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COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 2, MANHATTAN

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May 5, 2022

Hon. Eric Adams
Mayor
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

David C. Banks
Chancellor, NYC Department of Education
52 Chambers Street
New York, NY 10007

Shaun D. Francios
President, DC 37, Local 327
125 Barclay Street
New York, NY 10007

Dear Mayor Adams, Chancellor Banks and President Francios:

At its Full Board meeting April 26, 2022, Community Board #2, adopted the following resolution:

Resolution in support of Food Service Bonuses for School Food Service Workers who Worked Throughout the Pandemic Providing Meals to Students and the Community at Large

1. **Whereas**, it has come to the attention of the CB2 Schools & Education Committee that local school food service workers worked throughout the pandemic providing meals to students and the community at large; and
2. **Whereas**, some schools in CB2 were designated as “Grab’n’Go” sites serving food for not only students but members of the community during the pandemic school closure, requiring school food service workers to report to work physically every day in the midst of the pandemic; and
3. **Whereas**, these school food service workers have not been compensated for their work with hazard pay; and

4. **Whereas**, CB2 Schools & Education Committee invited Amalaa Somwaru, School Food Service Manager of P.S. 130 Hernando De Soto, to give background on this topic on Monday, April 11, 2022; and
5. **Whereas**, New York City’s Department of Education (DOE) has been one of the school districts most adversely affected by COVID-19. But through the shutdowns, reopenings and continued uncertainty, wholesome meals to students—and the community at large—has remained a constant; and
6. **Whereas**, the Office of Food and Nutrition Services has produced nearly 100 million meals over the last 13 months, serving an average of 300,000 to 500,000 students and adults per day¹; and
7. **Whereas**, as only an example, in August of 2020, food service workers at [P.S. 130 Hernando De Soto](#) served over 14,000 meals in a single day to Community Board 2 families and neighbors; and
8. **Whereas**, workers ensuring the food security of our children and neighbors are certainly essential workers, without whom many thousands across the city would have gone hungry; and
9. **Whereas**, during the school year 2020-2021, roughly 45% of meals were served to students in person and 35% to remote learners. The remaining 20% of meals were served to the general public²; and

Therefore be it resolved Community Board 2 urges the city and state to utilize COVID-19 relief funds, such as the Coronavirus Aid Relief, and Economic Security (CARES)³ and American Rescue Plan (ARPA)⁴ Acts, to provide retroactive hazard pay to our essential, local school food service workers that served our families during the pandemic.

Votes: Unanimous, with 39 Board Members in favor.

Please advise us of any decision or action taken in response to this resolution.

Sincerely,

¹<https://www.food-management.com/k-12-schools/how-new-york-city-public-schools-have-kept-students-and-city-residents-fed-during>

²<https://www.food-management.com/k-12-schools/how-new-york-city-public-schools-have-kept-students-and-city-residents-fed-during>

³ <https://home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/coronavirus>

⁴ <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/1319/text>



Jeannine Kiely, Chair
Community Board #2, Manhattan



Patricia Laraia, Chair
Schools and Education Committee
Community Board #2, Manhattan

JK/EM

- c: Hon. Carolyn Maloney, Congresswoman
- Hon. Jerrold Nadler, Congressman
- Hon. Brad Hoylman, NYS Senator
- Hon. Brian Kavanagh, NYS Senator
- Hon. Deborah J. Glick, NYS Assembly Member
- Hon. Yuh-Line Niou, NYS Assembly Member
- Hon. Jumaane Williams, NYC Public Advocate
- Hon. Mark Levine, Manhattan Borough President
- Hon. Christopher Marte, Council Member
- Hon. Carlina Rivera, Council Member
- Hon. Erik Bottcher, Council Member
- Hon. Mark Treyger, Council Member
- Daniel Weisberg, First Deputy Chancellor, NYC DOE
- Victoria Murillo, Director of Operations at NYC DOE
- Michell Menduina, Local 327 Director of Education Division
- Community Education Council District 2
- Dilchand Amalaa, SFSM District 2w
- Renny Fong, Principal P.S. 130