



The Honorable Bill de Blasio
Mayor of the City of New York
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

January 13, 2018

Dear Mayor de Blasio:

We, the elected and appointed members of the Citywide and Community Education Councils representing public school parents, urge you to select the next Chancellor through an open and inclusive process, instead of the “quiet internal decision” that is planned, according to some press coverage. We made a similar request to you in December 2013 prior to your selecting Chancellor Fariña and hope that you will have a different process this time around.

It is not uncommon for a school district to select its chancellor or the highest school official through a public process. Some districts solicit input from parents and other stakeholders by allowing them to pose questions to potential candidates and evaluating responses. We believe such a process would be highly beneficial in New York City because it can lead to a Chancellor who is willing to collaborate with parents in a meaningful manner. And this collaboration, in turn, will improve our public school system.

We further request that continuing to meet with Citywide and Community Education Council members on a regular basis and to collaborate with the working groups established in partnership with the Education Council Consortium be a requirement for the new Chancellor.

We would also like to share some of the qualifications and characteristics we believe the candidates should have:

- An educator with experience teaching in classrooms and serving as a school leader and someone who does not require a waiver.
- Experience managing or working in an administrative position in a large school district with diverse students and families.
- Track record in collaborating with parent leaders like us in development of policies, initiatives and programs.
- An innovator who can work the bureaucracy to develop creative solutions.
- Ability to use resources efficiently, equitably and creatively to maximize benefits for students.
- Demonstrated commitment to and a good track record working with students with disabilities and English Language Learners.



- Commitment to traditional public schools and to fighting privatization of our schools.
- Strong motivation to tackle challenging issues including school segregation, charter school accountability and transparency, and supporting our highest need schools.

The leadership for the Education Council Consortium would like to meet with a representative from your office to discuss our request and will follow up with your staff. Please contact Shino at estuaryqueen@gmail.com or 917-770-8438 with any questions.

Yours sincerely,

Shino Tanikawa, Co-Chair, Education Council Consortium
NeQuan McLean, Co-Chair, Education Council Consortium

Community Education Council District 1
Community Education Council District 16
Community Education Council District 32

(below signers' Council affiliations are for identification purposes only and do not indicate the endorsement of their Councils)

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Julie Zhu	CCELL
Zoe Foundotos	CCHS
Betsy Tam Greene	CCHS
Naomi Peña	CEC1
Marco Battistella	CEC1
Lauren Chung	CECD2
Sally Printz	CECD2
Robin Broshi	CECD2
Elizabeth Simmons	CECD4
Pamela Stewart	CECD5
Johanna Garcia	CECD6
Angela Garces	CECD6
Carmen Robles	CECD6
Carmen Figueroa	CECD7
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Steve Miller	CECD11
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Charles Star	CECD15
Lafleur Cumberbatch-Benjamin	CECD17
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Kathy Alicea	CECD18
Alice Licato	CECD20
Jackie Cody	CECD22
Gabby Beckford	CECD23
Rockel Holmes	CECD23
Tanya Samuels	CECD23
Tian Tam	CECD25
Amy Hsiao	CECD25
Martha Bayona	CECD32
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