

The Chinese American Citizens Alliance of Greater N.Y. (CACAGNY)

紐約同源會

Press Release
May 11, 2020

CACAGNY Statement to NYC Senate Committee on NYC Education May 12, 2020 Town Hall Conversation on Covid-19 and NYC Schools

CACAGNY thanks Senator John Liu and the NYS Senate Committee on NYC Education for holding the forum to listen to the parents of NYC.

Parents all over the social network are talking about leaving New York City because Mayor de Blasio and Chancellor Carranza are running the New York City Schools into the ground.

Ever the race-monger, Carranza would call this “white flight” – except that Blacks do this so-called “white flight” too. They are already the most likely to opt out of their district schools -- for charter schools. It's not "white flight;" it's "**quality** flight.”

Even before the COVID lockdown, Carranza's schools were passing students who don't show up to class. And now Carranza wants to nullify grades from three out of four marking periods, when only the fourth marking period was affected by remote learning, so that he can, after so many euphemisms, pass everyone with meaningless grades. Say what you want about Eva Moskowitz, but she was absolutely right when she said: "True equity honors the integrity of learning. A child who studies and achieves mastery deserves an A, and the student who struggles but overcomes and earns a hard-fought B deserves that B. **It would be an abdication of our responsibility to treat grades like candy.**"

Of course, Carranza canceled grades not just to hide his educational ineptitude, but also to get to his goal to wreck selective admissions. He has publicly and repeatedly stated that he sees the pandemic as an opportunity to pursue his so-called equity agenda. He is doing exactly that.

Teachers report that the day after Carranza announced his "everyone passes" edict, students stopped handing in homework. If de Blasio and Carranza think that White, Black and especially Asian parents who value education are going to put up with schools full of kids who don't do homework and don't care, they are dreaming.

We give Mayoral Control a big red “F.” The theory of local control is that citizens deserve the electeds they voted in. But here we have a mayor who is term-limited and has no political future with voters, and a similarly dead-ended chancellor. Nothing stops them from exploiting the unprecedented pandemic to turn things upside down over the objections of voters. The theory of local control never envisioned such a situation. New York State needs to bring de Blasio and Carranza under control immediately.

We ask the Senate to set up an Oversight Commission with subpoena power over the NYC DOE. This Commission will hold hearings in NYC for parents to express their views directly over recent DOE policies, as well as examine closely DOE finances for the rest of the mayor's term. We need this to protect our schools and keep our families in NY.

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Founded in 1895 in San Francisco, the Chinese American Citizens Alliance is the oldest Chinese American civil rights organization in the United States. CACAGNY is its New York Chapter. www.CACAGNY.org

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