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NYSCEF DOC. NO. 30

AFFIDAVIT OF NEQUAN MCLEAN

STATE OF NEW YORK)) ss.: COUNTY OF KINGS)

NEQUAN MCLEAN, being duly sworn, deposes, and states:

- 1. I am the council President of Community Education Council ("CEC") District 16.
- 2. I have been a member of CEC District 16 ("CEC 16") since April of 2014.
- The Department of Education's ("DOE") engagement with CEC 16 has been severely lacking in that it does not actively seek community input or collaboration from CEC 16 members.
- 4. By way of informing the CECs of impending budget presentations, the Department of Education sends a survey to the administrative assistant of each CEC. This survey provides a set of dates from which each CEC can select their preferred date for the presentation. *See* Exhibit 1 (example of routine DOE email sent to CECs prior to each budget presentation).
- 5. Despite sending out a survey for preferred dates, the DOE does not adhere to the responses. Normally, the DOE notifies CEC 16 on the day of that a presentation will be given, without ever confirming the date with CEC 16 beforehand or paying attention to the dates selected by CEC 16.
- 6. The DOE budget presentations themselves are also very basic and general and do not give information on the schools specific to CEC 16.
- Further, at no time do the CECs receive budget information containing units of appropriation as required by state law.

- 8. While there is typically time at the end of the presentations to ask questions of the DOE representative giving the presentation, often the representative cannot answer our questions and there is no follow-up provided. Beyond this, there is no further engagement between the DOE and CEC 16 members regarding the budget.
- 9. CEC 16 has tried to obtain clarification on these presentations, but has not received responses from the DOE. For instance, after a Contracts for Excellence presentation given by the DOE in February of 2021, CEC 16 sent an email to DOE representatives requesting a complete breakdown of the allocations made to each school in District 16. *See* Exhibit 2. We never received a response to our request.
- 10. The way that the DOE informs the CECs of impending budget presentations is a wholly one-way process in which the DOE simply tells the CECs what the budget is and does not seek the members' collaboration or input.
- 11. The engagement that the DOE currently has with CEC 16 is therefore not sufficient and is an entirely one-way process that does not allow for CEC 16 members to contribute to the budget discussions.

Dated: July 26, 2022 New York, New York

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NEQUAN MCLEAN

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

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