



COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 30

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RESOLUTION # 206

Resolution Opposing the Continuation of Harmful Shelter Transfers for Families of New York City Public School Students

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WHEREAS, on February 6, 2026, 25 families residing in the CityView Inn on Greenpoint Ave were notified that the family shelter would be converted to a shelter for single men, and they would have to vacate on or before February 13, 2026¹; and

WHEREAS, these 25 families were displaced and their 37 school-age children who attended nearby P.S. 199Q had their education disrupted; and

WHEREAS, these students and many students residing in shelters have already experienced significant disruptions to their education, compounded by the trauma experienced as a result of displacement, migration, and ongoing instability;

WHEREAS, this harmful decision to displace these students and their families by converting the CityView Inn to a shelter for single men was made by DSS under the leadership of former Commissioner Molly Wasow Park under a “Code Blue” and to “to expand low-barrier bed capacity for single New Yorkers experiencing homelessness — reconfiguring and optimizing existing shelter space to meet the moment;”² and

WHEREAS, despite an unnamed Department of Social Services’ (DSS) spokesperson stating “every effort will be made to place families within the borough of their youngest school-aged child’s school,”³ transportation, including yellow school bus services, might not assist with keeping these children in their current school; and

WHEREAS, school bus delays have been endemic over the last several years, ⁴causing additional hardship on students who seek to continue to attend their school of origin after being moved to a new shelter; and

WHEREAS, schools need additional resources and personnel, including bilingual staff, nurses, and social workers, to address the needs of students in temporary housing; and

WHEREAS, despite the media coverage, community organizing led by Councilmember Julie Won, and the passage of Resolution 202 by CEC 30 and Resolution 193 by CEC 24 titled “In Support of the PS 199Q Community Opposing Harmful Shelter Transfers for Families of New York City Public School Students” the families residing in the CityView Inn were transferred out and reported to be moved to other shelters within the

¹ <https://www.yahoo.com/news/articles/dehumanizing-migrant-kids-forced-change-035356431.html>

² <https://qns.com/2026/02/families-relocated-cec-24-emergency-meeting/>

³ <https://citylimits.org/2023/10/30/comptroller-calls-for-school-funding-changes-to-accommodate-asylum-seeker-enrollments/>

⁴ <https://www.chalkbeat.org/newyork/2022/11/21/23472253/nyc-school-bus-delay/>

borough of Queens; and

WHEREAS, on March 30, 2026, Councilmember Julie Won announced that “DSS has announced they will remove 80 families with children from a shelter in Long Island City, uprooting them from the homes, schools, and communities they have relied on for months, destabilizing their lives and education. DSS has not communicated where these children will be placed, whether nearby or miles away, and busing them to school is not a substitute for stability. These families have built their lives in this neighborhood and deserve stability. Despite strong opposition earlier this year, DSS continues to displace families without accountability.”⁵

WHEREAS, due to this announcement, it appears that the newly appointed Department of Social Services (DSS) Commissioner Erin Dalton is continuing the harmful practices of the prior administration by removing families from Family Shelters by converting these spaces to serve single men at the expense of families and school children, instead of committing to a fair, citywide distribution of shelters to address capacity concerns in the city shelter system; and

WHEREAS, Councilmember Julie Won has stated that “The City must halt these transfers and commit to a fair, citywide distribution of shelters to address capacity concerns in the city shelter system” and “Providing housing to unhoused men should not come at the cost of evicting children and families—open new homeless shelters to account for the single men in other neighborhoods who do not have shelters.”;⁶ and

WHEREAS, it appears that there has not been substantive outreach to the affected school communities to ensure that these students and their families will be adequately supported if the announced transfer to other shelters occurs; and

WHEREAS, CEC 30 has passed other resolutions to address the needs of students residing in shelters, like Resolution 197 - Resolution Urging the New York State Legislature to Pass S.8139/A.9048 to Help Address the Needs of Students Experiencing Homelessness, in Foster Care, or in Temporary Housing on December 8, 2026; and

WHEREAS, there are fewer than 60 school days remaining in the 2025-2026 school year, and relocating these students to other areas that would require the Office of Pupil Transportation to establish a new bus route or within the Borough of Queens that could potentially be transit “deserts” which would disrupt the stability provided within these children's school communities⁷;

SO THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that CEC 30 urges Chancellor Kamar H. Samuels and the Panel for Educational Policy to request that Mayor Zohran K. Mamdani revise and improve the processes surrounding shelters for the migrant community, including rules in respect of families with children enrolled in New York City Public Schools; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that CEC 30 urges DSS Commissioner Erin Dalton to immediately discontinue existing policies that allow the inhumane displacement policies for family shelters, the migrant community, and including migrant families with children attending NYC Public Schools; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that CEC 30 urges the DSS Commissioner Erin Dalton to find suitable and alternative housing for the single adults and discontinue the transfer of the 80 families currently living in the Royal Stay Hotel to allow students to continue their education at surrounding District 30 Public Schools which include PS 112, PS 76, CS 111, IS 204, and IS 235; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that CEC 30 urges the DSS Commissioner Erin Dalton to work with Chancellor Kamar H. Samuels to establish procedures and provide interagency staff to ensure Community School District Superintendents, School Principals, and Community Education Councils are notified within 30 days of any recommended relocations for NYCPS residing in shelters to ensure a proactive approach can be pursued to ensure that any affected children's education will not be disrupted and derailed; and

⁵ <https://www.instagram.com/p/DWh7DZ8Fmst/>

⁶ *ibid*

⁷ <https://queensledger.com/2025/07/24/queens-rallies-for-rails-over-trails-in-transit-starved-borough/>

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that CEC 30 is in support of the families residing at the Royal Stay Hotel and asks all elected officials representing Community School District 30 in the City Council to advocate for the revision and improvement of processes surrounding shelters for the migrant community, including the policies that led to the proposal of this disruptive transfer of the 80 families currently residing at the Royal Stay Hotel; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that CEC 30 is in support of the families residing at the Royal Stay Hotel and reminds NYCPS that adequate accommodations must be provided for homeless students in the US to ensure continuous access to education while residing in shelter and/or temporary housing is supported by federal legislation in the McKinney Vento Act⁸; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that CEC 30 is in support of the families residing at the Royal Stay Hotel and asks all elected officials representing Community School District 30 in the City Council, the New York Assembly, and the New York Senate to advocate for additional locations to be used as Emergency Shelter for families as the distribution of Family HPDs do not allow for many to remain within their communities, the location of alternative housing for the single adults and discontinue the announced plans to transfer of the 80 families currently living in the Royal Stay Hotel to allow any affected students to continue their education in their schools without any disruptions to their attendance in any District 30 schools.

Adopted this 1st day of April, 2026, by CEC 30.

Rollcall:

Linda Chung-Leung: IN FAVOR
Xochitl Cohen-Garcia: ABSENT
Alexis Kaloyanides: IN FAVOR
Danielle Lopresti-Lee: IN FAVOR
Victoria Medelius: IN FAVOR
Estela Nguema: IN FAVOR
Marlene Rossi: IN FAVOR
Nadeea Saeed: ABSENT
Laura Simpson: IN FAVOR
Kayla Spence: IN FAVOR
Whitney Toussaint: IN FAVOR

⁸ <https://nche.ed.gov/mckinney-vento-definition/>