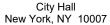


The New York City Council



Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: Res 0219-2018 Version: * Name:

DOE to provide school principals with the discretion

to declare primary days as staff development days.

Type: Resolution Status: Filed (End of Session)

In control: Committee on Education

On agenda: 3/7/2018

Enactment date: Enactment #:

Title: Resolution calling upon the New York City Department of Education to provide school principals with

the discretion to declare primary days as staff development days, specifically if they believe election

operations will significantly disrupt a regular school day.

Sponsors: Mark Levine

Indexes:

Attachments: 1. Res. No. 219, 2. March 7, 2018 - Stated Meeting Agenda, 3. Hearing Transcript - Stated Meeting

03-07-18, 4. Minutes of the Stated Meeting - March 7, 2018

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
3/7/2018	*	City Council	Introduced by Council	
3/7/2018	*	City Council	Referred to Comm by Council	
12/31/2021	*	City Council	Filed (End of Session)	

Res. No. 219

Resolution calling upon the New York City Department of Education to provide school principals with the discretion to declare primary days as staff development days, specifically if they believe election operations will significantly disrupt a regular school day.

By Council Member Levine

Whereas, Primary and general elections are held in polling sites throughout New York City, with a vast majority held in school buildings; and

Whereas, Currently, schools close on election day but not during the primaries; and

Whereas, Primary voting therefore occurs with students in the school building; and

Whereas, Although a single police officer is present at polling sites as required by election law, the officer's primary concern is to oversee voting rather than student safety; and

Whereas, Throughout the school year there are security measures in place for entering school buildings including requiring visitors to sign in and show identification; and

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Whereas, Primary day, however, allows strangers to enter the school building without such measures

despite the presence of students; and

Whereas, According to a March 2014 DNAinfo New York article, a recent primary election in New

York City left some parents and community leaders outraged after observing voters wander the halls and using

student bathrooms; and

Whereas, In light of recent occurrences involving horrific attacks on students in various schools in our

nation, security measures are being re-evaluated and strengthened in many jurisdictions; and

Whereas, Allowing students to be at school while elections occur seems to undermine the very nature of

such increased security measures; and

Whereas, While civic engagement is a cornerstone of our democracy, it shouldn't come at the expense

of student safety; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York calls upon the New York City Department of

Education to provide school principals with the discretion to declare primary days as staff development days,

specifically if they believe election operations will significantly disrupt a regular school day.

Res. 385-2014/LS 1045

JP

LS# 1170