

COMMUNITY EDUCATION COUNCIL DISTRICT 3

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CEC3 Resolution to Make NYCPS District 3 Schools Aware of Fully Funded Field Trip Program for 8th Graders to the Museum of Jewish Heritage

Sponsors: Yael Denbo, Sharon Meiri Fox, Jill Rackmill, Kristin Savov, Noah Strote

Approved at the January 14, 2025 CEC3 Calendar Meeting by a roll call vote of all members present (7 in favor / 3 abstain / 1 absent)

WHEREAS, as part of a \$2.5 million 3-year public-private initiative, New York City has begun offering all eighth-grade students in NYC DOE and NYC charter schools complimentary transportation to and free guided tours of the Museum of Jewish Heritage to learn about the history of the Holocaust, antisemitism, and the dangers of identity-based hatred; and

WHEREAS, the Museum of Jewish Heritage - A Living Memorial to the Holocaust, located in Lower Manhattan, employs an experienced staff and has been leading field trips for middle and high school students for several decades; and

WHEREAS, this program aligns with New York State's mandate for Holocaust education and will offer students experiential learning to complement classroom lessons; and

WHEREAS, the City is funding the program amid a recent surge of antisemitic incidents, with anti-Jewish hate crimes in 2023 reaching the highest levels in New York State since the mandate on data collection on hate crimes in 2000, and the highest percentage of hate crimes in New York City in 2024 being committed against Jews;

WHEREAS, the Museum offers valuable knowledge not only about the history of the Holocaust and antisemitism but also about resistance against hatred, unjust discrimination, and bigotry in all its forms; and

WHEREAS, over the next three years, the program will be made available to more than 85,000 students, including those students in DOE schools in District 3;

WHEREAS, all schools in District 3 are encouraged to participate in this valuable program.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the NYC Department of Education and the D3 Superintendent ensure that all schools, principals, and parent coordinators in District 3 are made aware of this fully funded field trip program and provided with the necessary information to facilitate participation for all eighth-grade students;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be communicated to all students, parents, and educators in District 3;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that CEC3 calls on District 3 Schools to pursue partnerships with other institutions for free programs that contribute to intergroup understanding.

Vote tally:

7 yes - Jill Rackmill, Jon Nassimi, Noah Strote, Kristin Savoy, Yael Denbo, Ana Maria Quinones Greenfield, Sharon Meiri Fox

3 abstained - Noah Odabashian, Ramata Sakho, Ting Yuan

1 absent - Sharon Collins