

Anthony Viola,
Chairperson



Paola Garcia,
Assistant District Manager

February 6, 2026

Kamar H. Samuels
NYC DOE Chancellor
52 Chambers Street
New York, NY 10007

RE: Resolution on Use of AI in K-12 Public Schools

Dear Chancellor Samuels,

At the General Meeting held on January 27, 2026, Community Board 12-Manhattan, by a unanimous vote of 35 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions, and 0 not voting due to conflict of interest, adopted the following resolution calling for clear guidelines on the use of AI in NYC schools, the expansion of the AI Working Group to include broader community representation, the holding of public forums to gather community input, and the development of strong protections to prevent or minimize potential harm from AI in schools.

- Whereas,** [33 states and Puerto Rico](#), as well as many large school districts, have released official guidance or guardrails on the use of AI in K12 schools; and
- Whereas,** Neither NY State nor NYC has yet developed any such guidelines or guardrails; and
- Whereas,** Despite the lack of guidelines, the use of AI programs has been [rapidly expanding](#) throughout NYC public schools, and
- Whereas,** Most AI programs data-mine personal student information to improve their products, in violation of the state student privacy law, [Education Law 2D](#) and its [regulations](#); and
- Whereas,** One of the most commonly used products in schools is Chat GPT, even though the company that produces it, OpenAI, [admits](#) that their products have “*the potential to be used ...to identify private individuals when augmented with outside data*”; and
- Whereas,** [Up to 57% of teachers](#) nationwide, including [growing numbers in NYC](#), use AI programs to write Individualized Education Programs for students with disabilities, documents that contain very sensitive personal information, and
- Whereas,** Though no research exists as to the long-term effects of AI programs, [one recent study](#) entitled “Generative AI can harm learning” showed that students who spent time with Chat GPT programs for math did significantly worse on their assessments, and that using AI acted as a “crutch,” preventing students from fully engaging with or understanding the material; and
- Whereas,** [Another study showed](#) “a significant negative correlation between frequent AI tool usage in educational settings” and students’ critical thinking; and

- Whereas,** Many AI programs have been shown to offer false or misleading information, known as “hallucinations”, [with error rates of up to 79%](#); and
- Whereas,** [Another recent study](#) suggests that the use of AI undermines creativity and encourages “group thinking”; and
- Whereas,** Some [NYC teachers worry](#) that the increased use of AI by students has led to more cheating and plagiarism, and will lead to the loss of math and writing skills; and
- Whereas,** Many experts, including those at Open AI, have [pointed out](#) that the algorithms used by AI products can “*reinforce & reproduce specific biases & worldviews, including harmful stereotypical & demeaning associations for certain marginalized groups,*” and
- Whereas,** [Another recent study](#) found racial biases in AI-generated teacher behavior intervention programs; and
- Whereas,** The use of AI poses [significant risks](#) to the mental health and social development of children and teens, and in some cases, has been shown to lead to their committing suicide; and
- Whereas,** The increased use of AI in NYC schools has the potential of undermining collaboration, debate, and the human interaction key to a quality education; and
- Whereas,** The rapidly expanding use of AI nationwide has led to a surge in electricity consumption and prices, as well as higher carbon emissions, exacerbating the climate crisis; and
- Whereas,** Concerns have been growing among parents, students, and teachers about the negative impact of AI as a result of these findings; and
- Whereas,** While former Chancellor Ramos-Aviles appointed a Working Group on AI in June 2025 to help develop guidelines and guardrails for the use of AI, and
- Whereas,** That Group was sidelined and [stonewalled](#) by the Department of Education, which refused to provide a list of AI products already used in schools along with their privacy policies, and denied them any access to any of the AI trainings that they claimed to have already provided to more than 80,000 teachers and other school staff;
- Whereas,** The Panel for Education Policy (PEP) has repeatedly rejected contracts with AI companies, due to their potential effects on student privacy and learning, most recently in October of 2025; and
- Whereas,** The DOE has so far ignored these growing concerns, and continues to expand AI use in schools, without parental knowledge, notification, or consent; and, therefore, be it
- Resolved,** that Community Board 12-Manhattan calls on Mayor Zohran Mamdani and Chancellor Kamar Samuels to create clear guidelines on the use of AI programs in NYC schools and ensure the following:
- The AI Working Group should be expanded with more community leaders, classroom teachers, parents, students, and education, privacy, and environmental advocates.

- The Chancellor and the members of the AI Working Group should hold public forums and hear the concerns of community members regarding the potential impact of AI, and what guardrails should be implemented.
- The Working Group should develop, and the Department of Education should adopt, rigorous protections to prevent or minimize the potential harm of AI use in schools.

Sincerely,



Anthony Viola, Chairperson

CC:

Hon. Zohran Mamdani, Mayor, NYC
Hon. Jumaane Williams, Public Advocate
Hon. Brad Hoylman-Sigal, MBPO
Hon. Mark Levine, Comptroller
Hon. Adriano Espaillat, Congressman

Hon. Robert Jackson, State Senator
Hon. Al Taylor, Assembly Member
Hon. Manny De Los Santos, Assembly
Hon. Carmen De La Rosa, Council Member
Hon. Shaun Abreu, Council Member