



# Citywide Education Council for District 75



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## **Resolution: The Citywide Education Council for District 75 Stands In Agreement With CEC 27 Expressing The Need To Implement And Test An Effective Mass Notification System At Every School As Part Of The Mandated School Safety Plan**

**Whereas**, New York State Education Law Section 2801 requires all districts and all individual schools to develop School Safety Plans with regard to emergency response, and

**Whereas**, the threat of school violence is an ongoing and legitimate concern for all parents, educators and children in this day and age, and

**Whereas**, New York City and its citizens have been the repeated target of threats to safety in the past and emergency preparedness is necessary to mitigate tragedies in the future, and

**Whereas**, the safety and security of our children is of primary importance in developing a high level of trust between our public schools and the communities they serve, and

**Whereas**, all School Safety Plans are mandated to include a provision for the timely notification of parents/guardians of school children in a state of emergency, and

**Whereas**, the means of direct, efficient and rapid communication directly to parents is of benefit for the maintenance of order during an emergency, and would allow law enforcement to work more effectively in dealing with threats to school safety, and

**Whereas**, there is currently no uniform and established method of mass notification between schools and parents/guardians, and

**Whereas**, various platforms exist and are being utilized in many schools to provide direct, efficient and rapid communication directly to parents, and

**Whereas**, these communication platforms are readily available to all school administrations through internet sites, cellular applications, text messaging systems and phone based robo-call programs, therefore be it

**Resolved**, the CECD75 stands in agreement with CEC27 and respectfully requests that the NYC Schools Chancellor implement policy directing that all school administrations have an established method of mass notification to all parents/guardians in place at the beginning of each school year, and be it further

**Resolved**, that the policy indicate an effective means of communication within the school itself in order to alert the students to evolving situations and alleviate unnecessary stress and concern, and be it further

**Resolved**, that the school administration notify parents/guardians of the established emergency notification protocol at the beginning of each school year with a written notice of said policy, and be it further

**Resolved**, that this mass notification system be tested on a semi-annual basis in order to determine effectiveness, and that it be implemented in a timely manner should a school emergency situation arise, and it be deemed necessary to inform the public.

**Unanimously approved during the May 17, 2017 Calendar Meeting**