

March _____, 2020

Re: Opting Out My Children from Attending School Due to COVID-19 Outbreak

Dear Principal _____:

I, _____ (parent/guardian's name), understand that the school is required to provide children with a free public education. I also understand that I have a parental right (as confirmed by ESSA and acknowledged by city and state officials) to refuse to send my child to school if they are ill, someone in the family is ill, or if I do not feel comfortable sending them to school. In exercise of that right, I am writing to refuse to allow my child to attend school while the COVID-19 (coronavirus) is a pandemic in New York City and across the country.

The CDC has recommended that schools be closed for 8 weeks. As a parent, I will no longer put my child/children or family at risk. I would like to be emailed any school work that my child/children would be expected to do during this time. If this is not possible, I expect that my child is given time to make up his/her work upon returning to school.

Please note that city officials have stated that students cannot be punished, forced to go to summer school, held back, or forced to have a promotion portfolio solely because they did not attend classes in their school building during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Thank you in advance for respecting my refusal.

Sincerely,

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Name (Printed)

Parent/Guardian Email Address

Child's name (Printed)

Child's class/grade (Printed)