



Chancellor Melissa Aviles-Ramos

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Dear CEC 24,

Thank you for your resolution regarding extending hold harmless (HH) funding for school budgets through SY 25-26 and providing more transparency on school budgets. As you may be aware, Chancellor Aviles-Ramos recently announced that school budgets will be held harmless for mid-year enrollment losses for the 2024-2025 school year. We were proud to be able to offer this fiscal stability this year, particularly for schools responding to enrollment fluctuations.

We work closely with our schools to ensure clarity in planning and execution throughout the year with regards to budgeting. This means aligning resources to the student population observed in the fall and supporting schools as enrollment shifts occur, while engaging both.

While we recognize the important role HH funding has played in recent years, it is important to clarify that these decisions are made in partnership with the Administration and are not singularly determined by NYCPS. We remain committed to working collaboratively with our partners at City Hall and OMB to advocate for school fiscal stability.

Additionally, in recent years, we have launched our [School Budgets At a Glance](#) webpage in order to provide greater transparency on school budgets, spending, and demographics. This page provides a great opportunity for parents and other partners to understand school budgets and be educated so that they can advocate more effectively on behalf of their school communities. School Leadership Teams (SLTs) also are responsible for ensuring that school-based budgets are aligned with the school's Comprehensive Educational Plan (CEP) and to that end, budget reviews can be part of SLT meetings.

As we have done this past year, we will continue to assess the needs of our schools throughout the year and make decisions that ensure our students and staff have all the resources they need to be successful. Thank you for raising this matter to our attention. We appreciate your partnership and advocacy.

Thanks,

Katherine Jedrlic
Senior Executive Director, Office of Policy and Advocacy