



COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 2, MANHATTAN  
3 WASHINGTON SQUARE VILLAGE  
NEW YORK, NY 10012-1899  
[www.cb2manhattan.org](http://www.cb2manhattan.org)

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

June 2, 2009

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

Mr. Joel Klein, Chancellor  
NYC Board of Education  
52 Chambers Street  
New York, NY 10007

Michael Markowitz, Vice Pres.  
Community Education Council, District 2  
333 Seventh Avenue,  
New York, NY 10001

Dear Mayor Bloomberg, Chancellor Klein and Mr. Markowitz:

At its Full Board meeting May 21, 2009 Community Board #2, Manhattan, adopted the following resolution:

**Resolution Regarding Mayoral Control of the New York City School system:**

Whereas Community Board Two has held two public forums regarding Mayoral Control of the New York City Public School system, listening to many voices and

Whereas many proposals were considered, including that of the Parent Commission which was the outcome of debate and discussion from parent leaders from every boro,

Whereas neither the former nor the current system provides the best education for our children,

And whereas the final legislation may take many forms, but whatever the specifics the

following seems essential to correct current problems:

1. An independent budget office established and funded outside the DOE
2. An independent data office so that information regarding test scores, class size, capacity, graduation rates and so on be forthcoming and trustworthy.
3. A parental grievance procedure that is responsive, quick, and free of favoritism
4. Fixed terms and more equitable representation for the citywide Public Education Policy (PEP) group, so no public official can remove them at will. The PEP must embody cooperation and accountability, and must include current parents and teachers. One possibility: a chair and four members appointed by the mayor, and an appointee from the five Boro Presidents, the Comptroller, the Public Advocate, the City Council.
5. Empowerment of CECs on zoning, new schools, closed schools, school report cards, and space for charter schools.

6. Empowerment of the 32 District Superintendents who should be accountable and responsible for effective education within their districts.

**Therefore be it resolved** that Community Board Two urges our elected officials to pass legislation that establishes a partnership between the Mayor, other elected officials, and those directly involved in the schools (teachers and parents), and that the new system include parental input, transparency, administrative effectiveness, checks and balances on the DOE and on the Mayor, accountability at every level, and redress of parental concerns.

Vote: Passed with 30 Board members in favor, and 1 recusal (Amanda Kahn Fried).

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

Sincerely,



Brad Hoylman, Chair  
Community Board #2, Manhattan



Keen Berger, Chair  
Social Services Committee  
Community Board #2, Manhattan

BH/gh

cc: Hon. Jerrold Nadler, Congressman  
Hon. Thomas K. Duane, NYS Senator  
Hon. Deborah Glick, NYS Assembly Member  
Hon. Scott Stringer, Man. Borough President  
Hon. Christine Quinn, Council Speaker  
Hon. Alan J. Gerson, Council Member  
Hon. Rosie Mendez, Council Member  
Angelica Crane, Community Board Liaison, MBPO  
Manhattan Director, Lolita Jackson, CAU

Brad Hoylman, *Chair*  
Jo Hamilton, *First Vice Chair*  
Bo Riccobono, *Second Vice Chair*  
Bob Gormley, *District Manager*



Sheelah Feinberg, *Treasurer*  
Susan Kent, *Secretary*  
Elaine Young, *Assistant Secretary*

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333 Seventh Avenue,  
New York, NY 10001

Dear Mayor Bloomberg, Chancellor Klein and Mr. Markowitz:

At its Full Board meeting May 21, 2009 Community Board #2, Manhattan, adopted the following resolution:

**Resolution regarding reform and strengthening of Community Education Councils**

Whereas New York laws passed in 2003 directed that the Community Education Councils (CEC) of the New York City School Districts provide “meaningful participation for both parents and the community”, and

Whereas the CECs have not been able to fulfill their legal obligation in part because their training, resources, and education are controlled by the Department of Education (DOE) and,

Whereas Senate bill S3912, introduced by Senator Squadron, proposes much needed reform of the CEC process, but still doesn’t go far enough, in that it says the CEC’s are only advisory and

Whereas the powers given by law to the CEC for zoning, opening, and closing of regular and charter schools have been ignored or eviscerated,

Therefore be it resolved that CB2 Manhattan urges that the power to appoint and inform members of the CEC be removed from the DOE and placed with the Borough Presidents and

Be it further resolved that a Uniform Parental Engagement Procedure be instituted whereby the DOE must inform CEC’s and must respond to their recommendations within a fixed time period.

Vote: Passed with 29 Board members in favor, 1 in opposition and 1 recusal (Amanda Kahn Fried).

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

Sincerely,



Brad Hoylman, Chair  
Community Board #2, Manhattan



Keen Berger, Chair  
Social Services Committee  
Community Board #2, Manhattan

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