



# THE CITYWIDE COUNCIL FOR DISTRICT 75

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## Resolution #18

### Resolution Calling for Systemic Improvements in Co-Located District 75 Schools to Promote Equity, Safety, and Inclusion

June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Sponsors: Christi Angel and Kristie Montalvan

WHEREAS, District 75 (D75) schools serve students with the most significant disabilities across New York City, providing specialized instruction and support services critical to their educational and developmental growth; and

WHEREAS, many D75 programs are co-located within general education school buildings, sharing space, resources, and common areas; and

WHEREAS, the current model of co-location often results in inequitable access to facilities such as cafeterias, gymnasiums, libraries, playgrounds, and nurse's offices, as well as a lack of input in shared decision-making structures; and

WHEREAS, D75 students, staff, and families frequently report feelings of isolation, marginalization, and exclusion within co-located spaces due to inequitable treatment, poor communication between administrations, and insufficient cultural competence or disability awareness; and

WHEREAS, safe and supportive environments are essential for all students, particularly those with complex needs, and inadequate co-location practices may contribute to unsafe conditions, bullying, and denied opportunities for social-emotional and academic inclusion; and

WHEREAS, true equity requires not only physical access but also a culture of respect, collaboration, and mutual accountability between co-located schools;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Citywide Council for District 75 (CCD75) calls upon the New York City Department of Education (NYCDOE) to:

1. Establish Mandatory Co-Location Agreements that are collaboratively developed with D75 administrators, parent leaders, and staff to ensure equitable access to shared facilities, schedules, and school-wide opportunities.
2. Create a Standardized Co-Location Framework that defines clear expectations and protocols for equitable treatment, regular joint planning, and conflict resolution between all co-located schools.

3. Appoint a Dedicated Co-Location Liaison in each borough to support relationship-building, monitor compliance, and serve as an ombudsperson for resolving co-location concerns between general education and D75 programs.
4. Provide Mandatory Inclusion and Disability Awareness Training for all school-based staff and administrators in co-located schools to build a culture of respect, understanding, and collaboration.
5. Ensure Parity in School Leadership Structures, including shared representation in School Leadership Teams (SLTs), Building Councils, and all safety and equity committees.
6. Audit and Remedy Facilities Disparities in co-located schools to guarantee that D75 students have equal access to clean, safe, and appropriate instructional and recreational spaces.
7. Elevate the Voices of D75 Families and Students in co-located settings by creating inclusive feedback mechanisms and requiring meaningful parent engagement across all school communities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be shared with the Panel for Educational Policy (PEP), Community Education Councils (CECs), the NYCDOE Chancellor, and relevant elected officials to advocate for the systemic changes necessary to ensure that students in District 75 are treated with dignity, equity, and care, regardless of their school's co-located status.

This Resolution was approved at Citywide Council for District 75 Calendar Meeting held on \_June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025\_\_\_\_ by a vote of 6 yes. Members present including: Christi Angel, Andrea Daniels, Lakiesha Ricks, Jessica Rivera, Eiljah Hobbs and Gisselle Ramierz.