

Community District Education Council 26

New York City Department of Education

Address: 61-15 Oceanin Street, Bayside, NY 11364 Phone: (718) 631-6927 Fax: (718) 631-1347 E-mail: CEC26@schools.nyc.gov.

Robert Caloras
President of the Council

Jeannette Segal
First Vice President

Irene Fennell
Second Vice President

Marie Pollicino
Recording Secretary

Erik DePaula
Treasurer

Council Members:

Irene Cheung-Borough Appointee
Dave Kerpen
Patrick McShane
Dina Quondamatteo
Vincent Tabone

Anita Saunders
Community Superintendent
District 26

February 12, 2009

Dear Assemblyman Lancman:

It is very important that parents, staff and the community receive notice and instructions in the event of an emergency in our public schools. Notification systems can help ensure the safety of our students and school personnel and inform parents and other members of the community about emergency situations at schools and allow them to prepare accordingly. Almost every SUNY and CUNY campus has or is implementing an emergency alert notification system. New York State's NY-Alert program has over one million enrollees and New York City is already conducting a pilot community alert system. Implementing a program like this in New York City public schools would be fairly easy insofar as New York City has the potential to plug into the existing NY-Alert system run by the New York State Emergency Management office.

CDEC 26 STRONGLY SUPPORTS THIS LEGISLATION AND ENCOURAGES SWIFT ACTION BY THE LEGISLATURE TO ADOPT THIS BILL THIS YEAR.

Sincerely,

Robert Caloras

Robert Caloras
President, CDEC