



COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 16

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Resolution to Support the Creation of a Gifted and Talented Program In District 16 for Fall 2016

Whereas, District 16 does not have a single Gifted and Talented Program;

Whereas, it is morally reprehensible to deny District 16 students of the Gifted and Talented Program opportunities that are available to students in the vast majority of other NYC school districts;

Whereas, not having a Gifted and Talented Program excludes students from accessing the rigorous academic curriculum that would empower them to compete for seats at Specialized High Schools, thereby exacerbating the low number of minorities gaining admission to Specialized High Schools;

Whereas, this lacking forces bright students to leave their community, putting undue burden on parents and depriving our District of talent;

Whereas, opening a Gifted and Talented Program would encourage parents to consider a public school as a viable option for their children during a time of steep decline in District public school enrollment;

Whereas, establishing a Gifted and Talented Program has the potential to increase enrollment in the selected school's general education population as well;

Whereas, parents will not consider a District Gifted and Talented Program a real option and therefore not test their children for Gifted and Talented placement until a program is established; now therefore be it

Resolved that the Department of Education establish a District or Citywide Gifted and Talented Program in District 16 by the fall of 2016; and be it further

Resolved that such Program will begin with at least one kindergarten classroom and one first grade classroom with subsequent grades to be phased in at a later time; and be it further

Resolved that the CEC and other community stakeholders be consulted as to which public school the program shall be placed in as to ensure the best location possible

Approved by a unanimous vote of 7 yes for members present on October 20, 2015