

Advocacy Call for Action: Federal Funds, Support for Vulnerable Students, Census Alert

Dear Croton-Harmon School District Community Members,

We have discussed several key advocacy issues at recent Board of Education meetings and have passed a resolution. We wish to bring these to your attention and request that you take action in support of public schools.

FEDERAL FUNDING AND IDEA ADVOCACY:

The Croton-Harmon Board of Education's recent resolution asked for Federal funding for public education and support for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and all vulnerable students.

Although the U.S. Senate is in recess until September 8, 2020, we would like to keep these issues front and center until a relief package agreement is reached.

We believe that this is an equity issue: Private, religious and charter schools have received well over a billion dollars of forgivable Federal Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans during the pandemic.

In contrast, public schools, which educate 90% of students nationwide, have received no additional funding while faced with extraordinary expenses to reopen schools safely this fall, and the possibility of future cuts in state aid during the 2020-2021 school year.

CHUFSD BOE Resolution: [Advocacy Call for Action: Federal Funds, Support for Vulnerable Students](#)

Voter Voice letters prepared by the Westchester Putnam School Board

Association to assist in advocacy: <https://www.wpsba.org/Page/1135>

- Federal Funds Needed for Public Education
- Supporting Students Mental Health
- Financial Stability of Special Act Schools

CENSUS DEADLINE SEPT 30, 2020:

From the New York School Boards Association (NYSSBA):

"... many households still have not submitted their [census] surveys and this lack of participation will have a detrimental impact on schools for years to come. The census has significant implications for public schools. The data help determine how billions of federal education dollars are distributed, since funding formulas rely heavily on population and poverty levels.

"States with the greatest number of people and the highest concentrations of poverty receive proportionally greater amounts of federal aid than other states....

"Census data also impact public education indirectly by determining how many seats each state has in the U.S. House of Representatives. Greater congressional representation can help states secure additional education funding because of their increased influence. *New York lost two congressional seats after the 2010 Census. In 2020, a mere 0.6% undercount could cost New York two more seats.*"

CENSUS FORM/ADVOCACY:

You may fill out the census here: <https://2020census.gov/en.html>. It takes about ten minutes and is available in many languages.

BECOME A CENSUS ADVOCATE: Remind family, friends, co-workers and neighbors through conversation, email and/or social media to fill out their surveys and highlight the upcoming September 30th deadline.

Please feel free to reach out to us with any questions or comments at boe@chufsd.org or join us at any of our upcoming advocacy or regular meetings.

Sincerely,

Sarah Carrier, President

Brian Loges, Vice President

Iris Bugliosi

Josh Diamond

Andrea Furey

Neal Haber

Beth McFadden

Croton-Harmon Board of Education