

Russell Squire
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**The City of New York
Community Board 8 Manhattan**

June 22, 2022

Honorable Kathy Hochul
Governor of New York State
NY State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Honorable Andrea Stewart-Cousins
Senate Majority Leader
172 State Street, Room 330
Albany, NY 12247

Honorable Carl E. Heastie
Speaker of the Assembly
LOB 932
Albany, NY 12248

Honorable Mayor Eric Adams
Mayor of New York City
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Honorable Adrienne E. Adams
Speaker of the New York City Council
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Betty A. Rosa, Commissioner
NYSED
89 Washington Avenue
Albany, NY 12234

RE: Adopting curricular standards that include LGBTQ+ communities

Dear Governor Hochul, Mayor Adams, Speaker Stewart-Cousins, Speaker Heastie, Speaker Adams and Commissioner Rosa,

At the Full Board meeting of Community Board 8 Manhattan held on June 15, 2022, the board **APPROVED** the following resolution by a vote of 39 in favor, 1 opposed, 2 abstentions and 1 not voting for cause:

WHEREAS, there has been a dangerous proliferation of laws passed around the country that restrict LGBTQ rights and dignity,

WHEREAS, LGBTQ children experience discrimination, harassment, and bullying because of their sexual, gender, and other intersectional identities,

WHEREAS, research has demonstrated that anti-LGBTQ policies harm the mental health of LGBTQ people and has a serious disparate impact on Black male youth,

WHEREAS, education is one of the upstream tools that lays the foundation for future generations of people who embrace diversity, equity, and inclusion,

WHEREAS, New York City and New York State education policy changes will only impact non-charter public schools and we encourage public charter, religious, and private schools to embrace and adopt similar measures,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, Community Board 8 Manhattan urges the City of New York and the New York State Education Department to implement the following policies:

1. Adopt curricular standards that include LGBTQ+ communities at the state level, similar to those in CA, CO, IL, OR, NJ, and NV
2. Implement data collection of mental health outcomes, discrimination, bullying, etc. of LGBTQ K-12 students in NYC
3. Encourage use of “Hidden Voices” curriculum supplement in NYC, developed by NYC Department of Education, Museum of the City of New York, the NY Public Library, NY Historical society, and the National Archives

Please advise us of any action taken on this matter.

Sincerely,

Russell Squire

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Chair

Sarah Chu and Saundra I. Coleman

Sarah Chu and Saundra I. Coleman,
Co-Chairs, Social Justice Committee

cc: Honorable Carolyn Maloney, 12th Congressional District Representative
Honorable Mark Levine, Manhattan Borough President
Honorable Liz Krueger, NYS Senator, 28th Senatorial District
Honorable José M. Serrano, NYS Senator, 29th Senatorial District
Honorable Edward Gibbs, NYS Assembly Member, 68th Assembly District
Honorable Dan Quart, NYS Assembly Member, 73rd Assembly District
Honorable Rebecca Seawright, NYS Assembly Member 76th Assembly District
Honorable Keith Powers, NYC Council Member, 4th Council District
Honorable Julie Menin, NYC Council Member, 5th Council District