



# COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 3

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District 3 Superintendent

## Resolution VOL 24 (P) NO. 3

### IN SUPPORT OF THE ISRAELI PEOPLE AND OFFERING SUPPORT TO THE NEW YORK CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL COMMUNITY

Approved at the October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 CEC3 Calendar Meeting by a unanimous vote of Council Members present at the time of the vote (10 in favor / 0 opposed)

Sponsors: Yael Denbo, Josh Kross, Jill Rackmill, Sharon Collins

**WHEREAS**, CEC3 values diversity, inclusivity, and the promotion of peace and understanding among all people; and

**WHEREAS**, CEC3 is committed to fostering a safe and respectful learning environment for all students, regardless of their backgrounds, beliefs, or affiliations; and

**WHEREAS**, beginning on October 7, 2023, Hamas terrorists entered Israel and slaughtered and kidnapped civilians; and

**WHEREAS**, Hamas is still holding Israeli and other hostages; and

**WHEREAS**, these series of violent attacks in Israel and the surrounding region have caused harm to innocent civilians and further escalated tensions; and

**WHEREAS**, it is crucial that we, as representatives of our community, take a stance to promote peace, understanding, and dialogue as a means to address conflicts and prevent further loss of life; and

**WHEREAS**, we acknowledge the importance of fostering an open and inclusive atmosphere within our schools, where students and staff can learn about global issues and engage in thoughtful discussions to gain a better understanding of the complexities of these matters; and

**WHEREAS**, we recognize that our students come from diverse backgrounds and have varying perspectives on global issues, and it is our duty to encourage them to express their opinions respectfully and peacefully, while fostering an environment that promotes tolerance and empathy; and

**WHEREAS**, we stand in solidarity with all those who are affected by violence and conflict, and we extend our deepest sympathies to the victims and their families in Israel and abroad, including many affected families in New York City.

**WHEREAS**, there has been rising antisemitism throughout the world, in the United States, and in New York City in recent years; and

**WHEREAS**, the tristate area has the largest community of Jews outside of Israel, including NYCPS students and faculty, many of whom have family, friends, and other connections to Israel

**THEREFORE:**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that CEC3:

1. The NYCPS send an email communication to the entire community, including families and staff, that:
  - a. unequivocally condemns the attacks;
  - b. unequivocally condemns antisemitism, whenever and wherever it occurs;
  - c. offers support and resources to all students and families in need due to the unfolding events in the region; and
  - d. offers support and resources to staff for how to support affected students, including educational resources regarding antisemitism; and
2. The CEC3 unequivocally condemns the attacks by Hamas on Israeli civilians; and
3. Unequivocally condemns antisemitism, whenever and wherever it occurs
4. Expresses our sincere condolences to all those affected by the recent attacks and ongoing conflict, including students and families within our school community who may have personal ties to the affected areas;
5. Encourages open and respectful discussions within our schools, providing a platform for students to learn about and express their viewpoints on global issues while fostering an environment of tolerance and empathy;
6. Commits to providing support and resources for students who may be experiencing emotional distress or seeking guidance related to the conflict. including educational resources regarding antisemitism; and
7. The DOE will work on promoting Medial Literacy for Kindergarten through twelfth grades; and
8. Will continue to uphold the values of diversity, inclusivity, and peace in our educational mission, emphasizing the importance of global understanding and cooperation among all students.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that CEC3 calls upon the DOE to put out a statement, in kind, condemning the aforementioned acts of terrorism and supporting the affected families in our public schools.