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COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 2, MANHATTAN

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February 26, 2024

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

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

Kelly McGuire
NYC DOE District 2 Superintendent
333 7th Avenue
New York, NY 10001

Dear Mayor Adams, Chancellor Banks and Superintendent McGuire:

At its Full Board meeting February 22, 2024, Community Board #2, adopted the following resolution:

**Inclusion of Guidelines for Conduct for Parents Members of SLT, CEC, and PTAs,
and Penalties for Violations in Accordance with Chancellor's Regulations on Student-to-Student
Discrimination, Harassment, Intimidation, and/or Bullying (Chancellor's Regulation A-832) with
Specific Penalties for Violations**

1. **Whereas**, the New York City Department of Education (NYC DOE) is committed to fostering safe and inclusive school environments for all students, and [Chancellor's Regulation A-832](#)¹ addresses the prevention and intervention of student-to-student discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying; and
2. **Whereas**, the active involvement and positive behavior of parents, particularly those serving on School Leadership Teams (SLT), Community Education Councils (CECs), and Parent-Teacher Associations (PTAs), contribute significantly to the overall well-being of the school community; and
3. **Whereas**, it is essential to establish clear behavioral expectations for parents that align with those for students and staff and ensure a safe, supportive, and respectful environment within the school community; and
4. **Whereas**, while parent bodies that work with the DOE may have a code of conduct included in their individual by-laws the Chancellor Regulations meant to protect students from bullying and harassment refer only to staff and student conduct; and

¹<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/docs/default-source/default-document-library/33634-a-832-10-07-2021-final-posted-koreanbddfb32f87c44014947e7f0ac23dd1fd>

5. **Whereas**, parent members that sit on official bodies that work with the DOE are prohibited from displaying backgrounds or materials identifying themselves as candidates in DOE-supported virtual spaces, including PA/PTA, Presidents' Council, SLT, Title I PAC, DPAC, CPAC, and CCEC meetings, except for DOE-sanctioned Candidate Forums to which all candidates have been invited; and
6. **Whereas**, the [Dignity for All Students Act](#)², state law in New York, and Chancellor's Regulations, specifically Chancellor's Regulation A-832, of the NYC Department of Education (DOE) explicitly state that students cannot be subjected to bullying, harassment, or discrimination in public schools based on any reason, including gender, gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation; and
7. **Whereas**, these laws and rules extend protection to all students, irrespective of their self-identification as LGBTQ+ or gender non-binary, or perceptions held by others, ensuring a safe and inclusive environment before, during, and after school, as well as on the bus and at school-sponsored events; and
8. **Whereas**, bullying encompasses various forms such as physical violence, stalking, aggressive gestures, threats, taunts, teasing, purposeful exclusion from peer groups, use of derogatory language or slurs, and offensive material distributed via email, online platforms (e.g., Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, or TikTok...), or in print; and
9. **Whereas**, recent legislation and proposed legislation seeks to support protections, rights, and recognition of LGBTQ+ children and families, such as:
 - Senate Bill [\(S2428\)](#) Requires LGBT awareness curriculum or instruction
 - The Modern Families Act [\(S1787\)](#) – Currently in Children's and Families
 - Anti-Discrimination Requirements in Schools [\(S1532\)](#) – Currently in Education
 - Trans Safe Haven [\(S2475A\)](#) - Signed into Law 2023

REPORTING ACTS OF BULLYING

10. **Whereas**, avenues for reporting to the DOE include calling 311 or (718) 935-2288, allowing individuals to seek assistance from the Office of Safety and Youth Development via email at RespectForAll@schools.nyc.gov or by phone at (718) 935-4357; and
11. **Whereas**, another option is to contact the Division of Family and Community Empowerment through email at face@schools.nyc.gov or by phone at (212) 374-2323; and

Therefore Be It Resolved, that Community Board 2 demands that the NYC DOE acknowledge the importance of addressing the behavior of parents serving on SLTs, CECs, and PTAs in alignment with Chancellor's Regulation A-832; and be it further

Resolved, that CB2 calls on Chancellor David Banks and the NYC DOE to require that parents serving on SLTs, CECs, and PTAs be expected to adhere to the principles and guidelines outlined in Chancellor's Regulation A-832, particularly in their interactions with students, staff, and other parents; and be it further

Resolved, that CB2 encourages the adoption of specific penalties for parent members of all official bodies that work with the DOE found in violation of Chancellor's Regulation A-832, including but not limited to:

- **Verbal Warning:** A formal verbal warning may be issued to the parent, clearly outlining the nature of the violation and the expected corrective action.
- **Written Warning:** In cases where the behavior persists, a written warning shall be issued, specifying the violation and the potential consequences if the behavior continues.
- **Suspension of Parental Involvement:** For serious or repeated violations, the parent may be suspended from participating in SLT, CEC, or PTA activities for a specified period, during which they are expected to reflect on their behavior.

