



COMMUNITY DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL 30

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RESOLUTION #140

IN SUPPORT OF A FAIR GRADING SYSTEM FOR ALL STUDENTS DURING THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

WHEREAS, the Covid-19 pandemic and resulting NYC School closure created incredible disruption to the lives and education of all NYC school children; and

WHEREAS, NYC school teachers and school leaders have done an outstanding job of creating, implementing and overseeing remote learning environments for children across classes, schools, and districts with almost no notice and with conflicting instructions during the initial weeks; and

WHEREAS, existing inequities in our school system such as food insecurity, housing instability, access to therapeutic services, reliability of mandated IEP services, dependence on translated materials, the under-acknowledged importance of having an adult in the home who can provide reliable school help, and others have increased during school closure; and

WHEREAS, grades serve an important function for students, parents and teachers to understand if a student is learning, reveal the students' strengths and weaknesses and determine whether or not interventions are warranted or modifications to their instruction are necessary; and

WHEREAS, grades can be a motivating factor for some students and a source of anxiety for others; and

WHEREAS, introducing new grading schemes during a time of greatly increased uncertainty presents enormous challenges and stressors to families, particularly those that face already existing access barriers of language and technology; and

WHEREAS, all children attended school for 118 days (or 2/3 of the school year) before remote learning began.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The Community District Education Council for District 30, urges the DOE to adopt a "No Harm" grading policy, maintaining the existing grading system, which will allow for grades to increase, but not decrease, during the remote learning period.

VOTED AND APPROVED: