



Community Education Committee 24

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Resolution 189

RESOLUTION: ENFORCEMENT OF CHANCELLOR'S REGULATION A-418 (SEX OFFENDER NOTIFICATION) AND NYPD NOTIFICATION PROTOCOL

Sponsor: Matthew Crescio, CEC24 President

Co-Sponsors: Manisha Jain, Gina Liberta and Kate Barvels

WHEREAS, Chancellor's Regulation A-418 (Sex Offender Notification) (issued August 5, 2008) establishes procedures for sharing information about certain registered sex offenders with schools and parents pursuant to New York's Sex Offender Registration Act; and

WHEREAS, A-418 provides that the NYPD borough commander or designee is authorized to notify school districts regarding sex offenders designated as moderate or high risk of repeat offense, and that such notifications are provided through the NYPD-to-DOE protocol; and

WHEREAS, A-418 requires that the Borough Safety Director at the Office of Safety and Youth Development (OSYD) shall (1) create an official file of Notifications received, and (2) provide a copy of the Notification to all schools covering the zip code in which the sex offender resides, including annexes and District 75/District 79 programs as applicable; and

WHEREAS, A-418 contemplates that the Notification from the NYPD may include critical public-safety information, including (among other things) the name, crime description, special conditions, and a photograph of the registered sex offender (if available), and that the NYPD has advised it does not disclose information beyond what is contained in the Notification; and

WHEREAS, A-418 further requires that principals, upon receipt of a Notification, must maintain an official school file accessible to staff and parents, alert appropriate staff (including staff who supervise outdoor activities such as recess), and for schools located within the same zip code, provide parents a copy of the Notification within two weeks; and

WHEREAS, the A-418 protocol is designed to protect students, staff, and families, and timely, accurate distribution of Notifications supports school communities in identifying potential risks and responding appropriately, including notifying supervisors and contacting 911 when warranted; and

WHEREAS, principals and school-based staff should not be placed in the position of independently obtaining, interpreting, or distributing sex-offender information outside the A-418 protocol—both to avoid legal and operational risks and to ensure information is accurate, consistent, and transmitted through the agency specifically identified in A-418 (law enforcement via the NYPD Notification process); and

WHEREAS, failure to follow the A-418 notification and distribution requirements undermines the intent of the regulation and can leave school communities without actionable information needed to maintain safety around school buildings, school yards, recess areas, dismissal, and other student gathering times;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Community Education Council District 24 (CEC 24) calls upon NYPD Police Commissioner Jessica Tisch to issue clear guidance reaffirming the NYPD's role under Chancellor's Regulation A-418, including the expectation that Notifications intended for schools are transmitted through the established protocol; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that CEC 24 calls upon First Deputy Commissioner Tania Kinsella to instruct every Borough Safety Commander and relevant NYPD personnel to ensure consistent compliance with the notification and coordination procedures contemplated by A-418, including timely transmission of Notifications to the DOE's Borough Safety Director/designee for distribution to impacted schools; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that CEC 24 urges the DOE Office of Safety and Youth Development and each Borough Safety Director to reaffirm and execute their responsibilities under A-418, including maintaining an official file of Notifications and promptly distributing Notifications to all impacted schools and appropriate DOE offices/programs as required by the regulation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that CEC 24 requests a written confirmation (or public statement) from the NYPD and DOE outlining:

the point(s) of contact responsible for A-418 Notifications;

expected timelines for transmitting Notifications to DOE and then to schools; and

a mechanism for schools to report non-receipt or delays while maintaining compliance with A-418; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that CEC 24 affirms that A-418 is intended to protect the entire school community—students, staff, and parents/guardians—and that ensuring school staff who supervise outdoor activities and other key personnel have access to Notifications (as required by A-418) is a necessary safety measure so that suspicious conduct can be reported immediately and handled through proper supervisory and emergency protocols; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that CEC 24 will transmit this Resolution to: the NYPD Police Commissioner, the NYPD First Deputy Commissioner, NYPD Patrol Borough leadership, the NYC DOE Chancellor, the DOE Office of Safety and Youth Development, the relevant Borough Safety Director, the District 24 Superintendent, and other appropriate officials.

The CEC24 members approved and voted Resolution No. 189 at the CEC24 January 27th meeting.