



Citywide Education Council for District 75



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Executive Officers: *Gloria Smith, President & Public Advocate Appointee / Celia Green, Vice President
Margaret Harper, Secretary / Sandra Rentas, Treasurer*

Council Members: *John Camacho / Rima Izquierdo / Berangere Pierre-Louis / Hasan Sonny Dibra*

Resolution: Cultural Relevant Education

WHEREAS research has consistently shown that culture is a fundamental part of learning; and

WHEREAS culture affects the way people communicate, receive and process information; and

WHEREAS recent research has consistently demonstrated that the incorporation of students' language and culture are fundamental elements of the learning process and lead to more positive educational outcomes; and

WHEREAS research has shown that delivering instruction to students in a culturally relevant manner by resorting to cultural references to impart knowledge and skills enriches students at the social, intellectual, emotional, and political level; and

WHEREAS it has been shown that the adoption of culturally relevant forms of education promotes an environment of respect and helps build greater ties within communities; and

WHEREAS a culturally relevant education serves to validate and affirm the various cultures within a community; and

WHEREAS we live in one of the most culturally diverse states in the United States—Fourth place out of 51 nationwide—and with 49 percent of the student population in New York being composed of immigrants.

LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Citywide District 75 Council encourages the Department of Education to take necessary measures to reform our education system and promote a more culturally congruent education;

LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Citywide District 75 Council strongly reinforces the need to train existing staff to meet the needs of our increasingly culturally diverse student population and to prepare them to teach all students;

LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Citywide District 75 Council strongly encourages the NYC Department of Education to further efforts to diversify the teaching force to address demographic changes in our population;

LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Citywide District 75 Council strongly advises the Department of Education to promote educational initiatives and curriculums that celebrate cultural diversity by adopting teaching practices that are culturally relevant and socially compatible for our students.

Unanimously approved; 4/26/17 by roll call vote.