



# COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 3

154 West 93<sup>rd</sup> Street New York, New York 10025 - Room 204 Tel (212) 678-2782 Fax (212) 678-2804 Email: CEC3@schools.nyc.gov

Joseph A. Fiordaliso  
President

Kimberly Watkins  
First Vice President

Zoe G. Foundotos  
Second Vice President

Kristen Berger  
Secretary

Lucas Liu  
Treasurer

**Council Members:** Manuel Casanova Noah Gotbaum Pradnya Joshi Daniel Katz  
Dennis Morgan Vincent Orgera Declan Saint-Onge, *Student Member*

**Ilene Altschul**  
*District 3 Community Superintendent*

## CEC3 Resolution Vol. 17 (P) No. 1

### Resolution Expressing Concerns Regarding the Nominee for Secretary of the United States Department of Education

Approved at the Jan. 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017 CEC3 Business/Calendar Meeting by a roll call vote of the Council Members present at the time of the vote (7 in favor / 0 opposed / 1 abstained)  
(Absent from vote: Berger, Foundotos, Morgan)

**Whereas**, CEC3 is an elected body of parent leaders who are charged with promoting student achievement, advising and commenting on educational policies, and providing input to the New York City Department of Education, the Chancellor of New York City Schools, and the New York City Panel for Educational Policy on matters of concern to the district, and

**Whereas**, the power and duties of New York City CEC's are spelled out in NYS Education Law §2590-e, and

**Whereas**, CEC3 has expressed dismay with the requirements of the federal *No Child Left Behind Act* and the *Every Student Succeeds Act*, as well as the implementation of the Common Core and Annual Professional Performance Review, and the high stakes testing which accompany these mandates, and

**Whereas**, CEC3 is committed to an educational system where all students, regardless of ability, background, race, or gender, feel secure, and a system that focuses on the physical, social, emotional, cognitive, and relational growth of all students, and

**Whereas**, President-Elect Trump has called for the nomination of Betsy DeVos as Secretary of Education of the United States, a candidate apparently lacking any credentials as an educator, experience in the administration and management of public schools, demonstrating a pre-disposition towards - and long-history of support for - charter schools and school voucher programs, which by their very nature eviscerate free and appropriate public education for specific economic, social and racial groups, and

**Whereas**, Ms. DeVos has been at the forefront of the establishment of the Detroit charter school initiative, an abject failure which hurt students and enriched the coffers of private companies, therefore be it

**Resolved**, that CEC3 hereby opposes the nomination of Betsy DeVos as Secretary of Education based on this record, and be it further

**Resolved**, that CEC3 will express concerns about any nominee that lacks the qualifications and experience to serve as United States Secretary of Education, and be it further

**Resolved**, that CEC3 calls on the incoming Trump administration to present a formal vision for the future of public education in the United States of America that prioritizes all students, regardless of

ability, background, race or gender and one that focuses on the physical, social, emotional, cognitive, and relational growth of all students, and be it further

**Resolved,** that CEC3 calls on the United States Senate to block any nominee for United States Secretary of Education who lacks the requisite qualifications and experience, and be it further

**Resolved,** that CEC3 invites the president-elect, the nominee for secretary of education or representatives of the incoming education team to meet with them to conduct a forthright and meaningful discussion about the future of public education and their strategies to affect the necessary changes.