



# Citywide Council on High Schools

New York City Department of Education  
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President: Karen Wang  
First Vice President: Ephraim Zakry  
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Council Members: Selina Rochelle Atteberry  
Kenneth Bo  
Elaine Garcia  
Ted Leather  
Victoria Pisarevskiy

## Resolution No. 2021-2022-10

### *Resolution opposing the creation of Citywide Leadership Team*

**Co-Sponsors:** E. Garcia, D. Kross, K. Mark, K. Wang

WHEREAS, two bills have been introduced in the NY State Senate<sup>1</sup> and the NY State Assembly<sup>2</sup>, to establish the citywide leadership team (“CLT”) “to ensure that parents' voices are represented in all education decision-making, ensure education policies considered or implemented are conducive to promoting student achievement and enhancing the overall quality of education for students attending public schools in the city of New York”;

WHEREAS, such a proposed CLT would consist of at least 29 members, an unwieldy size which would limit its efficiency and productivity;

WHEREAS the following table summarizes the proposed breakdown of the CLT and highlights significant flaws:

<sup>1</sup> Bill S7180: <https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2021/S7280>

<sup>2</sup> Bill A08194: <https://nyassembly.gov/leg/?bn=A08194&term=2021>

Parent of NYC preK-12 public school children?		
1	Selected by Chancellor	no requirement
1	Selected by Council of School Supervisors and administrators	no requirement
1	Selected by UFT	no requirement
1	Selected by DC37	no requirement
1	Selected by local 237	no requirement
<b>17 Parent reps, of which:</b>		
	2 Selected by co-chairs of CPAC	no requirement
	5 Selected by voting members of CPAC	Yes - K-8 parents
	5 Selected by each Borough's Presidents council	no requirement
	1 Elected CEC (elected by CEC presidents)	Implicitly yes as <i>elected</i> CEC members must be parents
	4 Citywide council members selected by such councils	no requirement (appointed would not have to be a parent)
<b>7 Students Selected by Chancellor</b>		
<b>29 Total Members</b>		<b>of which parents: 6</b>

Namely:

- Only 6 of the 29 proposed members are required to be parents of children in grade pre K to 12 in public schools, resulting in a parent oversight body where parents are effectively a minority of the members, and a resulting majority with no current relevant experience or direct vested interest in policies and structures that it would have oversight on;
- The overwhelming majority of members would be appointed as opposed to elected, allowing for no direct parent input into their representation; and
- 7 of the 29 proposed members would be students, who would be given oversight over the school system and its administrators despite not yet having completed a high school education;

WHEREAS New York State Education Law Section 2590-A<sup>3</sup> established Community Education Councils and Citywide Councils to allow for directly elected parent leaders to give a voice to parents; such councils have the following powers and responsibilities:

- (i) Advise and comment on any education or instructional policy;
- (ii) Issue an annual report on the effectiveness of the city district in providing services to students and making recommendations, as appropriate, on how to improve the efficiency and delivery of such services;
- (iii) Hold at least one meeting per month open to the public and during which the public may discuss issues facing schools.

WHEREAS such a CLT would only serve to undermine the comprehensive list of existing structures already in place to give parents a voice (Panel for Educational Policy, Citywide and District Community Education Councils, District Leadership Teams, School Leadership Teams, Presidents Councils, Chancellor's Parent Advisory Council) by adding oversight without accountability, increasing bureaucracy, and creating further unnecessary burden on stakeholders to add another set of meetings to attend;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the CCHS urges the New York State Senate and Assembly Education Committees to not allow S7180 and A08194 out of the respective committees; and

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/laws/EDN/2590-A>

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the CCHS continues to urge the NYS Senate and Assembly to give New York City high school parents direct representation on the Panel for Education Policy as it has done for the other Citywide Councils, and not leave one third of NYC families without representation.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the CCHS urges the Department of Education to strengthen and uplift all parent voices by working with elected CECs and Citywide Councils in a more transparent and collaborative process by which

- (1) Appointments to working groups are done in a transparent way by which members can nominate themselves and composition of such groups represents a balanced and wide range of views of parents across the city
- (2) Changes to policies are developed in a collaborative manner in which parent leaders have a seat at the table and are engaged in an iterative decision-making process

*This resolution was adopted by roll call vote of the Citywide Council on High Schools on October 12, 2022, by a vote of: 8-0.*

*VOTING RECORD*

*Selina Rochelle Atteberry – not present*

*Yingkan ‘Kenneth’ Bo - Yes*

*Elaine Garcia – Yes*

*Deborah Kross – Yes*

*Ted Leather – not present*

*Kin Mark – Yes*

*Alysa O’Shea – Yes*

*Victoria Pisarevskiy – Yes*

*Karen Wang – Yes*

*Ephraim Zakry – Yes*