

25 September 2025

Mark Levine
Manhattan Borough President
1 Centre Street, 19th Floor
New York, New York 10007

Dear Borough President Levine,

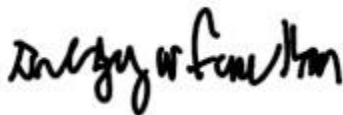
Thank you for your powerful and important letter. I completely agree with your assessment and appreciate you raising these critical points that deserve addressing. The federal government's threats to cancel grants are a blatant attack on the human rights and dignity of our students, particularly vulnerable LGBTQIA+ youth.

We stand firm and reject these discriminatory actions. It's clear that the federal government's interpretation of Title IX is a misreading of the law and has no bearing on the Magnet School Assistance Program (MSAP) funding. Withdrawing this support would directly harm underserved communities and undermine the very purpose of these powerful programs.

Furthermore, I agree that safeguarding trans students is a foundational purpose of Title IX, and these rights are further codified under both New York City and New York State laws. We must continue to uphold these laws, while protecting the rights and dignity of all our students.

I will continue to use every forum to defend these protections and ensure our schools receive the federal funding they are owed. We must send a clear message that we will not sacrifice equality and inclusion of our principles in exchange funding dollars.

Sincerely,



Gregory W. Faulkner
Chairperson
Panel for Educational Policy