**Resolution No. 176 in Support of Hiring Assistant School Safety Agents**

**Sponsor:** President Matthew J. Crescio

**Co-Sponsor**: Juny Adames, Connie Altamirano, Manisha Jain and Johanna Pineda

**WHEREAS,** the safety of students and staff within New York City public schools is of paramount concern, and the current shortage of School Safety Agents (SSAs) presents significant challenges to maintaining a secure learning environment; and

**WHEREAS,** the New York Police Department (NYPD) developed a strategy in 2023 to address this shortage by hiring "Assistant School Safety Agents" as young as 18 years old to support full-time SSAs in duties such as greeting visitors, monitoring doorbells, and answering phones; and

**WHEREAS,** the NYPD planned to hire at least 650 assistant agents at an annual salary of approximately $33,000, creating a potential pipeline for these individuals to transition into full SSAs upon reaching 21 years of age and passing the required examination; and

**WHEREAS,** despite state approval of the new title in January 2024, the NYPD has yet to hire a single assistant school safety agent due to ongoing discussions regarding salary and other labor matters; and

**WHEREAS,** the number of school safety agents has declined by 28% over the past five years, from 5,000 agents to just over 3,600, exacerbating concerns among school leaders, staff, and parents regarding student safety and operational challenges; and

**Resolution 176 (cont’d)**

**WHEREAS,** inadequate staffing levels have directly impacted the ability of school safety agents to effectively monitor and patrol school perimeters, manage metal detectors, and respond promptly to incidents, as evidenced by recent violent occurrences near school campuses; and

**WHEREAS,** the delay in hiring assistant school safety agents fails to address the immediate and growing concerns of school safety and security; and

**WHEREAS,** survey data indicates that a significant majority of parents, students, and educators support the presence of school safety agents in schools to maintain a secure and structured environment; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that Community Education Council District 24 strongly urges the NYPD and all relevant city and state officials to expedite the hiring process for Assistant School Safety Agents and allocate necessary resources to ensure their prompt deployment for the start of the 25/26 school year. and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that CEC24 calls upon Mayor Eric Adams and the NYPD to provide a clear and immediate timeline for the hiring and placement of Assistant School Safety Agents, ensuring that schools facing the most severe shortages receive priority staffing; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED,** that CEC24 will actively advocate for additional funding and support for School Safety Agents, recognizing their crucial role in maintaining a safe and conducive learning environment for all students.

Voted and Approved by the CEC24 members at the CEC24 Meeting on March 25, 2025.