



**COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 30**

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**Resolution 179**

**REQUESTING NO REMOTE INSTRUCTION WHEN SCHOOLS CLOSE FOR A TEMPORARY EMERGENCY**

**WHEREAS**, in 2022, New York City Public Schools' (NYCPS) Chancellor David Banks stated<sup>[i]</sup> that students and teachers have the day off when schools close due to a temporary emergency.

**WHEREAS**, many students, particularly those in temporary housing, do not have access to a device or stable internet connectivity. Additionally, families with multiple children often only have access to one internet-connected device.

**WHEREAS**, households with younger children require an adult to assist them during remote school, presenting a particular hardship to working parents.

**WHEREAS**, as was demonstrated during the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, many older children did not attend remote classes<sup>[ii]</sup> and/or were needed to assist younger siblings.

**WHEREAS**, on February 13, 2024, thousands of NYCPS teachers and students across the city were unable to log in and dealt with delayed starts to their mandatory remote learning day.<sup>[iii]</sup>

**WHEREAS**, prior to the mandatory remote learning day, NYCPS did not conduct a load test ahead of time, which did not permit IBM to ensure the necessary system capacity was provided for the user log-in authenticator, leading to the cascading network failures for NYCPS' remote learning systems.<sup>[iv]</sup>

**WHEREAS**, NYCPS has not updated its contract with IBM, nor would it commit to stress-testing the system going forward. Instead, NYCPS leadership currently proposes staggered start days, which would make it difficult for parents and caregivers to maintain a schedule for their students, especially those with multiple children, preventing a fully synchronous day as initially proposed for mandatory remote learning days.<sup>[v]</sup>

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the District 30 Community Education urges the NYC Public School System to not make snow days a mandatory remote learning day.

**THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the District 30 Community Education urges the NYC Public School System if mandatory remote learning days continue, to not penalize children with absences if they are unable to connect to any mandatory remote learning day.

**VOTED AND APPROVED: March 11, 2024**

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[i] <http://www.washingtonpost.com/nation/2022/09/07/new-york-snow-days-canceled/>

[ii] <https://nypost.com/2020/04/17/23-of-nyc-high-schoolers-arent-engaging-in-remote-learning/>

[iii] <https://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local/nyc-schools-snow-day-remote-what-went-wrong/5201835/>

[iv] <https://www.nydailynews.com/2024/03/06/ibm-pushes-back-against-adams-admin-blame-for-remote-snow-day-tech-failures/>

[v] Ibid