

Passed 01/07/13: **RESOLUTION #76 – CEC 31 RECOMMENDS THAT DOE INSTALLS “BUZZER” ENTRY SYSTEMS WITH VIDEO AND “PANIC BUTTONS” AT MAIN ENTRANCES TO NYC PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND CONSIDERS IMPLEMENTING RETIRED NYPD POLICE OFFICERS TO SUPPLEMENT SCHOOL SECURITY PERSONNEL**

WHEREAS, recent concerns have been raised by Council members, parents, teachers, students, law enforcement personnel, education officials and advocates regarding security in NYC public schools; and

WHEREAS, current public school security consists of unarmed, uniformed New York Police Department (NYPD) school safety agents, with most NYC elementary schools having only one (1) school safety agent assigned; and

WHEREAS, current public school entry procedures allow individuals to enter school buildings through an unlocked door at the main entrance, with the first point of visitor verification at the security desk - located beyond the entrance, inside the school building - where visitors are required to show identification; and

WHEREAS, Community Education Council 31 (CEC 31) believes that school safety agents should have the opportunity to view a person requesting entry before the visitor gains access to any part of the building; and

WHEREAS, CEC 31 believes a “buzzer” entry system with video camera, video capture for future recognition and “panic buttons” directly linked to NYPD dispatchers would offer an additional layer of security for our schools and provide valuable lead-time to alert emergency personnel of a potential critical incident; now therefore be it

RESOLVED that CEC 31 requests that the Department of Education (DOE) installs “buzzer” entry systems with video camera, video capture and “panic buttons” in NYC public school buildings; and be it further

RESOLVED, that CEC 31 requests that the NYPD and the DOE consider implementation of the following proposal designating retired NYPD police officers as “special patrolmen” to supplement current security personnel in NYC public schools:

A Proposal for the NYPD and DOE to Enhance Security in NYC Public School Buildings

Recent events have raised concerns about security in schools throughout the nation. Several school districts across the country have implemented the use of armed security guards to minimize the threat of potential shootings in schools.

CEC 31’s proposal would allow the NYC Department of Education the ability to hire retired NYC police officers as armed “special patrolmen”. These “special patrolmen” will specifically be assigned to enhance school security against potentially violent and armed threats and will NOT be involved in routine school disciplinary matters. These special patrolmen will have peace officer status.

The New York City Police Commissioner has the authority to designate qualified individuals as “Special Patrolmen” under the New York City Administrative Code, Section 14-106 (e) which states that “the NYC Police Commissioner under the application by any agency or public authority may appoint special patrolman for duty performed anywhere in the city for the agency or public authority.”

This initiative will require hiring approximately 300 – 500 retired NYC police officers, who are licensed to carry concealed firearms. The NYC Department of Education will grant, in writing, authorization for these special patrolmen to carry concealed firearms on school property. These retired officers will fall under the direct supervision of the NYPD School Safety Division. The retired police officers will be assigned on a rotating basis to schools throughout New York City. *(The program could be expanded to assign a “special patrolman” to every NYC public school building – approximately 1,000 school buildings.)*

Suggested Rules and Regulations for the Program:

Administrative Code section 14-106 mandates that the special patrolmen MUST comply with the orders of the NYPD Commissioner and the rules of the New York City Police Department.

The NYC Department of Education will pay the special patrolmen as an independent contract employee via a 1099. This payment system is similar to the *Off-Duty Employment Program* that currently exists for active NYPD members.

Retired NYC police officers assigned as special patrolmen to the Department of Education will be required to file a 211 or 212 pension waiver, if necessary.