

Resolution to End Excessive Waste of Usable School Supplies and Promote Redistribution in District 8 and NYCPS

WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of community members, families, and education stakeholders that at the end of each school year and during classroom cleanouts, large amounts of perfectly usable school supplies—including but not limited to paper, notebooks, pens, crayons, art supplies, folders, and books—are routinely discarded by schools in District 8 and across NYC Public Schools (NYCPS); and

WHEREAS, many families within our district face economic hardship and would greatly benefit from receiving free or gently used school supplies to help support their children's learning at home; and

WHEREAS, local home-based daycare programs are often self-funded and operate with minimal support, yet play a critical role in early childhood education and care within our communities; and

WHEREAS, the excessive disposal of reusable educational materials contributes to environmental waste, contradicts sustainability goals, and fails to model responsible stewardship of public resources; and

WHEREAS, redistributing unused or gently used school supplies to families and licensed local daycare providers would directly benefit our community, reduce environmental impact, and promote equity and resource-sharing within the education system;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the New York City Public Schools, specifically District 8, in collaboration with principals, custodial staff, educators, and the Division of Family and Community Engagement (FACE), will adopt a district-wide policy prohibiting the mass disposal of reusable school supplies at the end of the academic year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that each school in District 8 shall identify a designated coordinator (such as a Parent Coordinator or school volunteer) to oversee the collection, sorting, and redistribution of usable supplies prior to school closures in June; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that NYCPS will develop guidelines and a partnership framework for safely and equitably donating collected supplies to local families, Title I students, Parent Associations, and registered home-based daycare providers in the immediate community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be shared with all superintendents, school principals, and Parent Associations across District 8 and NYCPS for immediate review, implementation, and integration into end-of-year protocols beginning with the current or upcoming academic year.