²The Dignity for All Students Act: <https://www.nysed.gov/student-support-services/dignity-all-students-act-dasa>

- **Permanent Removal:** In cases of severe or persistent violations that significantly impact individual students and/or the school community, the parent may be subject to permanent removal from their role on the Community Education Council (CEC), the Citywide Council on High Schools (CCHS), the Citywide Council on Special Education (CCSE), the Citywide Council on English Language Learners (CCELL), the Citywide Council for D75 (CCD75), Parent Teacher Association (PTA/PA), School Leadership Team (SLT), or any official body that works with the DOE, or NYC Public Schools; and be it further

Resolved, that CB2 encourages the NYC DOE to establish clear procedures for investigating and addressing violations and ensuring due process and fairness in the enforcement of penalties; and be it further

Resolved, that CB2 affirm the importance of public schools as safe, nonpartisan spaces for all children, including LGBTQ+ youth, to obtain a robust and inclusive education; and be it finally

Resolved, that the NYC DOE shall communicate these expectations and penalties to parent members of all official bodies that work with the DOE, fostering a collaborative effort to maintain a positive and inclusive school community.

Vote: Unanimous, 35 Board Members in favor.

- https://www.advocatesforchildren.org/sites/default/files/library/lgbtq_education_guide.pdf?pt=1

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

Sincerely,



Susan Kent, Chair
Community Board #2, Manhattan



Patricia Laraia, Chair
Schools and Education Committee

SK/em

cc: Hon. Brad Hoylman-Sigal, NYS Senator
Hon. Brian Kavanagh, NYS Senator
Hon. Deborah J. Glick, NYS Assembly Member
Hon. Grace Lee, NYS Assembly Member
Hon. Brad Lander, NYC Comptroller
Hon. Jumaane Williams, NYC Public Advocate
Hon. Mark Levine, Manhattan Borough President
Hon. Alvin Bragg, Manhattan District Attorney
Hon. Erik Bottcher, NYC Council Member
Hon. Christopher Marte, Council Member
Hon. Carlina Rivera, Council Member
Hon. Mark Treyger, Executive Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, NYCDOE
Carolyn Quintana, Deputy Chancellor of Teaching and Learning, NYC DOE
Jennifer Foti, Chief of Special Education, NYC DOE
Jason Borges, Executive Director of NYC Public Schools Literacy Collaborative, NYCDOE

Dr, Angela Green, Chairperson, PEP
Gregory Faulkner, Vice Chairperson, PEP
Aaron Bogad
Alan Ong
Alice Ho
Amy Fair
Anita Garcia
Anthony Giodano
Ephraim Zakry
Geneal Chacon
Gladys Ward
Jessamyn Lee
Kaliris Salas
Marjorie Dienstag
Michelle Joseph
Naveed Hasan
Phoebe Sade-Arnold
Tazin Azad
Thomas Sheppard
Council District 2

WHAT IF I AM BEING HARASSED, BULLIED, OR DISCRIMINATED AGAINST IN SCHOOL?

State law and local rules say you have a right to go to school where you are safe and supported and there is no bullying, harassment, or discrimination.

The New York state law is called the **Dignity for All Students Act**. The NYC Department of Education's (DOE's) rules are called **Chancellor's Regulations**. [Chancellor's Regulation A-832](#) says that you cannot be bullied, harassed, or discriminated against in public schools for any reason, including your gender, gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation.

These laws and rules protect you whether you *self-identify* as LGBTQ+ or gender non-binary or someone *thinks* that you do. They protect you before, during, and after school, as well as on the bus and at school-sponsored events.

Bullying can include:

- Physical violence, stalking, or aggressive gestures;
- Threats, taunts, or teasing;
- Purposefully excluding you from peer groups;
- Using derogatory language or slurs; or
- Offensive material in email, online, on social media (like on Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, or TikTok), or in print.

TIP:

Always take notes about every incident, including who, what, when, and where.
Get documentation of every interaction you have with school staff.

Every public school in New York City must have a **Respect for All Liaison** (RFA Liaison). This person should be trained to prevent and address bullying, harassment, and intimidation. Your school should post a "Respect for All" poster listing the RFA Liaison's contact information.

State law and [Chancellor's Regulation A-830](#) prohibit *school staff* from discriminating against or harassing you for any reason, including spoken, written, or physical acts, because of your actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or gender expression.

NEED HELP NOW?

Hopeline: (800) 784-2433 (English), (800) 784-2432 (Español) Suicide prevention and crisis intervention

Online chat support at www.imalive.org

Safe Horizon: (866) 689-4357 Victims of crime and their families

National Runaway Switchboard: (800) 786-2929 Runaway youth assistance

Trevor Project: (866) 488-7386 Suicide and crisis support for LGBTQ+ youth

Online chat support at www.thetrevorproject.org/section/get-help

GLBT National Help Center: (212) 989-0999 Helpline for LGBTQ+ community

Online chat support at www.glnh.org