

# Croton-Harmon Union Free School District

## Healthy School Meals for All

WHEREAS one in seven children in New York experience hunger and students experiencing hunger struggle to focus and learn, have lower attendance than their peers, and are at greater risk of mental and physical health problems.

WHEREAS existing school meal programs in New York State are one of the farthest-reaching anti-hunger programs for school-aged children, yet the free and reduced-price payment structure leaves many behind including families struggling to make ends meet while hovering just above the income limits for free school meals and kids who qualify but hesitate to eat due to stigma and shame associated with providing free meals to only certain students.

WHEREAS funding healthy school meals for all in the FY2024 state budget is a concrete, evidence-based step to reduce child hunger and advance equity in health and education in nearly every community across the state.

WHEREAS the United States Congress is presently considering the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act, which provides financial support to school districts for school breakfast and lunch programs, summer food programs, and afterschool meal programs, among other forms of aid.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Croton-Harmon Union Free School District, in alignment with the [Healthy School Meals for All NY Kids](#) coalition, urges Governor Kathleen Hochul, leaders in the Senate and Assembly, and our representatives in the legislature to fund universal, free, healthy school meals in the State budget and end childhood hunger in schools.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Croton-Harmon Union Free School District urges the United States Congress to pass the Child Nutrition and WIC Reauthorization Act and asks the Senators and Congressperson representing our community to support passage of this statute.

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The Board of Education directs the District Clerk to send a copy of this resolution to the following:

- Charles Schumer, United States Senator
- Kristen Gillibrand, United States Senator
- Michael Lawler, Member, United States House of Representatives
- Dana Levenberg, State Assemblywoman
- Peter Harckham, State Senator
- Kathleen Hochul, Governor of the State of New York
- Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Majority Leader of the New York State Senate
- Carl Heastie, Speaker of the New York State Senate
- Betty Rosa, New York State Commissioner of Education
- Fran Wills, New York State Board of Regents
- Peggy Zugibe, President, New York State School Boards Association
- Robert Schneider, Executive Director, New York State School Boards Association
- Karen Belanger, Executive Director, Westchester Putnam School Boards Association

Adopted: January 12, 2023

Respectfully submitted by:

The Croton Harmon Board of Education: Sarah Carrier, President; Neal Haber, Vice President; Joshua Diamond, Omar Mayyasi, Mary Obermeier, Theo Oshiro, and Ana Teague