

## Community Education Council District 28

### Resolution Requesting the Continued Protection Of All New York City Public School Students and “Know Your Rights” Training Sessions in the Wake of the 2024 Presidential Election

**APPROVED** at the **February 6, 2025 Calendar Meeting** by a vote of the CEC D28 members present at the time of the vote (10 in favor / 0 opposed / 0 abstain / 0 absent)

**Sponsor:** Tanya Wendt

**Co-Sponsors:** Quentin Mezetin, Lauren Clavin, Simone Dornbach, Nathifa Lewis

**WHEREAS**, New York City (“NYC”) is home to roughly 3.1 million immigrants, who comprise approximately 38% of the city’s total population. Among NYC’s foreign-born residents, more than half are naturalized citizens. Furthermore, roughly 47% of Queens’ population is made up of foreign-born individuals;<sup>1</sup> and

**WHEREAS**, many New York City Public Schools (“NYCPS”) students, staff, and their families originate from countries outside United States, may have temporary legal status, and may be undocumented and/or may live in mixed status households (i.e., one or various members of the family is undocumented while others have some kind of temporary or permanent status); and

**WHEREAS**, NYCPS children may not be refused admission or enrollment to an NYCPS because of race, color, creed, national origin, gender (sex), gender identity, pregnancy, alienage, citizenship status, disability, sexual orientation, religion, weight or ethnicity;<sup>2</sup> and

**WHEREAS**, it is the policy of NYCPS to provide equal educational opportunities, including ensuring that all students are provided access to NYCPS programs, services, activities, and facilities, in accordance with applicable laws and regulations and without regard to actual or perceived race, color, religion, age, creed, ethnicity, national origin, alienage, citizenship status, disability, sexual orientation, gender, or weight;<sup>3</sup> and

**WHEREAS**, President Trump signed an Executive Order on his first day in office on 1/20/2025 authorizing the removal of “illegal aliens” (i.e., undocumented immigrants), and has declared that “sanctuary jurisdictions” such as schools would no longer receive access to Federal funds should they “interfere” with the execution of the Executive Order.<sup>4</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> Mayor’s Office of Immigrant Affairs “2023 ANNUAL REPORT ON NEW YORK CITY’S IMMIGRANT POPULATION AND INITIATIVES OF THE OFFICE”

[https://www.nyc.gov/assets/immigrants/downloads/pdf/MOIA-Annual-Report-2023\\_Final.pdf](https://www.nyc.gov/assets/immigrants/downloads/pdf/MOIA-Annual-Report-2023_Final.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> NYC DoE, Regulation of the Chancellor A-101 (2022, February 17) “ADMISSIONS, READMISSIONS, TRANSFERS, AND LIST NOTICES FOR ALL STUDENTS”

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/docs/default-source/default-document-library/a101-admissions-readmissions-transfers-english.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> NYC DoE, Regulation of the Chancellor A-830 (2023, October 19) “ANTI-DISCRIMINATION POLICY AND PROCEDURES FOR FILING INTERNAL COMPLAINTS OF DISCRIMINATION” <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/docs/default-source/default-document-library/a-830.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> Trump, Donald J; The White House (2025, January 20) “Protecting The American People Against Invasion”

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/01/protecting-the-american-people-against-invasion/>

**WHEREAS** President Trump signed an Executive Order ending birthright citizenship on his first day in office on 1/20/2025<sup>5</sup>, set to take effect 30 days from that date on February 19, 2025, and will apply to children born on that date and after; and

**WHEREAS**, anecdotal reports and attendance data from the first week of school following President Trump's inauguration show that families are keeping children home out of fear that schools are not safe for their children, or that they may be separated from them;<sup>6</sup> and

**WHEREAS**, governors and lawmakers in some states are already rolling out proposals that could assist President Trump carry out his pledge to deport millions of undocumented immigrants living in the United States;<sup>7</sup> and

**WHEREAS**, NYC is considered a sanctuary city and on January 25, 2017, United States President Donald Trump signed Executive Order 13768, entitled, "Enhancing Public Safety in the Interior of the United States," threatening to withhold federal funding from so-called sanctuary cities;<sup>8</sup> and

**WHEREAS**, the term "sanctuary" is used to refer to a jurisdiction that limits the role of local law enforcement agencies ("LLEAs") and officers in the enforcement of federal immigration laws; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 6, 2017 the New York State Assembly passed Assembly Bill 3049B, called the "New York State Liberty Act," prohibiting state and local police from conducting stops or arrests based solely on perceived immigration status, and preventing government agencies from inquiring about immigration status when an individual seeks aid or reports a crime<sup>9</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, NYCPS remains steadfast in their commitment to maintain safe and supportive environments for their students, staff, and families post-election;<sup>10</sup> and

