



COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 15

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Resolution to Implement Covid-19 Testing Protocols in Schools Following Holiday Breaks

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 20, 2022, the following resolution offers CEC 15's position regarding Covid-19 testing protocols:

WHEREAS, the New York City Department of Education has posted Fall 2022 COVID-19 Guidance that is meant to provide best practice considerations for schools for the 2022-2023 school year to help prevent the transmission of COVID-19 among students and staff;

WHEREAS, this guidance does not address that positivity rates for the COVID-19 virus have potential to increase after holiday and weekend travel¹;

WHEREAS, the ability of SARS-CoV-2 to spread from individuals who are pre-symptomatic, symptomatic, or essentially asymptomatic means that diagnosis and isolation based on symptoms alone will be unable to prevent ongoing spread²;

WHEREAS, NYC Data source, as of April 1, 2022, shows that 18,298 students in District 15 schools in grades 1 - 12, approximately 68%, have been fully vaccinated³,

WHEREAS, Early Childhood Centers and Elementary Schools remain at a particular risk due to the fact that many children under 5 are unvaccinated;

WHEREAS, there is no mandate for parents to authorize their children to be vaccinated;

WHEREAS, in prior years the DOE was testing 10% of the consenting student population on a weekly basis, and did not include vaccinated individuals as part as the testing pool;

¹ <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2021/us/new-york-covid-cases.html>

² <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7325181/>

³ <https://data.cityofnewyork.us/Education/Student-Covid-Vaccinations-4-1-22-/635b-dk9f>

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Department of Education will provide in-school PCR surveillance testing for COVID-19 to a minimum of 10% of the consenting student population directly following a three day or more break, regardless of the student's vaccination status and across all ages;

BE IT RESOLVED, that school staff also be tested for COVID-19 directly following a holiday break;

BE IT RESOLVED, that prior to these holiday breaks the Department of Education will provide at home testing kits for students, families, teachers and staff;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Department of Education will provide to families education opportunities and learning experiences on the safety of vaccinations.

This Resolution was approved at a CECI5 Calendar Meeting held on September 20, 2022 by a vote of members present including: Camille Casaretti, Nancy Randall, Vanessa Ueoka Gonzalez, Nakia Muhasa Brown, Antonia Ferraro, Joe Alexander, Nana-Poku Agyekum, Ivan Banda, Alfred DeIngeniis and Tia Schellstede.

*The Resolution was voted YES by 10 members with 1 Abstention.
Abstention: Vincent Lu*