



ECC Resolution Against the CLT Bill

Dear Senator Sanders and Assemblyman Anderson,

The Steering Committee of the Education Council Consortium has reviewed [Senate Bill S7280/A8194](#), and **we emphatically oppose the proposed changes to the NYC Administrative Code.**

We see the concept of a “Central Leadership Team” as a clandestine attempt to subvert Mayoral Control without actually changing or removing it. While we agree that New York City desperately needs a new form of School Governance, this Bill is *not* the solution—in fact, it makes the problem *worse*.

We have asked the Education Committees of both the Assembly and the Senate to form a Task Force of experts and rights-holders that would offer proven solutions for a new form of School Governance, where parents have a say in educational policies. A team of experts is what is needed if we are going to discuss an end to Mayoral Control.

In addition, this proposal was presented to both our organization and the Chancellor’s Parent Advisory Council (CPAC). Both organizations [deemed it an unnecessary](#) additional layer of bureaucracy without substantially improving how parents participate in the decision making process. Currently the NYC school governance structure consists of School Leadership Teams, District Leadership Teams, Citywide & Community Education Councils, CPAC and the Board of Education (aka., PEP), the majority of whose members are NYC public school parents. Parent leaders are involved in various capacities and across different organizations throughout the DOE from the school level to the citywide level. It is not apparent what benefit the CLT will bring or what evidence exists to support the CLT as a viable solution. We further question the efficacy of amending the NYC Administrative Code rather than amending the NYS Education Law. It is New York State Education Law that outlines the governance structure and secures the perpetuity of Mayoral Control; amending anything other than that simply adds to an already bloated bureaucracy, and still leaves the ability to devalue parent voice in the hands of one person. Will such a move create two separate school governance systems in New York City?

Please do not vote this bill out of your respective committees. Rather, please work with us and our partner organizations to develop an alternative to Mayoral Control.

Parent voice currently shows up in a myriad of ways from the school level (PTA/SLT) through the District (Presidents' Council/DLT/CEC), and onward to the Citywide level (CPAC/ECC). There are DOE Working Groups that parents sit on and participate in actively. Parent leaders write Resolutions and advocate at the Panel for Educational Policy meetings. Yet, one person, the Mayor, has the final say in decision making for 1 million students. That is the real issue that needs to be addressed and doing so requires a thoughtful inclusive process.

We will follow up with a request to meet with you to discuss replacing Mayoral Control.

Best,
NeQuan McLean & Shino Tanikawa, Co-Chairs
On behalf of the Steering Committee, Education Council Consortium

cc:
The Hon. Shelley Mayer, Chair, NYS Senate Education Comm
The Hon. John Liu, Chair, NYC Subcommittee, NYS Senate Education Comm
The Hon. Michael Bennedetto, Chair, NYS Assembly Education Comm
The Hon. Edward C. Braunstein, Chair, NYS Assembly Standing Committee
The Hon. Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Chair, NYS Senate Rules Committee