



January 7, 2021

Richard Carranza
Chancellor
Department of Education
52 Chambers Street
New York, NY 10007

Dear Chancellor Carranza:

We are writing regarding the CTE Culinary programs in our boroughs. There are more than 1,000 students enrolled in these programs, and they have suffered throughout this pandemic. Not only have they been unable to continue their hands-on culinary training, but like so many others have faced food insecurity issues at home.

The Food Education Fund, a 501(c) 3 that supports CTE programs has come up with a solution. Through a partnership with HelloFresh, it can deliver boxes of fresh food to the students of these programs. The boxes will contain enough food to prepare eight meals. Culinary instructors will be apprised of the contents of the boxes ahead of time, so that they can plan remote instruction on preparing the food. Of course, once prepared, the families of these culinary students will have a few days of meals available in their homes.

HelloFresh has offered to donate all of the food. A special permission slip has been prepared for the participating students. HelloFresh has the capacity to deliver the boxes to all of the 1,000+ students between February and May. But the cost of delivery is \$180,000. Even this price, however, could be covered between the resources in the CTE office and the individual schools. What remains is simply for the DOE to give the go-ahead to this creative endeavor.

This is precisely the kind of public/private partnership that help our schools thrive. It is a win for everyone – a way to ensure that our quality CTE culinary programs continue, while also helping to feed families in need.

Please let us know if this creative program can move forward.

Sincerely,

The image shows five handwritten signatures in black ink, arranged horizontally. From left to right: 1. Gale A. Brewer, 2. Eric Adams, 3. Donovan Richards, 4. Ruben Diaz, and 5. James S. Oddo.

Gale A. Brewer
Borough President
Manhattan

Eric Adams
Borough President
Brooklyn

Donovan Richards
Borough President
Queens

Ruben Diaz
Borough President
Bronx

James S. Oddo
Borough President
Staten Island