

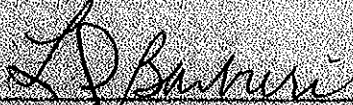
8. The DOE is not clear with the CECs about crucial funding information. In the school system, every student is given a basic weight (e.g., \$15,000), which is the amount that the DOE predicts will be spent on that student during the fiscal year. Everything in the Fair Student Funding formula relates to the weight of each student; yet this entire system hinges on what “1” equals. The base dollar amount assigned to the weight of “1” has been increasing over the years due to inflation, but this year that weight was actually reduced. When the dollar amount of the base rate is cut, then every other weight will have fewer dollars attached to them. This is a crucial piece of information that is consistently withheld from the CECs; during my time on the CEC it has never been revealed during public hearings or the DOE’s budget presentations. This speaks to an ongoing lack of transparency in how the DOE operates with CECs when it comes to school funding.
9. The culture surrounding how the DOE budgets are presented to the CECs has gone backwards ten steps during this current administration. This year, the “engagement” that the DOE has had with CEC 15 is not collaborative and is an entirely one-way process that does not allow for CEC 15 members to contribute to the budget discussions. Engagement with stakeholders would be evidenced in the changes made to the Fair Student Funding formula; however, the formula has remained unchanged for several years.
10. Furthermore, as a result of the FY23 budget cuts, CEC 15 schools have been impacted greatly. *See Exhibit 3 (district 15 budget impacts for 2022-23 sent to CEC 15 compiled by a CEC 15 member dated June 24, 2022).*

Dated: July 26, 2022
New York, New York



CAMILLE CASARETTI

Sworn to before me this 26th day
of July 2022.



Notary Public

LAURA DAWN BARBIERI
NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF NEW YORK
Registration No. 02BA6394203
Qualified in New York County
Commission Expires July 1, 2023