

Terri Cude, *Chair*
Susan Kent, *First Vice Chair*
Daniel Miller, *Second Vice Chair*
Bob Gormley, *District Manager*



Antony Wong, *Treasurer*
Keen Berger, *Secretary*
Erik Coler, *Assistant Secretary*

COMMUNITY BOARD No. 2, MANHATTAN

3 WASHINGTON SQUARE VILLAGE
NEW YORK, NY 10012-1899

www.cb2manhattan.org

P: 212-979-2272 F: 212-254-5102 E: info@cb2manhattan.org

Greenwich Village ∨ Little Italy ∨ SoHo ∨ NoHo ∨ Hudson Square ∨ Chinatown ∨ Gansevoort Market

May 30, 2018

Hon. Bill de Blasio
Mayor
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Bill Chong
Commissioner
NYC Department of Youth and Community Development
2 Lafayette Street, 19th Floor

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

Corey Johnson, Speaker of the NYC Council
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 Mayor de Blasio, Commissioner Chong and Chancellor Carranza, Speaker Johnson and Council Member Treyger:

At its Full Board meeting May 24, 2018, Community Board #2, adopted the following resolution:

**Resolution in Support of Additional Funding For
On-Site After School Programs at MS 297 75 Morton --
A New School with a Four-Year Enrollment Phase-In**

Whereas:

1. **As a new middle school, MS 297 will need additional funding for on-site after school programs for each of the next three years to accommodate its growing middle school enrollment, including funding for an additional 150 after school seats for the 2018-2019 school year;**
 - a. For the 2017 – 2018 school year, MS 297 received funding for 100 SONYC seats to accommodate the initial 6th grade class of 192 students, a ratio of 52% seats to students;
 - b. For the 2018-2019 school year, MS 297 is expected to enroll approximately 500 6th and 7th grade students, but DYCD has only funded 100 SONYC seats, a ratio of only 20% seats to students, requiring additional funding of 150 seats to bring the total to 250, a ratio of 50% seats to students; and,

- c. MS 297 is expected to enroll approximately 800 6th, 7th and 8th grade students for the 2019-2020 school year and up to 900 students for the 2020-2021 school year, requiring additional DYCD funding of after school seats for the next two years to accommodate the growing student population.
2. In Fall 2014, New York City greatly expanding free after school programs for middle school students:
 - a. The Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD) funds *School's Out New York City* (SONYC) that offers programs for students in 6th, 7th and 8th grades at public school sites from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., five days per week for 36 weeks during the school year; and,
 - b. SONYC programs are structured like clubs offering young people a choice in how they spend their time; provide rigorous instruction in sports and arts, and require youth leadership through service;
3. SONYC programs have received strong reviews, help working families and provide the support that middle school students needs:
 - a. In an April 2016 [evaluation of SONYC programs](#), “ninety-eight percent of parents surveyed reported their sons and daughters like coming to the program, and nearly all of the families said they would recommend SONYC to other families;”
 - b. SONYC programs provide middle school students with the support of caring adults and offer engaging, fun activities designed to encourage participants to pursue their passions and help them through the challenging years of early adolescence, a period of extraordinary change and a demanding time for both students and their families;
 - c. As students transition from elementary school to high school, after school programs targeted to middle school students help students develop new skills and interests, prepare for high school, encourage greater experimentation in academics, arts and athletics and provide students with safe environments and absorbing activities to occupy them after school, particularly important for working parents; and,
 - d. High quality after school programs bring a wide range of benefits for middle school students including improved academic performance, improved classroom behavior, reduced drug use, and positive health outcomes, particularly when programs encourage physical activity and good dietary habits, and reduces the achievement gap among diverse communities;
4. In District 2, Manhattan Youth is the largest provider of SONYC programs, serving as the sole onsite provider at 16 District 2 middle schools; other District 2 providers include Educational Alliance, Immigrant Social Services and University Settlement;
5. In District 2, 100% of the choice middle schools and 100% of the unzone middle schools south of 23rd street offer their students free on-site after school programs including:
 - a. District 2 schools serving grades 6-8 at Simon Baruch Middle School, City Knoll Middle School, East Side Middle School, Hudson River Middle School, Lab School, Lower Manhattan Community Middle School, Manhattan Academy of Technology, Salk School of Science and Yorkville East Middle School;
 - b. District 2 schools serving grades 6-12 at Clinton School for Writers & Artists, Institute for Collaborative Education Professional Performing Arts School, Quest to Learn and School of the Future; and,
 - c. District 2 schools serving grades K-8 at Battery Park City School, Ella Baker School and Spruce Street Middle School;
6. MS 297 will enroll students who live in the MS 297 zone as well as students throughout District 2 and will compete for students with the 23 other District 2 middle schools;

7. To be on equitable footing with the other District 2 middles schools, particularly for working families that rely on free after school programs, MS 297 will need DYCD funding to provide free after school programs for its students;

Therefore be it resolved that Community Board 2, Manhattan (CB 2) urges the Mayor and our City Council to allocate funding in the FY 2019 budget for an additional 150 SONYC seats at MS 297;

Be it further resolved that CB 2 urges the Mayor, our City Council and the Department of Youth and Community Development to plan for the future funding of additional SONYC seats for MS 297 in FY 2020 and FY 2021, as enrollment expands up to 900 students; and,

Be it further resolved that CB 2 urges the Mayor, our City Council and the Department of Education to recognize and fund the needs of new schools during their entire enrollment phase-in.

VOTE: Unanimous, with 41 Board Members in favor.

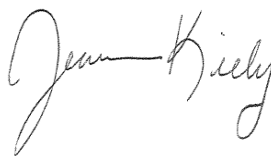
Please advise us of any decision or action taken in response to this resolution.

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. Yuh-line Niou, Assembly Member
 - Hon. Deborah J. Glick, Assembly Member
 - Hon. Brad Hoylman, NY State Senator
 - Hon. Brian Kavanagh, NY State Senator
 - Hon. Scott M. Stringer, NYC Comptroller
 - Hon. Letitia James, Public Advocate
 - Hon. Gale Brewer, Man. Borough President
 - Hon. Margaret Chin, Council Member
 - Hon. Carlina Rivera, Council Member
 - Lorraine Grillo, President and CEO, School Construction Authority
 - Bonnie Laboy, Superintendent, District 2, NYC DOE
 - Jennifer Greenblatt, District 2 Family Advocate
 - Robin Broshi, Prsident, Community Education Council District 2
 - Jackqui Getz, Principal, MS 297