



Community District Education Council 26

New York City Department of Education

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September 8, 2022

Matthew Broggin
Senior Director of Middle and High School Enrollment
Office of Student Enrollment

RE: Middle School Screened Programs

Dear Mr. Broggin,

Thank you again for attending the CEC 26 meeting last month to listen to feedback from our community on the high school admissions criteria for screened programs. We made it clear that the recently implemented system of converting grades into points and assigning random numbers for high school admissions is inherently unfair and unacceptable. We hope that the Office of Student Enrollment will consider the proposal we outlined in the resolution we passed last month.

On the subject of middle school screened programs, the District 26 community shares identical opposition to establishing uniform admissions criteria that applies to all school districts and includes the use of a random selection method. CEC 26 passed a resolution on December 16, 2021, urging for the reinstatement of rigorous academic screened programs in District 26 middle schools that flourished prior to their suspension during the COVID-19 pandemic. Furthermore, on April 13, 2022, CEC 26 passed a resolution urging the Chancellor to give district superintendents the latitude to determine admissions criteria (auditions, grades, state exams, etc.) and selection methods, such as ranked composite scores, appropriate for each of its screened middle school programs.

As your office crafts the admissions policy for middle school screened programs for the 2023-24 school year and beyond, please consider our request to reinstate rigorous screened programs using unique and appropriate admissions criteria to be determined by the district superintendent.

Sincerely,

Community Education Council District 26

CEC26 voted to approve the statement at September 9, 2022 CEC26 meeting unanimously.

Enclosures:

1. Resolution to Reinstate Academic Screening for District 26 Middle School Programs
2. Resolution to Permit School Districts to Establish Admissions Criteria for Screened Middle School Programs