



COMMUNITY DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL 30

28-11 Queens Plaza North, Room 520

Long Island City, NY 11101

Tel: 718-391-8380

Fax: 718-391-8500

Email: CEC30@schools.nyc.gov

Resolution #120

Regarding the Reimbursement of City-Wide and Community District Education Council Members for All Actual and Necessary Expenses

Whereas, New York State Educational Law 2590-b establishes a city-wide council on special education, a city-wide council on English language learners, and city-wide council on high schools; and

Whereas, New York State Educational Law 2590-b 7.(a) states: *Members of the city-wide councils established pursuant to this section shall not be paid a salary or a stipend, but shall be reimbursed for all actual and necessary expenses directly related to the duties and responsibilities of the city-wide council on which they serve;* and

Whereas, the New York State Educational Law 2590-c states that each community district shall be governed by a community district education council; and

Whereas, Chancellor's Regulation A-660 establishes the City-wide Council for District 75 (on page 1 under ABSTRACT), with all the same privileges and parameters as the city-wide and community councils established by New York State Law.; and

Whereas, New York State Educational Law 2590-c 1.(c) states: *Members [of Community District Education Councils] shall not be paid a salary or a stipend, but shall be reimbursed for all actual and necessary expenses directly related to the duties and responsibilities of community council;* and

Whereas, the New York City Department of Education's [DOE] Standard Operating Procedures [SOP] manual for OTPS [Other Than Personal Service] Purchases, revised March 2011, imposes a monetary finite value and monthly limit to reimbursements of city-wide and community council members, on page 69 where it states "*The NYC Department of Education has authorized reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses up to and including \$125 per calendar month for Community/Citywide Education Council (CEC) members and \$200 per month for chairpersons/presidents*", amiss to New York State Educational Laws 2590-c 1.(c) and 2590-b 7.(a); and

Whereas, the monetary amount the DOE has put in to practice towards reimbursements of council members has not has not changed in twelve years even though the American Institute of Economic Research documents that the cost of living is up 26%; and

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Indeed it is the only thing that ever has. ~Margaret Mead*

Whereas, the average cost parking, transportation and other incidentals associated with the list of agreeable expenses allowed to be reimbursed listed on page 70 of the SOP, OTPS Purchases manual (revised March 2011), in the last twelve years has gone up in cost; and

Whereas, a city-wide or community council member can attend meetings 12 months a year, including but not limited to: mandatory calendar and business meetings, committee meetings, visit to liaison schools, mandatory utilization hearings, mandatory trainings, elective trainings, special functions,

school pride events, School Leadership Team meetings, [SLT], PTA meetings, President Council meetings, District Leadership Team meetings, City-wide Council meetings, Panel for Educational Policy meetings, Public Advocate meetings, Borough President meetings, Parent workshops, Mayor de Blasio Town Hall and School press event meetings, protest and press conferences on the steps of Tweed and City Hall, Charter School Hearing meetings and Education Council Consortium meetings (to name a few); and

Whereas, attendance to all of the listed meetings is for the good of the city-wide and community council members and their respective communities and constituents for education, advocacy and advisement; and

Whereas, activities and involvement of city-wide and community council members must not be limited and restricted due to the DOE not reimbursing *all actual* and necessary expenses directly related to the duties and responsibilities of community council as per Educational Laws 2590-c 1.(c) and 2590-b 7.(a).

Therefore be it resolved, that city-wide and community councils demand that the DOE implement New York State Educational Laws 2590-c 1.(c) and 2590-b 7.(a) as written and intended: *all actual and necessary expenses* be reimbursed to city-wide and community district education council members.

VOTED AND UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED: April 11, 2016

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