

Hearing on Diversity in New York City Schools and Proposed Int. No. 511-A, Res. 453 & Res. 442

The City Council's Education Committee, chaired by Council Member Daniel Dromm, will hold an oversight hearing on "**Diversity in New York City Schools**" as well as to consider Int. 511A, Res. 453 & Res. 442.

Below is information regarding the upcoming hearing:

Hearing on: **"Oversight: Diversity in New York City Schools"**
Date: **Thursday, December 11, 2014**
Time: **10:00 am (*public testimony is estimated to begin sometime after 1:00pm)**
Place: **Council Chambers – City Hall**

A March 2014 study from the UCLA Civil Rights Project showed that New York State has the most non-diverse public schools in the country. A considerable body of research indicates that racial and economic diversity of schools is one of the few education reforms that is proven to improve the educational achievement and life opportunities of minority and low-income children systemically, and is linked to enhanced benefits for all students. This hearing will examine the causes of lack of diversity in City public schools and DOE's efforts to address this problem, as well as successful efforts in some districts to achieve greater student diversity.

The Committee will also hear testimony on the following:

Proposed Int. No. 511-A-2014 - A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to requiring the department of education report annually on progress and efforts toward increasing diversity within schools, including but not limited to, disparities within charter schools and special programs.

The full text of **Proposed Int. No. 511-A-2014** can be found at the following link on the Council's website: <http://legistar.council.nyc.gov/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=1946653&GUID=7329D54A-4E94-443D-9411-BCF5CC0C65D8&Options=Advanced&Search=>

Res. 453-2014 - Resolution calling upon the New York City Department of Education to officially recognize the importance and benefits of school diversity and to set it as a priority when making decisions regarding admissions policies and practices, creation of new schools, school rezoning and other pertinent decisions and commit to having a strategy in each district for overcoming impediments to school diversity.

The full text of **Res. 453-2014** can be found at the following link on the Council's website: <http://legistar.council.nyc.gov/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=1946667&GUID=978FDCA7-DD2F-48B9-91A2-DD01BD96A9A1&Options=Advanced&Search=>

Res. 442-2014 - Resolution calling upon the New York State Legislature to pass and the Governor to sign S.7738/ A.9979, to change the admissions criteria for New York City's Specialized High Schools.

The full text of **Res. 453-2014** can be found at the following link on the Council's website: <http://legistar.council.nyc.gov/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=1946627&GUID=4431C817-A0F1-42E6-9284-1FF2843326AE&Options=Advanced&Search=>

We invite members of Community Education Councils, parents, students, educators, advocates, and all other stakeholders and interested members of the public to testify at this hearing. Testimony will be limited to 2-3 minutes per person to allow as many as possible to testify. Although the hearing starts at 10:00 am, the Administration (Department of Education), as well as other witnesses (such as elected officials) have been invited to testify and answer questions from Council Members at the outset, so we do not expect to hear from others until sometime after 1:00 pm. Please make sure you fill out a witness slip on the desk of the Sergeant-at-arms if you wish to testify. If you plan to bring written testimony, please bring at least 20 copies. If you are unable to attend the hearing and wish to submit written testimony, please email your testimony to jatwell@council.nyc.gov.

Please share this information with any interested groups or individuals. Thank you for your assistance and we look forward to seeing you on **December 11th**! **Please note - hearing dates and times are subject to change.** For information about hearings and other events, check the Council's website at <http://council.nyc.gov/html/action/calendar.shtml> or, if you'd like to receive email notices of upcoming hearings, you can sign up at the following link <http://council.nyc.gov/html/action/signup.shtml>. All hearings are open to the public.