

Antony Wong, Treasurer
Susan Kent, Secretary
Keen Berger, 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

April 24, 2012

Shino Tanikawa, President Community Education Council, District 2 333 Seventh Avenue New York, NY 10001 Dennis M. Walcott, Chancellor Tweed Courthouse 52 Chambers Street New York, NY 10007

Dear Mr. Tanikawa and Chancellor Walcott:

At its Full Board meeting April 19, 2012, Community Board #2, adopted the following resolution:

## A resolution from CB2 in support of a resolution from Community Education Council,

<u>District 2: Moratorium on Charter Applications in District 2 with modifications to address concerns of CB2</u>

WHEREAS, charter schools were originally intended as pedagogical laboratories for innovation in teaching to better meet the needs of all our students, but particularly those at-risk, and to improve District schools by collaborating with District schools and sharing best practices with District schools;

WHEREAS, many charter schools in the City today are not pedagogical laboratories for educational innovation, do not serve students at-risk, and neither collaborate nor share best practices with District schools;

WHEREAS, some charter schools have discharged struggling students to improve school-wide test scores;

WHEREAS, many charter schools compete against District schools for per-student funding and school facilities and have created tension in the very community they serve and have even pitted parents against parents;

**WHEREAS**, resources available to students in CB2 should be used to address the educational needs in CB2, rather than to create more school choice for students not at risk;

**WHEREAS**, families in CB2 have good options for their children's education through their zoned or district wide option schools or Gifted & Talented programs for elementary school and through the middle school choice program;

WHEREAS, it is not clear if families in CB2 desire more options in the form of charter schools;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that CB2 urges the SUNY Charter Institute and the NY State Education Department to institute a moratorium on charter school applications in CB2 unless proposed charter schools directly serve at risk students or until educational and community needs for charter schools are assessed and articulated by families, educators, advocates and students in CB2;

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that CB2 needs more seats in our existing, excellent public schools, not new types of schools and therefore this be the focus of our efforts

**Vote:** Unanimous, with 37 Board members in favor.

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

Sincerely,

Brad Hoylman, Chair

Community Board #2, Manhattan

Bud Hoylman.

Lois Rakoff, Chair

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Social Services and Education Community Board #2, Manhattan

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#### BH/gh

c: Hon. Jerrold L. Nadler, Congressman

Hon. Thomas K. Duane, NY State Senator

Hon. Daniel L. Squadron, NY State Senator

Hon. Sheldon Silver, Assembly Speaker

Hon. Deborah J. Glick, Assembly Member

Hon. Christine C. Quinn, Council Speaker

Hon. Margaret Chin, Council Member

Hon. Rosie Mendez, Council Member

Jessica Silver, Manhattan Borough President's office



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April 23, 2012

Hon. Michael Bloomberg Mayor of the City of New York City Hall New York, New York 10007

Dear Mayor Bloomberg:

At its Full Board meeting April 19, 2012, Community Board #2, adopted the following resolution:

# A resolution from CB2 opposing cuts in funding for child care and after-school programs

WHEREAS, the Mayor's FY13 Preliminary Budget puts 47,000 children at risk of losing their child care and after-school program; and,

WHEREAS, this is the 5th straight year of cuts to both child care and after-school, and the newest cuts in the FY 13 Preliminary Budget, combined with the current Early Learn NYC and Out-of-School Time RFP's, would mean that more than 90,000 children will have been left without care since the cuts were initiated in 2009; and,

WHEREAS, both child care and after-school programs provide children with critical educational opportunities that pave the way for future success, and kids who attend these programs do better in school, are more likely to graduate, and have lower incidences of violence, drug-use and teen pregnancy;

WHEREAS, child care and after-school programs allow working parents to keep their jobs, and without access to these programs, working parents will be forced to make potentially unsafe arrangements for their children in order to keep their jobs; and,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Manhattan Community Board 2 endorses the Campaign for Children, a partnership of The Emergency Coalition to Save Child Care and the NYC Youth Alliance;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Manhattan Community Board 2 call on Mayor Bloomberg to take the steps necessary to support the child care and after-school systems in his Executive Budget by restoring \$104 million to the Administration for Children's Services for child care and \$66 million to the Department of Youth and Community Development for after-school programs.

