



## COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 15

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### **Resolution on District 15 Statement of Needs on School Budgets 2022-23**

*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 August 23, 2022, the following resolution offers CEC 15's position regarding School Year 2022-23 Budget Cuts:*

1. **WHEREAS**, in the Winter of 2020, the pandemic caused by COVID-19 set off the devastation of communities throughout New York City causing upwards of 40,000 deaths and 2.69 Million cases to date<sup>1</sup>;
2. **WHEREAS**, due to the rapid spread of COVID-19 while scientists worked continuously to slow the spread, businesses and schools were closed;
3. **WHEREAS**, there was a direct negative impact on our school communities, forcing in-person classrooms to move to remote, forcing families to work from home and double down as parents and teachers;
4. **WHEREAS**, variants of COVID-19 are still spreading, yet our city is opening up, and many families have suffered great losses from the pandemic and have not recovered;
5. **WHEREAS**, the DOE has offered District 15 schools a significantly low budget for FY 2023;
6. **WHEREAS**, the needs of District 15 schools total \$50 Million more than the amount offered by the DOE;
7. **WHEREAS**, DOE projected student headcounts for the FY2023 year were underestimated and do not accurately reflect our school's register projections for incoming students;

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

8. **WHEREAS**, DOE projected staff needs for the FY2023 year were underestimated, as many of our staff members are retiring;
9. **WHEREAS**, \$50 Million additional funds are required to fund adequately:
  - a. Academic programming and Intervention services
  - b. Enrichment and cluster programs
  - c. Social Supports including At-Risk counseling
  - d. Critical staff and staff supports
  - e. Mandated IEP services
  - f. Technology Upgrades
  - g. Class Size Reduction as mandated by law
  - h. Desegregation Efforts, and
  - i. Other needed services and programs
10. **WHEREAS**, according to an analysis by the Comptroller, the DOE has at least \$620 million in unused funds from the Fiscal Year 2022 that will be rolled into the Fiscal year 2023, and a total of more than \$4 billion in Federal Covid Relief funds that are set to expire over the next two years, yet a reduction of school budgets has been put forth;
11. **WHEREAS**, the Comptroller's analysis suggests that the \$620 million in rollover funds would be sufficient to restore the Fair Student Funding cuts a majority of our schools are facing;
12. **WHEREAS**, a restoration of funds after the mid-year adjustment will not allow Principals to hire and maintain necessary staff in order to meet student needs;
13. **WHEREAS**, our Principals' reasonable first and second appeals are being denied, which is time-consuming, frustrating and an unnecessary process;
14. **WHEREAS**, our children are our future, and our schools require a prioritized investment of funds;
15. **WHEREAS**, the DOE's projected pre-pandemic levels of funding is not prioritizing education nor giving our children what they need.
16. **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Mayor and the Chancellor of the Department of Education (DOE) immediately reverse the DOE's reductions to school budgets;**

17. **AND, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Chancellor submit updated school budgets to the Panel on Education Policy reflecting the restoration, as well as an accounting of unspent federal stimulus funds;**
18. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the Mayor promptly utilize any unspent and unallocated federal stimulus or other funds and submit a budget modification to the Council to fully restore the \$469 million removed from school budgets by DOE;**
19. **AND BE IT RESOLVED THAT, Mayor Adams and NYCDOE increase the Community School District 15 public school budgets by \$50 Million<sup>2</sup> for the school year 2022-23.**

*This Resolution was approved at a CEC15 Calendar Meeting held on August 23, 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, Alfred DeIngeniis Tia Schellstede, and Vincent Lu.*

*The Resolution was voted YES by 10 members.*

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[https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1qwcbSxJTL9wkH8cP\\_TriDe4zoFKIhSWs/edit?usp=sharing&oid=100608187455644513372&rtpof=true&sd=true](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1qwcbSxJTL9wkH8cP_TriDe4zoFKIhSWs/edit?usp=sharing&oid=100608187455644513372&rtpof=true&sd=true)  
<https://classsizematters.org/total-galaxy-school-cuts-as-of-july-14-now-at-1-42-billion/>  
[https://www.nycenet.edu/offices/d\\_chanc\\_oper/budget/DBOR/galaxy/galaxyallocation/default.aspx](https://www.nycenet.edu/offices/d_chanc_oper/budget/DBOR/galaxy/galaxyallocation/default.aspx)

