



## COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 15

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### **Resolution on Remote Learning in School Year 2021-22**

*The Community and Citywide Education Councils (CCECs) are composed of parents who have been elected or appointed to serve as stakeholders of NYC School Community Districts, and specific cohorts of students, representing NYC public school students and their families.*

*Approved on September 8, 2021, the following resolution offers CEC 15's position regarding Remote Learning in the 2021-22 School Year:*

**WHEREAS**, children under 12 years of age are not eligible to be vaccinated, many of whom have older siblings;

**WHEREAS**, the rate of vaccination among 12–17 year-olds is lower than the vaccination rate of those 18 and older, and where 56% of New York City children age 12 to 17 have received at least one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine<sup>1</sup>;

**WHEREAS**, a more contagious variant of SARS-CoV-2, which makes children more susceptible to infection and transmission, [is now the dominant variant in New York City](#);

**WHEREAS**, while immunocompromised students may be eligible for medical accommodations<sup>2</sup> through Home and Hospital Instruction<sup>3</sup>, CEC15 members have unanswered questions about whether students with immunocompromised family members are eligible for the same remote learning medical accommodations;

**WHEREAS**, many New York City school buildings are overcrowded and may not have the space to provide consistent social distancing, which poses a particular risk at lunch when students will not be masked, especially in light of more transmissible variants;

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<sup>1</sup> <https://gothamist.com/news/nycs-school-vaccine-mandate-brings-relief-for-parents-and-legal-threats>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.homeinstructionschools.com/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/learning/special-education/school-settings/district-75>

Home instruction and hospital instruction are educational services provided to children with disabilities who are unable to attend school. They are provided only until a child is able to return to school or is discharged from the hospital. They might be recommended if a child's emotional needs or medical needs prevent him or her from attending school. They might also be provided for a child who is awaiting a placement that has been recommended but is not yet available.

**WHEREAS**, the city has reduced the amount of COVID 19 PCR testing to 10% of opted in students; and

**WHEREAS**, the DOE has not yet committed to providing more substantial masks, such as K95 masks, necessary to protect against the more contagious DELTA variant.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Department of Education continue to expand the list of accommodations, including but not limited to children ages 3 to 11, until vaccines are approved for that age group for high quality remote learning; increase Covid testing over last year; and provide high quality masks such as KN95s.

*This Resolution was approved at a CEC15 Special Session Meeting held on September 8, 2021 by a vote of members present including: Camille Casaretti, Antonia Ferraro, Tia Schellstede, Vincent Lu, Nana-Poku Agyekum, Ivan Banda and Alfred De Ingeniis.*

*The Resolution was voted YES by 6 members with 1 Abstention.*