



Citywide Council on English Language Learners (CCELL)

Department of Education of the City of New York

Mitchel Wu, *President*

Hebatalla Ibrahim, *1st VP*

Elmahdi Oummih, *2nd VP*

Christopher Wagner, *Rec. Secretary*

Nargiza Rafieva, *Treasurer*

Council Members:

Muneer Abualroub, Leonora Lokaj, Vincent Lu,

Dr. Dariusz Zawislak, Julie Zhu and Member Vacancy

Student Rep. Vacancy

Division of Multilingual Learners: Mirza Sanchez-Medina, Deputy Chief Academic Officer

Citywide Council on English Language Learners (CCELL)

Resolution #36 on the Use of Racially Offensive and Racist Language by a Member of DOE Advising Bodies Toward Multilingual Student and Their Families

Approved on September 15, 2020

WHEREAS, The Citywide Council on English Language Learners (CCELL), was established by NYS Education Law 2590-B, 5. (a) (i) –(iii) with the power to advise and consent on any educational or instructional policy involving bilingual or English as a Second Language Programs, . . . and making recommendations, as appropriate, on how to improve the efficiency and delivery of such services.

WHEREAS, during a group email exchange with more than 150 members of CEC and Citywide Councils in September 2019, racially offensive languages, specifically racial slurs “yellow folks” and “yellow children” were used by a CEC member, to describe Asian students and their families.

WHEREAS, the severity for the use of racial slurs would have violate any basic code of conduct or standards and cannot be understated.

WHEREAS, to promote an environment free of racism for all of our students and families regardless of one’s race or skin color, all forms of racism deserve strong condemnation.

RESOLVED, That the Citywide Council on English Language Learners expresses deep regret of and condemns the use of racially offensive and racist languages by a member of DOE advising bodies toward Asian students and families.

RESOLVED, That the Citywide Council on English Language Learners acknowledges that the harm done by the use of racially offensive and racist language and stands with the communities that are victims of racism in this incident.

RESOLVED, That the Citywide Council on English Language Learners hereby calls upon the Department of Education, DOE, to take appropriate action within its jurisdiction in accordance with NYS Education Law 2590-L for enforcing applicable laws, regulations and directives; establishment of appeal board.

RESOLVED, That the Citywide Council on English Language Learners hereby calls upon the Department of Education, DOE, to immediately establish appropriate protocol to address the use of racially offensive or racist language by members of Community Education Councils, Citywide Councils, and other similar bodies that are part of or affiliated with the Department of Education.

RESOLVED, That the Citywide Council on English Language Learners hereby calls upon the Department of Education,

Citywide Council on English Language Learners

Email: ccell@schools.nyc.gov, Website: www.ccell.gov, Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/nycdoe.ccell>



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DOE, to provide appropriate training on anti-racism, cultural awareness, diversity and respect to all persons who are elected, volunteer, appointed or hired to serve in official roles as members of Community Education Councils, Citywide Councils, Managements/Executives, and other similar bodies that are part of, affiliated with, or within the Department of Education.

Approved on September 15, 2020 with a vote of 6 yeses, 2 no's and 2 abstain.