

DISTRICT OFFICES
2015 STILLWELL AVENUE
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11223
(718) 307-7151

445 NEPTUNE AVENUE
COMMUNITY ROOM 2C
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11224
(718) 373-9673

CITY HALL OFFICE
250 BROADWAY
SUITE 1785
NEW YORK, NY 10007
(212) 788-7045

mtreyger@council.nyc.gov



THE COUNCIL
OF
THE CITY OF NEW YORK
MARK TREYGER

COUNCIL MEMBER, 47TH DISTRICT
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October 15, 2020

Dear Chancellor Carranza:

As you know, every year the Department of Education (DOE) is required to release detailed reports on average class size by school, district and citywide on Nov. 15, based on Oct. 31 ATS data. I am concerned that these reports may not be released on time this year—and the data is crucial, particularly now—and especially as many parents and teachers are reporting extremely large remote class sizes with as large as 70 or 100 students or more. Please see recent articles in [NY Post](#), [WSJ](#) and [Gothamist](#) about this issue.

It is also critically important that this year, these reports should be reported in three different categories: the size of in-person classes, the size of online classes for blended learning students, and the size of online classes for students opting into full-time remote learning. Otherwise, the averages across all three categories will be far less meaningful, given how the small size of in-person classes will likely skew the overall class size averages for each class, and obscure the actual size of online classes, whether for full-time remote or blended learning students.

It is also important to disaggregate online class sizes for blended learning students from online class sizes for students opting into full-time remote learning because the UFT class size limits are different for each category, with the former allowed this year to double in size to 50 students per class in Kindergarten and 64-68 students per class size in other grades, while class sizes for full-time remote learning students are supposed to adhere to the usual contractual limits of 25 students in Kindergarten, and 32-34 in the other grades.

As usual, the class size data should also be disaggregated by general education, gifted and talented and inclusion classes, as well as by self-contained special education classes, which are required to be smaller by state law.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this important matter.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Treyger".

Council Member Mark Treyger, Chair of the Education Committee