

*****Press Release*****

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In Crowded Race for City Council, Democrat Marti Speranza Gains UFT Endorsement

Teachers Give major boost to surging candidate in final weeks of campaign

MANHATTAN, N.Y. – Marti Speranza, Democratic candidate for the 4th District’s City Council seat, today gained the endorsement from the powerful Union Federation of Teachers (UFT), adding a major ally in the tightly contested race. The UFT, which represent teachers, education professionals, and support staff in New York City has approximately 200,000 members and 60,000 retirees and is one of the most coveted endorsements in city races.

“Marti Speranza has dedicated her professional career to empowering women,” **said UFT President Michael Mulgrew.** “She is a fighter for her community and will be a fighter for the children of New York City public schools.”

“I am so honored to receive the UFT’s support and to stand with our teachers and school professionals to fight for strong public schools. We can never allow zip codes to determine the quality of educational opportunities for our students and their families. I am eager to get to work advocating for our students, parents and educators” **said Speranza.**

The UFT is New York City’s primary union for teachers, paraprofessionals, school secretaries, and other professional staff in the city’s public school system. The political arm of the organization, the UFT Political Action Department, focuses on building relationships in the community and promoting candidates and policies that support public education.

Speranza has advocated for increased funding for city schools, specifically to reduce overcrowding, improve school infrastructure, develop more STEM education opportunities, and create an after-school financial literacy program.

This endorsement gives the Speranza campaign a major boost in the last few weeks before the September 12 primary election. The UFT joins the Communications Workers of America, Professional Staff Congress, Progressive Caucus Co-Chair Antonio Reynoso, State Senator Brian Benjamin, and former Council Member Ronnie Eldridge, among others in supporting Marti. The 4th District includes the Upper East Side, Midtown East, Stuyvesant Town, and Central Park South.

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