

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

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November 10, 2021
Start: 10:47 a.m.
Recess: 10:53 a.m.

HELD AT: Committee Room - City Hall

B E F O R E: Mark Treyger
CHAIRPERSON

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
Ben Kallos
Ydanis Rodriguez
Eric Dinowitz
Kevin Riley
Oswald Feliz
Rafael Salamanca Jr.
Barry Grodenchik
James F. Gennaro
Daniel Dromm
I. Daneek Miller
Stephen T. Levin
Robert E. Cornegy, Jr.
Brad Lander
Alicka Ampry-Samuel
Inez Barron
Justin Brannan
Farah N. Louis
Deborah Rose
Joseph C. Borelli

A P P E A R A N C E S (CONTINUED)

2 [background comments]

3 [gavel]

4 CHAIRPERSON TREYGER: Okay. Good morning
5 and welcome to today's Committee on Education vote on
6 Introduction number 2426-A and 2427-A, both sponsored
7 by myself. The bills focus on the number of COVID
8 cases broken out by student, teacher, staff, and
9 administrator for each school and the percentage of
10 vaccinated persons broken out by student, teacher,
11 staff, and administrator for each school and require
12 DOE to report on school attendance, vaccinations,
13 testing consent, and quarantine data. Since May
14 2020, this committee has exclusively focused on COVID
15 19 impact on our education system. We focused our
16 efforts on areas of a pandemic's impact with each
17 hearing leading to this one. We looked at the switch
18 to remote learning last spring, we examined the delay
19 to the 2020-2021 school year, we focused on the
20 overall health and safety of reopening our school
21 system, we looked at the impact on students with
22 disabilities, we held a hearing on social emotional
23 learning and support staff and schools, and we looked
24 at the impact of the pandemic on childcare in New
25 York City. Each hearing led to today. The impact of

2 COVID-19 on student learning and academic
3 achievement. Each hearing provided deeper insight
4 for this committee on the challenges and problems
5 facing our students, families, teachers, and school
6 leaders and, lately, at each hearing, my requests for
7 data have been met with muddled answers and
8 unsatisfactory information. These bill throw wide
9 open the doors to DOE data that policy makers and
10 parents should have access to. The granular level
11 data that theses bills require will allow us to deep
12 dive. Members, please. Members. Members. Thank
13 you. The granular level data that these bills
14 require will allow us to deep dive into issues and
15 trends that may be occurring across our public school
16 system, but that we would not know is happening
17 because of a lack of transparency on the part of the
18 DOE. That changes today with these two bills and I
19 look forward to seeing them become law. And just to
20 give clarity for my colleagues, the administration
21 only recently gave out a number to us as far as
22 citywide enrollment and they used an excuse to delay
23 the release of that number citing in October register
24 your attendance month with the state. They have had
25 access to this attendance from the beginning, but we

2 still don't have attendance raw numbers per school at
3 the granular level. We are also getting information
4 on test consent forms, vaccination per school,
5 critical information that we need that we just have
6 not had access to for quite some time. I want to now
7 thank my staff and committees staff and I will now
8 turn to the clerk to call the role.

9 [background comments]

10 CHAIRPERSON TREYGER: While we wait for
11 the clerk, I just want to note the members that are
12 here. Council member Riley. I see Council member
13 Borelli, Council member Gennaro, Council member
14 Louis, Council member Barron, Council member Levin,
15 Council member Grodenchik, Council member Brennan,
16 Council member Lander, Council member Cornegy--
17 Okay. And with that, we'll turn it back to the
18 clerk.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Good morning. William
20 Martin, Committee Clerk. Role call vote Committee on
21 Education. Both items are coupled. Chair Treyger?

22 CHAIRPERSON TREYGER: I vote aye.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Lander?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: I vote aye.

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2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council member Lander
3 vote aye. Levin?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Levin vote aye. Council
6 member Barron?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote aye and ask
8 to be added to the legislation. Yes. Both of them.
9 Thank you.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cornegy?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Aye.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Kallos? Grodenchik?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: I vote aye and
14 I'd like to be added to the legislation, as well.
15 Both of them.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Dromm.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council member Dromm
19 votes aye. Brannan?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council member Brannan
22 votes aye. Louis?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: I vote aye on all
24 and want to be added, as well.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: You got it. Riley?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: I vote aye and
3 would like to be added on both, as well.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK: Gennaro?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Aye.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council member Gennaro
7 votes aye. Council member Borelli?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Aye.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. One moment.
10 Council member Kallos?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: I vote aye.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: By a vote of 13 in the
13 affirmative, zero in the negative, and no
14 abstentions, both items have been adopted by the
15 committee.

16 CHAIRPERSON TREYGER: Thank you. Are
17 there any members that are outside? I just want to
18 give a few minutes if anyone-- Oh. That's it. All
19 right. So thank you to my colleagues for our support
20 and this hearing is-- meeting is now adjourned.

21 [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 December 6, 2021