



Board of Trustees of The City University of New York

RESOLUTION

Declaring June 19, 2020 or “Juneteenth” a Holiday For All Employees of The City University of New York June 18, 2020

WHEREAS, On June 17, 2020, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo announced Executive Order No. 204, “Declaring Juneteenth a Holiday for New York State Employees” (“Executive Order No. 204”); and

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 204 describes how “news of liberation of slaves came to State of Texas more than two years after President Abraham Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation went into effect on January 1, 1863; African Americans across the state were made aware of their right to freedom on June 19, 1865, when Major General Gordon Granger arrived in Galveston with federal troops to read General Order No. 3 announcing the end of the Civil War and that all enslaved people;” and

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. 204 further states that the State of New York “has a tradition of acknowledging significant milestones in advancing the cause of freedom, and New Yorkers, some of whom descend directly from those brave men and women that gained freedom on that day, join in celebrating the 155th anniversary of Juneteenth, an observance that commemorates the official announcement made in the State of Texas regarding the abolition of slavery and the freeing of some quarter-million African Americans;” and

WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees of The City University of New York (the “University”) supports the statements expressed in the Governor’s Executive Order No. 204, which is consistent with the University’s mission and values; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees of the University further supports the Governor’s Executive Order No. 204 that “observance of Juneteenth honors the history, perseverance, and achievements of African Americans, and celebrates America’s progress and continuing commitment to realizing the principles of liberty and equality upon which our nation was founded;” and

WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees of the University desires that all University employees benefit from the observance of June 19, 2020 as a holiday and as stated in Executive Order No. 204 serve as “a reminder of the hardships and losses suffered by African Americans in their struggle to attain freedom, and we pay tribute to the memory of those who made the ultimate sacrifice in this quest; through their experiences and those of others who were successful in achieving victory, we find among the most poignant and valuable lessons of humankind that continue to resonate with people of all backgrounds.”

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees authorizes and hereby declares that Friday June 19, 2020, be and it hereby is an official holiday for The City University of New York, whereby employees of the University will be afforded the requisite benefits, allowances and excusals from work, as would otherwise be afforded to all such employees of the University on all such other legal holidays approved by the Board of Trustees of the University and consistent with the policies of this Board of Trustees; and

BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees authorizes and directs the Chancellor to take any and all such action as he or his designee(s) deem reasonably necessary and appropriate to give effect to the foregoing resolution, and that such action by the Chancellor or his designee(s) be conclusive evidence of his or her authority to perform all such acts and to execute and deliver all such relevant documents and instruments on behalf of the University in order to give effect to the foregoing resolution.