



Citywide Council on English Language Learners

28-11 Queens Plaza North, 4th Floor, LIC, NY, 11101 Tel: (718) 391-8596 Email: CCELL@schools.nyc.gov

Charlie Huang President	Lilly Chan First Vice President	Muneer Abualroub Second Vice President	Emily Li Treasurer	Calvin Wei Recording Secretary
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Division of Multilingual Learners: Mirza Sanchez-Medina **Deputy Chief Academic Officer**
Council Members: Bizhu Chen Elmahdi Oummih Mitchel Wu

Citywide Council on English Language Learners (CCELL) Resolution # 43

Resolution to Prevent Anti-Asian Racism and Bullying in New York City Public Schools

The Citywide Council on English Language Learners (CCELL) is composed of parents who are elected or appointed to advise and comment on the education of English Language Learners in bilingual or English as a Second Language (ESL) programs.

WHEREAS, racist rhetoric repeated in the media since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic has caused a surge of anti-Asian hate crimes in New York City; and

WHEREAS, New York City reported the largest increase of anti-Asian hate crimes, documenting a 223% increase in anti-Asian hate crimes compared to the same period in the previous year¹; and

WHEREAS, New York City schools are home to 170,000 students of Asian heritage²; and

WHEREAS, CCELL recognizes that the Asian American community has endured continued bigotry and xenophobia since the founding of our nation³; and be it further; and

WHEREAS, the American Psychological Association confirms that the historical racism experienced by Asian Americans has caused suffering in the form of psychological trauma, feelings of societal invisibility, and severe mental health issues⁴; and

WHEREAS, Asian-Americans are often reluctant to report bullying due to language barriers⁵; and

WHEREAS, the New York City Department of Education (NYCDOE) has promised to provide a safe, supportive, and respectful learning environment, such that racial and ethnic diversity is embraced⁶;

WHEREAS, CCELL recognizes and values the diverse cultures and heritage of the Asian American community, which includes our students, families, and staff; and

WHEREAS, CCELL understands the role the Mayor and Chancellor have in preventing racism by teaching children to value diversity; and

WHEREAS, the State of Illinois has already implemented the TEAACH Act⁷, mandating changes into the school curriculum to include the full Asian-American experience throughout United States history; and

WHEREAS, Community Education Council District 1 (CEC1), Community Education Council District 28 (CEC28), Community Education Council District 26 (CEC26), and Citywide Council on



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High Schools(CCHS) have all already issued resolutions against Anti-Asian Racism and Bullying in New York City Public Schools; and

WHEREAS, New York State Senator John Liu introduced a similar Senate Bill, S6359A, “requiring public elementary and high schools to provide instruction in Asian American history and civic impact”⁸; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that CCELL demands the Chancellor and Mayor take citywide actions to prevent anti-Asian racism as follows:

1. Adopt the provisions of the NYS (New York State) Senate Bill S6359A citywide;
2. Implement programs for public schools citywide to acknowledge the Asian-American Pacific Islander (AAPI) heritage month by including appropriate lesson plans and celebrations;
3. Provide professional development for teachers, parents, and school leaders in cultural awareness of the AAPI community and its history;
4. Expand workshops on implicit bias training;
5. Create more offerings of dual-language programs and foreign language programs in Asian languages;
6. Develop a system to report incidents of bullying for those parents whose primary language is not English.

Related links

1. <https://www.cnn.com/2021/05/05/us/anti-asian-hate-crimes-study/index.html>
2. <https://gothamist.com/news/its-blatant-invisibility-students-and-parents-call-for-asian-american-studies-at-nyc-schools>
3. <https://news.harvard.edu/gazette/story/2021/03/a-long-history-of-bigotry-against-asian-americans/>
4. <https://www.apa.org/monitor/2021/07/impact-anti-asian-racism>
5. <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/03/18/nyregion/asian-hate-crimes.html>
6. <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/about-us/vision-and-mission>
7. <https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/BillStatus.asp?DocNum=648&GAID=16&DocTypeID=SB&SessionID=110&GA=102>
8. <https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2021/s6359#:~:text=BILL%20NUMBER%3A%20S6359A%20REVISED%2004,elementary%20and%20high%20schools%20to>