (CEC 26) 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 26'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 percent remote learning or default into a blended learning plan; and

**WHEREAS**, parents were informed in July and 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 percent remote learning; and

**WHEREAS**, many families made major financial decisions about childcare, work commitments, and living arrangements in August/September with the understanding that they could make alternate plans in November 2020, January 2021, or March 2021 as they assessed the pandemic's impact in New York City and shift those arrangements, many of which are detrimental to the overall well-being of our students, should they feel at that point that a return to blended learning were safe and feasible for their families; and

**WHEREAS**, neither the blended learning model nor the all-remote learning model allows parents and guardians to work full-time, creating an impossible situation for many families;

**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 shows distrust with all families and school partners; and

**WHEREAS**, flu season in the Northeast typically begins in December and lasts through April; 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**, despite warnings from New York State and the CDC it is expected that many New Yorkers, including students participating in both 100 percent remote and blended learning, will travel out of state for the Thanksgiving holiday, November 25–November 29 and gather indoors for lengthy periods of time with non-household members whether for meals and/or holiday shopping; and

**WHEREAS**, students who have been fully remote who opt back in to blended learning will begin in-person learning sometime between November 30 and December 7, a period which is less than 14 days from the Thanksgiving holiday; and

**WHEREAS**, 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**, parents will still be able to opt their children into fully remote learning at any time during the year, which could lead to the same reprogramming challenges the DOE is seeking to avoid with the change to the blended learning opt in policy; and

**WHEREAS**, far too many students continue to struggle with the remote portion of their schooling whether in a blender or fully remote cohort due to the absence of a working device or connectivity, mass non-compliance with IEPs, or their school's challenges in delivering at-home lessons with limited staffing capabilities;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Community Education Council District 26 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.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, we call upon Mayor De Blasio and Chancellor Carranza to return to the original commitment made to our families.

**THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, we call upon New York City Council, New York State Legislators and Governor Cuomo to support our families in pursuit of reinstating the original commitment made to our families.

***This Resolution was approved at November 12, 2020 Calendar Meeting by a unanimous***

***vote of members present including Adriana Aviles, Dilip Nath, John Gavros, Alan Ong, Cassandra Louie, Todd Friedman, David Wong, Norman Cohn and Karen Rose Scutt***