

August 9, 2017

**RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT  
SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTERS**

The District 15 Community Education Council “CEC 15” held a meeting on Tuesday August 8, 2017. After reviewing all the evidence and facts, CEC 15 passed the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, CEC 15 hereby resolves to support School-Based Health Centers (SBHC) under threat of closure from state budget cuts;

**WHEREAS**, the members of CEC 15 present at this meeting consisted of Camille Casaretti, Scott Powell, Neal Zephyrin, Charles Star, Mark Bisard, Nicole Brier, Antonia Ferraro Martinelli, Kathy Park Price, Yanfeng Zhang, Elena Romero and Elizabeth Velez;

**WHEREAS**, [Governor Cuomo’s State Budget](#) proposal consolidates and reduces public health funding, threatening \$21 million in non-Medicaid funding for SBHCs;

**WHEREAS**, SUNY Downstate received a reduction in funding amounting to approximately two-thirds of its previous SBHC grant award;

**WHEREAS**, [4 SBHCs in District 15](#) were threatened with closure, affecting the following schools: Brooklyn New School, Brooklyn Secondary School for Collaborative Studies, PS 38, School for International Studies, Digital Arts and Cinema Technology High School, and MS 51;

**WHEREAS**, SUNY Downstate recently announced it will fund SBHCs at these 4 locations for one more year;

**WHEREAS**, these 4 SBHCs are seeking other sources of funding to prevent future closure;

**WHEREAS**, these funds are used by centers for core services including primary and preventative health care, mental health services, and health education and promotion.

**WHEREAS**, the DOE has made access to health care the foundation for its [“community school”](#) model to boost performance and attendance at failing and other schools serving the city’s neediest students

**WHEREAS**, SBHCs allow parents to secure healthcare for their child without missing work;

**WHEREAS**, on-site healthcare reduces student absenteeism;

**WHEREAS**, students with chronic conditions such as asthma, diabetes and mental health issues benefit from on-site care.

The District 15 Community Education Council therefore,

**RESOLVES**, to support and promote School-Based Health Centers. As parents, some of our own children have directly benefited from the centers in their schools. Even more have benefited indirectly from healthier peers and less classroom disruptions. CEC 15 thanks SUNY Downstate for its recent announcement that funding for the 4 SBHCs will be reinstated for one year. We offer the 4 SBHCs any and all reasonable assistance in their plight to find a new source of funding. CEC 15 looks forward to the day when we are talking about the expansion of SBHCs to benefit all District 15 students, all Brooklyn students, and all New York City students. There is a rally scheduled for Wednesday August 9, 2017 at 11am at the Brooklyn New School, located at 610 Henry St., in support of SBHCs. CEC 15 encourages its members to attend.

**RESOLUTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**CC:**

**Anita Skop, Superintendent District 15**

**Amy Sumner, Parent Coordinator PS 146**

**Debbie Herdan MS 51 PA**

**Assembly member Robert Carroll**

**Council member Brad Lander**

**Assembly member Jo Anne Simon**