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COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 2, MANHATTAN

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March 26, 2018

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor of New York State
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Carmen Fariña, Chancellor
Tweed Courthouse
52 Chambers Street
New York, NY 10007

Richard Carranza, Chancellor
Tweed Courthouse
52 Chambers Street
New York, NY 10007

Corey Johnson, Council Member
224 West 30th Street, Suite 1206
New York, NY 10001

Mark Treyger, Council Member
Chair, Committee of Education
445 Neptune Avenue, Community Room 2C
Brooklyn, NY 11224

Dear Governor Cuomo, Chancellor Fariña and Chancellor Carranza, Council member Johnson and Council member Treyger:

At its Full Board meeting March 22, 2018, Community Board #2, adopted the following resolution:

**Resolution In Support of Improved Funding for Public Schools and
In Support of Public Access to Department of Education and Charter School Data Regarding PTA/PAs
and Nonprofit Boards for Public District and Charter Schools**

Whereas:

1. Community Board 2 discussed and considered the proposed New York City Council legislation Int. No. 561 requiring reporting of information regarding parent teacher associations (PTAs) and parent associations (PAs) for public schools;
2. The Schools and Education Committee of Community Board 2, heard from parents from neighborhood schools who were concerned that this proposed law may have foreseen and unforeseen negative consequences on the PTA/PA fundraising efforts of their schools, which could adversely affect their ability to fundraise and to support their schools' programming needs;
3. The need for fundraising arises because New York City public schools remain woefully underfunded:
 - a. New York State has not funded the phase-in of the Foundation Aid Formula, the 2007 law responding to the landmark case, Campaign for Fiscal Equity v. State; and,
 - b. New York City does not currently fund, nor has it ever funded 100% of Fair Student Funding for the three elementary schools in Community Board 2 – PS 3 receives 87.00%, PS 41 receives

88.31% and PS 130 receives 87.02% (as a new school, MS 297 receives 100%);

4. While well intended, Int. No. 561 might not only burden PTA/PAs with more work but may also further undercut the full funding of our public schools;
5. The Chancellor's Regulation A-660 governs all aspects of PTA/PAs including fundraising activities and already requires substantial financial record keeping, but the Department of Education (DOE) does not publish this information currently;
6. The DOE already collects and reports, in aggregate, demographic information regarding each school's "race and ethnicity and English language learner status;"
7. Int. No. 561 would require additional reporting from PTA/PAs that does not reflect the way PTA/PAs actually function, such as the "registration lists" of parents and teachers; and,
8. Int. No. 561 fails to seek comparative information from charter schools regarding their fundraising efforts, including the total funds raised by their PTA/PAs and nonprofit boards.

Therefore be it resolved that Community Board 2 does not support Int. No. 561 as currently drafted;

Be it further resolved that CB 2 supports disclosure of public school fundraising activities, *only if* it:

1. Requires the DOE to provide public access to data it already collects from PTA/PAs in compliance with the Chancellor's Regulation A-660; and
2. Also requires Charter schools to report total funds raised by their PTA/PAs and nonprofit boards; and,

Be it further resolved that CB 2 urges our Governor to fully fund the phase-in of the Foundation Aid Formula and our Mayor and City Councilmembers to allocate greater funds to our public schools.

VOTE: Unanimous, with 34 Board Members in favor.

Please advise us of any decision or action taken in response to this resolution.

Sincerely,



Terri Cude, Chair
Community Board #2, Manhattan

TC/EM



Jeannine Kiely, Chair
Schools and Education Committee
Community Board #2, Manhattan

c: Hon. Jerrold L. Nadler, Congressman
Hon. Carolyn Maloney, Congresswoman
Hon. Nydia Velázquez, Congresswoman
Hon. Brad Hoylman, NY State Senator
Hon. Brian Kavanagh, NY State Senator
Hon. Yuh-line Niou, Assembly Member
Hon. Deborah J. Glick, Assembly Member
Hon. Gale Brewer, Man. Borough President
Hon. Margaret Chin, Council Member
Hon. Carlina Rivera, Council Member
Hon. Scott Stringer, Comptroller
Hon. Letitia James, Public Advocate
Bonnie Laboy, Superintendent, District 2, NYC DOE
Jennifer Greenblatt, District 2 Family Advocate
Matthew Chook, District 2 Presidents' Council
Robin Broshi, Prsident, Community Education Council District 2