



Citywide Council on English Language Learners (CCELL)

Department of Education of the City of New York

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Citywide Council for English Language Learners (CCELL) Resolution # 05

Ensuring Parent Input in the new Teacher Evaluation System

Whereas, the federal Race to the Top grant mandates New York State to perform a complete overhaul of its teacher evaluation procedures, which will influence how our teachers are paid, promoted, trained and fired; and

Whereas, a quality evaluation system should address the distinct educational needs of students with disabilities, English Language Learners (ELLs), and improve access to high-quality instruction for all students; and

Whereas, parents and students should have opportunities to provide input on the teacher evaluation system as it develops; and

Whereas, Parent and student surveys on school environment and climate and other non-pedagogical aspects of teaching should be included as part of the 60% being determined by the district; and

Whereas, State test scores should not account for more than 20 – 25% of a teacher's rating, as contemplated by State law; and

Whereas, the Board of Testing and Assessment of the national Academy of Education expressed concerns of value-added models and proposals that have not been adequately studied for the purpose of evaluating teachers. This peer-reviewed analysis should be thoroughly reviewed by the Governor and Legislature before determining policies critical to the future of our children; and

Whereas, To the extent that state law requires the use of value-added measures of student achievement based on state standardized test scores, steps must be taken to account for the facts uniquely applicable to teachers who have ELLs and/or students with disabilities in their classrooms; and

Whereas, Evaluators must have expertise in and understand, key behaviors and skills required of teachers working with students with disabilities and ELLs; and

Whereas, Districts must ensure that schools have sufficient time and resources to implement the new system and provide professional development for teachers; and now therefore be it

Resolved, that the spirit of Race to the Top is to give parents and community a voice in the teacher evaluation system; and be it further

Resolved, that the Citywide Council on English Language Learners will work with the New York City Department of Education, teachers and other groups to ensure parents have a voice.

Adopted by the Citywide Council on English Language Learners on March 6th 2012