

Croton-Harmon Union Free School District

Resolution on Support for Public School Districts During and After the COVID-19 Pandemic

WHEREAS the Croton-Harmon Union Free School District's mission is to support all students in developing skills that enable them to become effective communicators, problem solvers, and researchers who are independent learners responsible for their own learning, and

WHEREAS we are committed to preserving a school system that supports achieving that mission, and

WHEREAS the COVID-19 pandemic has presented unprecedented challenges to schools, school districts, municipalities, and state governments, and

WHEREAS school districts must continue to meet existing mandates regarding the instruction of every student according to their needs and abilities, and will also be forced to adapt to as-yet-unknown new mandates when schools reopen, and

WHEREAS in the wake of the pandemic and the associated distancing protocols, state revenues are expected to fall far below prior years (more than \$13 billion less in New York State). School Aid consisting of 27% of the NYS budget, and potential cuts of 20% for the coming year would result in a loss of \$5.5 billion to schools statewide, and

WHEREAS severe reductions in school aid will hurt students trying to recover academically and socially from the coronavirus crisis. Schools need funding to provide additional support for students in the coming year to ensure their academic and mental health recovery, and

WHEREAS the emergency relief bills passed so far by the Congress focus on immediate funding of the coronavirus crisis, and provide support for some businesses, but do not provide funds to cover expected state revenue shortages from economic slowdowns, and

WHEREAS dedicated funding is needed to stabilize school operating funds for the next school year,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Croton-Harmon Union Free School District calls on the United States Congress to enact legislation to provide relief funds specifically for K-12 public education, and

RESOLVED that said funding be specifically dedicated to the funding of public school systems, so that it cannot be redirected to other purposes, and

RESOLVED that the Croton-Harmon Union Free School District calls upon the President of the United States to sign said regulation into law, and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Croton-Harmon Union Free School District directs the District Clerk to transmit a copy of this resolution to:

- New York State School Boards Association
- Westchester Putnam School Boards Association
- The Hon. United States Senator Charles Schumer
- The Hon. United States Senator Kirsten Gillibrand
- The Hon. United States Congresswoman Nita Lowey
- United States Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos
- President of the United States Donald J. Trump

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be posted on the website of the Croton-Harmon Union Free School District, on other social media utilized by the District.

Adopted: May 7, 2020

Respectfully submitted by:

The Croton Harmon Board of Education: Sarah Carrier, President; Andrea Furey, Vice President; Iris Bugliosi; Joshua Diamond; Neal Haber; Elizabeth Lynam; and Brian Loges.