

Dear [ELECTED OFFICIAL]:

As the parent of a student at P.S. 334, The Anderson School, and resident of District 3, I am extremely concerned by the August 2019 recommendation from the School Diversity Advisory Group (SDAG) to eliminate Gifted and Talented (G&T) programs in New York City. **As my elected representative, I ask that you reject the recommendation to eliminate G&T programs from New York City.**

Although I agree with the SDAG's desire to improve access to quality education for all children, eliminating my child's school, and schools and programs like hers, is not the answer. P.S. 334 is a thriving school, with engaged learners, a devoted and talented staff, and a dedicated parent body. It has been incredibly successful in preparing its students for high school and beyond. Moreover, in a school district of more than one million children that offers a variety of school choice options to parents, there should be room for accelerated learning programs such as the one at P.S. 334.

Rather than eliminating successful programs like the one at P.S. 334, the Department of Education should explore ways of increasing access to these programs so that they are available to students from diverse backgrounds across the City.

As my elected representative, please urge Mayor de Blasio and Chancellor Carranza to include parent representatives of the G&T programs in the important ongoing discussion regarding next steps following the issuance of the SDAG report. G&T program representatives were not included in the process leading to the August 2019 SDAG report. This lack of inclusion should be remedied going forward.

Sincerely,