

CLASS SIZE REDUCTION

Resolution 5-11/18/04 -

The resolution regarding class size reduction that was discussed at the business meeting read as follows:

Resolution of the District 26 CEC on the use of CFE funds to reduce class size;

Whereas New York City public schools have had excessive class sizes in all grades, and the largest classes in the state for at least twenty years, by about five to fifteen students per class;

Whereas smaller classes have been conclusively linked to higher student achievement, lower rates of disciplinary problems, less teacher turnover, fewer dropouts, and more parental involvement;

Whereas the Campaign for Fiscal Equity lawsuit was based in part on the excessive class sizes in all grades in the New York City public school system, which the Court determined were too large to provide our children with a sound basic education;

Whereas the City's current plan for these funds, despite more than \$5 billion in additional state aid per year and over \$ 6 billion of state funds for facilities, does not lower average class size in any grade higher than 3rd;

Whereas the City plans instead to spend billions of dollars on laptops, technology, and hiring more than three thousand specialists and administrators, housed in leased office space outside school building,

Whereas by redirecting some of these funds, and spending less than 10% of its projected budget on education, the City could reduce class size I every grade to or below the state average;

Be it resolved that we endorse the class size reduction proposals put forward by New Yorkers for Smaller Classes, with lower class sized I every grade, in every school, and for every student to no more than 15 in grades K-3, 18 in grades 4-8 and 20 in High School, so that our children will have an equal chance to learn.

Mona Fabricant made a motion to adopt the resolution:

Sandra Gonzales seconded the motion. The resolution passed unanimously by a roll call vote, 10 Yes, 0 No votes. Jackie Montgomery absent.

Dated: January 25, 2007