



# COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL 19

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## **Resolution to Oppose New York City's Plan to Cut Funds for NYC School Crossing Guards**

The Community and Citywide Education Councils (CCECs) are composed of parents who have been elected or appointed to serve as stakeholders of NYC School Community Districts, and specific cohorts of students, representing NYC public school students and their families.

The following resolution offers CEC19's position to oppose the New York City (NYC)'s plan to cut funds for NYC School Crossing Guards.

**WHEREAS**, in New York City, there are approximately 2200 school crossing guards, who protect approximately 1.1 million children crossing streets to and from 1800+ schools in 32 school districts, private and charter schools are included; and

**WHEREAS**, school crossing guards play an important role in the lives of children who walk or bicycle to school; and

**WHEREAS**, school crossing guards help children safely cross the street at key locations and remind drivers of the presence of pedestrians; and

**WHEREAS**, the presence of crossing guards can lead to more parents feeling comfortable about their children walking or bicycling to school; and

**WHEREAS**, while the primary role of a school crossing guard is to guide children safely across the street, children also remain responsible for their own safety. In this manner, a guard plays another key function- a role model helping children develop the skills necessary to always cross streets safely; and

**WHEREAS**, a well-trained school crossing guard discourages children from behaving unsafely near traffic, such as darting into the street without looking or crossing against a traffic signal and a guard can encourage safe behavior by all pedestrians at the school crossing and use existing gaps in traffic to help students cross safely; and

**WHEREAS**, when the natural traffic flow does not allow enough time for children to safely cross a street, a guard may need to create gaps by stopping traffic temporarily by stopping the traffic with hand signals or a STOP paddle, then verbally directs children to cross the street; and

**WHEREAS**, school crossing guards observe and report any incidents or conditions that present a potential safety hazard to the school children or the guard; and

**WHEREAS**, school crossing guards brave extreme weather conditions and often encounter dangerous situations while diligently performing their duties to ensure a safe journey to and from school for New York City Children.



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**BE IT RESOLVED CEC19**, strongly encourages Mayor Eric Adams and the New York City Police Department to keep **ALL** school crossing guards working in our communities and to continue to keep our children and parents safe.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the above resolution was unanimously voted and passed on **June 14, 2023** by the following Community Education Council of District 19 members: Joyce French, Parchell Halloway, Seffrina Boodram, Tion Prescott, Evelyn Pugh and Tabatha Foster.