



COMMUNITY DISTRICT EDUCATION COUNCIL 30

28-11 Queens Plaza North, Room 512

Long Island City, NY 11101

Tel: 718-391-8380

Fax: 718-391-8500

Email: cec30@schools.nyc.gov

RESOLUTION # 148 OPPOSING THE REVISED BLENDED LEARNING OPT-IN PERIOD

WHEREAS, when the Department of Education (“DOE”) released its plans for the 2020-2021 school year, parents were given the option to select fully-remote learning or default into a blended learning plan; and

WHEREAS, parents were informed in July and August 2020 that they would have opportunities at the close of each marking period (roughly in November 2020, January 2021, and March 2021) to opt into blended learning if they had previously selected fully-remote learning; and

WHEREAS, many families made major financial decisions about childcare, work commitments, and living arrangements in August/September based on the promise of future opt-in periods later in the school year, particularly after assessing the Covid-19 pandemic’s impact on New York City and its public schools; and

WHEREAS, neither the blended nor fully-remote learning model allows parents and guardians to work full-time, creating an untenable situation for many families; and

WHEREAS, on October 26, 2020, the Chancellor and Mayor announced that there would only be one opt-in period to return to blended learning (November 2-15, 2020); and

WHEREAS, before the first opt-in period in August, the Chancellor promised that every student would have daily, live instruction, whether in-person, blended, or fully-remote but (after the opt-in period closed) walked that promise back when it came to light that there was not enough staff to do so; and

WHEREAS, changing the aforementioned opt-in schedule is yet another example of the Mayor and Chancellor providing inconsistent information regarding reopening and blended learning as well as the City’s exclusion of school community stakeholders when making such decisions, betraying the City’s distrust and disrespect of families and school partners; and

WHEREAS, the timing of flu season (typically December through April) falls concurrent with rising numbers of Covid-19 cases nationwide, including in neighboring states, and the assessment of health experts that the virus will spread widely throughout the winter months when people spend more time indoors; and

WHEREAS, most families find that remote learning (whether full or blended) is deeply lacking in both amount and quality of live, synchronous instruction and far too many students continue to struggle with the format due to an absence of a working device or connectivity, mass non-compliance with IEPs, or their school’s continuing challenges in delivering at-home lessons with limited staffing capabilities.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, The Community District Education Council for District 30 calls upon the Mayor and Chancellor to honor their word and reinstate the previously promised quarterly windows for enrollment in blended learning.

VOTED AND APPROVED: December 8, 2020.