Thursday, Oct. 28, 2021

## Dear City Council Members:

As a professor of education at CUNY Lehman College for 24 years and as the Department Chair of the Counseling, Leadership, Literacy, and Special Education Department, I can think of no more powerful intervention to support all of our students and educators, based on years of educational research, than to dramatically lower class sizes across the DOE. Twin pandemics of COVID19 and racism continue to harm all students, families, and educators. This is absolutely the right time to do the right thing and lower class sizes in the name of educational equity and to continue to attract and retain families and educators in the DOE. Public school students, families and educators deserve the best and until we lower class sizes significantly, we don't have that in NYC. The Bronx Deserves The Best. When will that happen?

## Sincerely,

Stuart Chen-Hayes, Ph.D., NCC
Department Chair (interim), Counseling, Leadership, Literacy, and Special Education (CLLSE)
Professor/Program Coordinator, M.S.Ed. in Counselor Education: School Counseling
CUNY Lehman College
Carman Hall B-20A
250 Bedford Pk Blvd W, Bronx, NY 10468
<a href="mailto:stuartc@lehman.cuny.edu">stuartc@lehman.cuny.edu</a>

Pronouns: He/Him/His