

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

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CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

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October 29, 2025

Start: 9:29 a.m.

Recess: 9:42 a.m.

HELD AT: 250 BROADWAY - 8TH FLOOR - HEARING
ROOM 1

B E F O R E: Rita C. Joseph, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Eric Dinowitz
James F. Gennaro
Jennifer Gutiérrez
Shahana Hanif
Shekar Krishnan
Linda Lee
Farrah N. Louis
Mercedes Narcisse
Pierina Ana Sanchez
Lynn C. Schulman
Althea V. Stevens

1 COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

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2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Testing, testing. This
3 is a microphone check for the New York City Council
4 Committee on Education vote, recorded by Sergeant Ben
5 Levy at 250 Broadway, Hearing Room 1. The date is
6 October 29, 2025.

7 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Good morning, and
8 welcome to today's vote from the New York City
9 Council Committee on Education.

10 At this point, I'd like to remind
11 everyone to please silence their electronic devices,
12 and at no point is anyone to approach the dais.

13 Chair, we are ready to begin.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: [GAVEL]
15 Good morning, and welcome everyone. I'm Council
16 Member Rita Joseph, Chair of the Committee on
17 Education. First, I'd like to acknowledge my
18 Colleagues who are present, Council Member Louis,
19 Council Member Gennaro on Zoom, Council Member
20 Dinowitz, Council Member Krishnan, Council Member
21 Lee, Council Member Schulman, Council Member Stevens.
22 I think that's it.

23 Today, the Committee is voting on
24 Proposed Resolution Number 501-A, sponsored by
25 Council Member Shekar Krishnan. This proposed

resolution calls on the New York State Legislature to pass, and the Governor to sign, A1080 and a companion bill in the Senate to require school districts to send water safety informational materials home to students, parents, or guardians, and to permit school districts to provide water safety instructions in school for K-12 students. Lastly, a heartbreaking number of children and teenagers drown in New York City beaches. With nearly 520 miles of waterfront and countless pools, stronger water safety instructions in New York City is a necessity. According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, drowning is a leading cause of unintentional injury-related death among children. For children ages one to four, it is the number one cause. The fact that many New York children enter adolescence without critical life skills is a failure of our community. It is our duty to ensure that every resident has the skills and knowledge to safely enjoy our waters.

Council Member Shekar, would you like to make a statement?

COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Thank you, Chair. Good morning bright and early to my esteemed Colleagues.

In 2024, New Yorkers died of drowning, a record high since 2009. The need for water safety education is a year-round, all-hands-on-deck mission. I'm proud that we are voting on my resolution, Resolution 501, calling on the New York State Legislature and Governor Hochul to educate our students on swim safety by requiring schools to send home resources. As Chair of the Parks Committee of the New York City Council, I'm dedicated to ensuring that our children and New Yorkers are safe while swimming in pools and our beaches. One death due to drowning is too much. Today, I hope we urge the State to do statewide education, ensuring all our children have information on water safety. Thank you, Chair, and thank you to all my Colleagues who I urge to vote yes on this resolution.

CHAIRPERSON JOSEPH: Thank you, Council Member Krishnan.

I would like to take a moment to thank my Chief-of-Staff, Juvanie Piquant; my Deputy Chief, Joel; the Education Staff Legislator, Alejandro Carvajal; Senior Analyst, Chloë Rivera; and Policy Analysis, Katie Salina.

1 COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION 5

2 I will now turn to the Clerk to call the
3 roll.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Good
5 morning. William Martin, Committee Clerk. Roll call
6 vote, Committee on Education.

7 Chair Joseph.

8 CHAIRPERSON JOSEPH: Aye.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Louis.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye

11 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Gennaro.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Aye.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
14 you. Dinowitz.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Aye.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN:

17 Gutiérrez. Hanif. Hanks. Krishnan.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Lee.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Narcisse.
22 Sanchez. Schulman.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Stevens.

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1 COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

6

2 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye on all. Oh,
3 and a reminder to everybody, today is Foster Care
4 Day. Please go see the young people in the overflow
5 room. Thank you.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: With a
7 vote of eight in the affirmative, zero in the
8 negative, and no abstentions, item is adopted by the
9 Committee.

10 CHAIRPERSON JOSEPH: We're going to keep
11 the vote open.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN:
13 Continuation roll call, Committee on Education.

14 Council Member Gutiérrez.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Vote is
17 now nine in the affirmative.

18 Council Member Hanif.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER HANIF: Aye.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Vote is
21 now currently 10 in the affirmative.

22 Continuation roll call, Committee on
23 Education.

24 Council Member Sanchez.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Aye.

1 COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

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2 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Vote is
3 now 11 in the affirmative, zero in the negative, and
4 no abstentions.

5 Continuation Committee on Education.

6 Council Member Narcisse.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Good morning,
8 and thank you for waiting for me. I vote aye.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
10 you. Resolution 501 is adopted by the Committee with
11 12 in the affirmative, zero in the negative, and no
12 abstentions.

13 CHAIRPERSON JOSEPH: Thank you all, and
14 we're closing out the vote. [GAVEL]

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C E R T I F I C A T E

World Wide Dictation certifies that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. We further certify that there is no relation to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that there is interest in the outcome of this matter.



Date October 31, 2025