CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

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June 11, 2026
Start: 10:42 a.m.
Recess: 10:56 a.m.

HELD AT: 250 Broadway - 8th Floor - Hearing Room 2

B E F O R E: Eric Dinowitz
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Gale A. Brewer
Carmen N. De La Rosa
Amanda C. Farías
Jennifer Gutiérrez
Rita C. Joseph
Shekar Krishnan
Linda Lee
Farah N. Louis
Mercedes Narcisse
Lynn C. Schulman
Phil Wong
Susan Zhuang

SERGEANT AT ARMS: This is a microphone check for the Committee on Education recorded on June 11th, 2026, located in Hearing Room 2 by Nalzy Paytuvi. Good morning everyone and welcome to today's New York City Council vote for the Committee on Education. At this time, please silence all electronic devices and no one may approach the chair—uh, the dais. Chair, we are ready to begin.

CHAIRPERSON DINOWITZ: Thank you. Good morning, everyone. Welcome to today's vote. I'm Councilmember Eric Dinowitz, chair of the Committee on Education, proud public school alum, and forever educator. I want to acknowledge my colleagues who are present: Councilmembers Louis, Lee, Narcisse, De La, De La Rosa, uh, Zhuang, Wong, and Krishnan. Today, the committee will consider a package of legislation related to early childhood education. The system that supports our littlest and cutest learners. Quality early childhood education programs play an important role in early development. Early learning programs build the cognitive and social skills needed to do well in school and in life. During the first years of a child's life, their brain forms more than 1 million neural connections every second. Access to

stimulating learning opportunities early on strengthens these brain connections and ultimately lays the groundwork for lifelong academic success. Across all levels of New York government, leaders are recognizing the importance of investing in the early years of a child's life. The recently passed state budget significantly boosts funding for the city's early childhood education programs, and with the package of bills we are we can further strengthen the early childhood education system and better prepare it for expansion. The subcommittee— the subcommittee on early childhood education chaired by Council Member Jennifer Gutiérrez passed this package yesterday. Council Member Gutiérrez is not only chair of that subcommittee, uh, is a member of this committee and the sponsor of proposed interest bills Intro 579A. Intro 579A would require the Department of Education to develop and implement an annual outreach and education campaign regarding early childhood education programs to reach families with children who are eligible to enroll in early childhood education programs. The committee will also be considering proposed Intro 9A sponsored by Council Member, um, Linda Lee, in rel— in relation to a study

and report on the processes for obtaining permits and licenses or registrations to operate a child care program. This bill would require the Office of Child Care and Early Childhood Education, in consultation with the Department of Mental Health and Hygiene, the Department of Buildings, and the Fire Department of the City of New York, to conduct a study on the process for obtaining permits and licenses or registrations to operate a child care program in New York City. Additionally, the committee will consider two resolutions. Resolution 165, sponsored by Deputy Speaker Dr. Natasha Williams, calls on the New York State Legislature to introduce and pass, and the governor to sign, legislation to amend the Workers' Compensation Law in relation to allowing unused family, family paid leave, paid family leave to be transferred to grandparents. It works. And other designated caregivers. Lastly, Proposed Resolution 365A, sponsored by Council Member Kevin Riley, calls on the New York State Legislature to pass and the governor to sign Senate Bill, uh, 1994 and Assembly Bill 2218 to remove the minimum wage and hours requirement for applicants of child care assistance. I encourage my colleagues to support these pieces of

legislation. By passing this package, we have an opportunity to make small improvements that will greatly benefit the day-to-day functionality of the system responsible for the care and education— it still works. That's good, that's good. By passing this package, we have the opportunity to make small improvements that will greatly benefit the day-to-day functionality of the system responsible for the care and education of our younger, younger students. Finally, I would like to thank committee staff Alejandro Carvajal, Chloe Rivera, Katie Salina, Grace Amato, and Angeline Lawless, as well as my own staff Theo Solter, and Jenna Klaus. And we will hold for the vote. Okay, we've also been joined by Council Members Joseph and Brewer, and we are ready to begin our vote.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you, William Martin, Committee Clerk. Roll call vote, Committee on Education. All items are coupled. Chair Dinowitz.

CHAIRPERSON DINOWITZ: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Louis.

COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye, on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Brewer.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: Yes.

COMMITTEE CLERK: De La Rosa.

COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Yes.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Farías.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Gutiérrez.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Joseph.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Krishnan.

COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Lee.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Narcisse.

COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Schulman.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Zhuang.

COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Wong.

COUNCIL MEMBER WONG: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

COMMITTEE CLERK: With a vote of 10 in—

CHAIRPERSON DINOWITZ: uh, we're gonna hold the vote open.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Okay.

CHAIRPERSON DINOWITZ: But you could still— yeah.

COMMITTEE CLERK: With a vote of 10 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative, no abstentions, all items have been adopted by the committee, and the roll will be held open at request of the chair.

CHAIRPERSON DINOWITZ: Thank you.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Um, just, ah, if I want to wait a second because I don't know where— yeah, more— thank you. Um, thank you. Yeah, you guys wouldn't mind waiting for, for 2, 3 minutes? I, I, hmm, no, I I don't know if she— I always thought it was any time, but clearly not the case. As long as my shape is on some, you know, I mean, I was like, close call, it happened. Oh. Um, oh yeah, still need some cleaning up. My view was like, my view was like, we can, we can be, right? That's, that's, that's my thought. I didn't, I didn't know. Yeah, so, so that's what I was trying to tell my team. There's a couple of areas I Yeah, we should, we should— anybody else to come? Hi. Hey, it's open, so you still have— so you can read your opening statement.

COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: No, no, no, that's okay. Let's just vote. Yeah, yeah, yeah. Not gonna hold up anybody.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Continuation roll call. Committee on Education. Council Member Gutiérrez.

COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Thank you, Chair. Thank you, guys for holding the vote.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON DINOWITZ: What— your final vote, can you announce?

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Final vote, Committee on Education is 11 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative, and no abstentions. Mr. Chair.

CHAIRPERSON DINOWITZ: Thank you, this committee is adjourned.

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 September 17, 2026