**WHEREAS**, by law, NYCPS children may not be required or asked to present documentation of immigration status nor can they be denied admission, registration, or enrollment to school based on immigration status or

---

<sup>5</sup>Trump, Donald J; The White House (2025, January 20) "Protecting the Meaning and Value of American Citizenship"  
<https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/01/protecting-the-meaning-and-value-of-american-citizenship/>

<sup>6</sup> Chalkbeat (2025, January 24) "'Everyone is scared': Deportation fears keep immigrant students home from NYC schools"  
<https://www.chalkbeat.org/newyork/2025/01/24/trump-immigration-policy-and-deportation-fears-affect-attendance-for-immigrant-families/>

<sup>7</sup> Lieb, David; Associated Press (2024, December 10) "Republican-led states are rolling out plans that could aid Trump's mass deportation effort"  
<https://apnews.com/article/trump-immigration-deportation-republican-states-da5c2465b9d4476176c09d87d6c00aed>

<sup>8</sup> Trump, Donald J; The White House (2017, January 25) "Executive Order: Enhancing Public Safety in the Interior of the United States"  
<https://trumpwhitehouse.archives.gov/presidential-actions/executive-order-enhancing-public-safety-interior-united-states/>

<sup>9</sup> New York State Assembly Bill A3049B  
<https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2017/A3049>

<sup>10</sup>Chancellor Melissa Aviles-Ramos (2024, November 6) "Reflecting on This Election" NYCPS  
[https://cdn-blob-prd.azureedge.net/prd-pws/docs/default-source/default-document-library/family-letters/reflecting-on-this-election.pdf?sfvrsn=bb6c1dd1\\_4](https://cdn-blob-prd.azureedge.net/prd-pws/docs/default-source/default-document-library/family-letters/reflecting-on-this-election.pdf?sfvrsn=bb6c1dd1_4)

failure to present documentation about immigration status. Reference to the immigration status of a child or parent is not to appear on any school forms and/or records;<sup>11</sup> and

**WHEREAS**, NYC cannot knowingly permit governmental personnel who are empowered to enforce civil or criminal laws (other than personnel of the city, the department of education, or a local public benefit corporation or local public authority) to have access to NYCPS property without judicial warrant.<sup>12</sup>

**THEREFORE**, be it resolved that District 28 Community Education Council (“D28 CEC”) demands:

1. NYCPS continue to support the equal protection of immigrants, as well as the designation of New York City as a sanctuary city, by conducting multi-language know-your-rights trainings and host multi-language town-hall meetings to ensure that members of our D28 community and all NYCPS families are aware of their rights, regardless of citizenship status.
2. NYCPS provide multi-language printed and online resources for its students, staff, and their families in partnership with the City on how to obtain immigration legal assistance, health and mental health care, and public safety support.
3. NYCPS include in its legislative agenda advocacy at the state and federal levels advocacy for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (“DACA”), Temporary Protective Status, and Refugee Settlement Programs, as well as oppose any legislation for the creation of a Muslim registry system or eroding civil rights protections for our vulnerable neighbors, including, but not limited to refugees, asylum seekers, torture victims, and others deserving of humanitarian refuge.
4. NYCPS support schools in designating safety teams within a building whose responsibility it will be to respond should non-local law enforcement attempt to or actually enter any NYCPS property.
5. As the situation develops, NYCPS must continue to provide clear, consistent guidance to school leaders and staff via clearly visible, physical notices including contact information for legal counsel and all relevant personnel such that there can be no doubt about the protocols and protections in place for students and their families, regardless of their immigration status.

---

<sup>11</sup> NYC DoE, Regulation of the Chancellor A-101 (2022, February 17) “ADMISSIONS, READMISSIONS, TRANSFERS, AND LIST NOTICES FOR ALL STUDENTS”

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/docs/default-source/default-document-library/a101-admissions-readmissions-transfers-english.pdf>

<sup>12</sup> New York City Council Local Law 246 of 2017 (enacted 2017, December 17) “A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to access to non-public areas of city property and property of human services contractors and subcontractors”

<https://legistar.council.nyc.gov/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=3022111&GUID=2471E159-AF64-4416-801A-91321D8D281E&Options=&Search=>