**Vote:** Unanimous, with 37 Board members in favor.

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

Sincerely,

Brad Hoylman, Chair

Community Board #2, Manhattan

Bud Hoylman

Lois Rakoff, Chair

Social Services and Education

Community Board #2, Manhattan

BH/gh

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April 24, 2012

Shino Tanikawa, President Community Education Council, District 2 333 Seventh Avenue New York, NY 10001

Dear Mr. Tanikawa:

At its Full Board meeting April 19, 2012, Community Board #2, adopted the following resolution:

A resolution from CB2 in support of a resolution from Community Education Council,

District 2: Creation of a School Capital Fund Tied to Residential Growth (with modifications to address concerns of CB2)

**WHEREAS**, the city's population is growing, projections from the Department of City Planning anticipate a 1.1 million increase by 2030, bringing the city's population total to 9.1 million;

**WHEREAS**, as a result of the population growth, the demand for City services, including fire, police, libraries, and schools has increased;

WHEREAS, the demand for public schools has increased in all districts and especially in CB2.

**WHEREAS**, Parents and the community have requested that more schools be built, and the NYC Department of Education has stated that there are not sufficient funds to build new schools;

**WHEREAS**, since having a good public education is a right and a mandate, and it is beneficial to all of NYC citizens to have properly educated children;

WHEREAS, the City has an obligation to the citizens of NYC to have sufficient school seats for its children, and to match school capacity to our growing population;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Community Education Council District 2 calls upon

the City to think creatively to fund development of more school capacity;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that the CB2 urges the City and the School Construction Authority to re-calculate the demand for school seats based on each school zone and take into consideration residential development and birth rates by neighborhood rather than the Capital Plan sub-districts; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that if the City continues to provide incentives and benefits to developers to build new residential housing, then the CB2 urges the City to require having new residential developments contribute to the construction of more school seats for our children within that neighborhood and sub-district.

**Vote:** Unanimous, with 37 Board members in favor.

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

Sincerely,

Brad Hoylman, Chair

Community Board #2, Manhattan

Bud Hoylman

Lois Rakoff, Chair

Social Services and Education Community Board #2, Manhattan

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April 24, 2012

Dennis M. Walcott, Chancellor Tweed Courthouse 52 Chambers Street New York, NY 10001

Dear Chancellor Walcott:

At its Full Board meeting April 19, 2012, Community Board #2, adopted the following resolution:

# A resolution from CB2 in support of lowering of the compulsory school enrollment age in

New York City from 6 to 5 years of age

**WHEREAS**, Early education is a valuable and necessary foundation for all 5 year old children as they transition to attending school daily; and

WHEREAS, Compulsory education in New York City currently begins at age 6, or first grade; and

**WHEREAS**, Currently, early education is not mandatory for New York City children and is offered only as an option; and

**WHEREAS**, In the absence of education for 5 year olds being compulsory, the DOE is not obliged to provide classes for all 5 year olds who apply, and

**WHEREAS**, According to DOE, 6,000 5-year-olds – or roughly eight percent of eligible children – did NOT attend Kindergarten last year in New York City; and

WHEREAS, The vast majority of these children – many of whom come from disadvantaged and low-income families – are the most in need of early education and enter first grade with no prior school experience, thereby starting their school years at an unnecessary further disadvantage; therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**, Community Board 2 urges the City Council to pass a bill requiring compulsory age for public school enrollment in New York City be lowered from six years of age to five years of age.

**Vote:** Unanimous, with 37 Board members in favor.

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

Sincerely,

Brad Hoylman, Chair

Community Board #2, Manhattan

Bud Hoylman.

Lois Rakoff, Chair

Social Services and Education

Community Board #2, Manhattan

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