Morningside Heights Manhattanville Hamilton Heights

December 29, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

At its regularly scheduled General Board Meeting held remotely on Thursday, December 17, 2020, Manhattan Community Board No. 9 passed the following **Letter of Support re: PUMP Initiative** by a vote of 42 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstention.

The members of the Youth Education & Libraries Committee for Manhattan Community Board No. 9 write this letter in support of the PUMP Initiative, a non-profit organization committed to educating and empowering the youth of our communities.

What began as free weekend SAT and SHSAT prep for our youth has evolved into a supportive and intuitive mentorship program. Since their initial visit to Community Board 9 in 2018, PUMP has consistently been involved with and worked with our community and its leaders.

The current COVID-19 Pandemic has drastically changed many aspects of education, leaving our children without support and resources. Children and families are struggling with connectivity and technology, financially and emotionally.

Eager to give relief, PUMP introduced its FREE **Virtual Learning Program.** The program is available to all students from 3rd - 12th grade for academic, creative arts, technology, or life skills. Families receive private 1-on-1 support virtually and free of cost. PUMP's volunteers act as mentors to the children who enroll; providing them with tutoring, financial education and emotional support.

The team at the PUMP Initiative are dedicated members of our community and fervent supporters of our youth. Now looking to expand their program, and in anticipation of PUMP building their relationship with the Board of Education and Mount Sinai Health System, the Youth Education & Libraries Committee is excited to support PUMP in this and future endeavors.

If you have any questions and/or further information is needed, please do not hesitate contacting me or District Manager, Eutha Prince, at the board office (212) 864-6200.

Sincerely,

Barry Weinberg

Chair

cc: Hon. Bill De Blasio, Mayor

Hon. Scott Stringer, NYC Comptroller

Hon. Gale A. Brewer, Manhattan Borough President

Hon. Brian Benjamin, State Senator Hon. Robert Jackson, State Senator

Hon. Daniel J. O'Donnell, Assembly Member

Hon. Inez Dickens, Assembly Member

Hon. Al Taylor, Assembly Member

Hon. Mark Levine, City Council Member

Hon. Bill Perkins, City Council Member