



Chancellor's Parent Advisory Council

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October 13, 2022

NYCDOE Chancellor David C. Banks

UFT President Michael Mulgrew

CSA President Michael Cannizzaro

Dear Chancellor David Banks, President Mulgrew, and President Cannizzaro:

Whereas, in June 2022, the Legislature overwhelmingly passed [S9460/ A10498](#) by a vote of 59-4 in the Senate and 147-2 in the Assembly, requiring that NYC implement a five-year class size reduction plan beginning in the fall of 2022.

Whereas, on Sept. 8, 2022, Gov. Kathy Hochul signed the bill into law, based upon [a statement](#) that the bill will be amended to begin the five-year phase-in period on Sept. 2023;

Whereas, the law calls for class size caps to be achieved over this period of no more than 20 students per class in grades K-3, no more than 23 students per class in grades 4th-8th, and no more than 25 students per class in high school, with physical education and performing art classes capped at forty students per class;

Whereas, each year starting in September 2023, 20 percent of all classes must achieve these caps, with an additional 20 percent of classes added each year, until all schools comply with these caps by the end of the 2027-2028 school year, with the documented attainment of these caps due Sept. 2028.

Whereas, the city's plan is supposed to prioritize schools with high levels of poverty to reduce class size first.

Whereas, the law says the plan shall be a product of negotiation between the Department of Education, the United Federation of Teachers and the Council of School Administrators;

Whereas, parents, advocates, students, community members and elected officials must be included to help develop this plan in the most transparent and accountable manner and to guarantee that there will be sufficient space, funding, and staffing to achieve the goals within the timeframe specified by the law;

Whereas the planning process needs to start now, especially to ensure that the capital plan includes sufficient new space in our most overcrowded communities;

Whereas, reducing class size is a critical need to ensure equity for all NYC school students and there is no time to waste;

Be it resolved, that the Chancellor's Parent Advisory Council (CPAC) strongly advises the Chancellor, UFT and CSA to establish a Task Force that includes parents, advocates, students, community members and elected officials to work with them in the most transparent and accountable manner to develop an effective, equitable, and achievable class size reduction plan.

Approved at the October 13, 2022 CPAC meeting.