



Chancellor's Parent Advisory Council

Tweed Courthouse, 52 Chambers Street, New York, NY 10007 | Email: infocpacnyc@gmail.com

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January 27, 2025

Melissa Aviles-Ramos
NYC Department of Education
Tweed Courthouse
52 Chambers Street
New York, NY 10007

Resolution Title: Enhancing Multilingual Support and Communication in NYC Public Schools by Updating Chancellor Regulation A-663 to Current Needs.

Approved by: CPAC Multilingual Language Learners Committee 01/27/2025

Sponsors: Dr. Darling J. Miramey and Shirley Aubin

WHEREAS:

1. Governor Kathy Hochul's establishment of the Office of Language Access on October 3, 2022, solidifies New York State's commitment to national leadership in language access, guiding executive State agencies to provide interpretation services in any language and translate vital documents into the top 12 most commonly spoken non-English languages, with flexibility for additional languages based on regional needs.
2. Acknowledging the diverse linguistic backgrounds within the NYC Public Schools community, which necessitates enhanced support.
3. Recognizing that language barriers can result in educational disparities, negatively impacting students by limiting access to crucial information related to education, policies, and resources.
4. Identifying the need to enhance parental awareness of their rights within the educational system, emphasizing access to information in their home languages.
5. Understanding the Department of Education's responsibility to foster inclusivity, ensuring all families have equal access to essential information regardless of linguistic background.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the MLL Committee of the CPAC urges the Chancellor to:

1. **Update Chancellor Regulation A-663** to align with current NYS language access regulations, ensuring the system of language selection accommodates the diverse linguistic needs of the NYCPS community and **Provide Permanent Translation and Interpretation Services** in at least the top 12 non-English languages spoken in NYS (as per the new language access law), plus any additional languages identified through regional needs assessments, for:
 - o Documents
 - o Announcements
 - o Meetings
 - o Parent-Teacher Conferences
 - o Critical Communications from the Chancellor's Central Office
2. **Enhance Parental Awareness** of their rights and the significance of the Home Language Questionnaire (HLQ) in identifying students requiring ESL services.
3. **Clarify ELLs Identification Process** through the NYSITELL, focusing on early education students who may transition without adequate ESL support.
4. **Develop Afterschool Enrichment Programs** in home languages to support young learners recovering from pandemic-related learning loss.
5. **Improve Communication and Responsiveness** from the Chancellor's Central Office regarding critical issues affecting students and parents.
6. **Develop Teacher Training Programs** in all bilingual languages to better serve the linguistically diverse student population.
7. **Provide Student Workbooks in Various Languages** to facilitate learning opportunities.
8. **Explore and Implement New Technology and Tools** to enhance multilingual support and communication.

CPAC MLL Committee is committed to ensuring every student and their family have equal access to the resources and information they need to thrive in our diverse educational community. This resolution reflects our dedication to promoting inclusivity, eliminating language barriers, and fostering a more equitable and supportive educational environment for all. We look forward to collaborating with the Department of Education to implement these vital improvements.

With much appreciation,

The Chancellor's Parent Advisory Council

Approved by membership at its February 13, 2025 meeting

Cc :

Christina Foti, NYCDOE, Deputy Chancellor of the Division of Inclusive and Accessible Learning
Dr. Cristina Melendez, NYC DOE Deputy Chancellor of Family, Community, and Student Empowerment
Emma Vadehra, NYCDOE, Chief Operating Officer / Deputy Chancellor of Operations and Finance