

Council Officers

Council Members

President	Stephen Stowe
First Vice President	John Ricottone
Second Vice President	Elizabeth Chan (IEP Rep)
Recording Secretary	Xiaoqiong (Joyce) Xie
Treasurer	Meifang (Junmi) Chen



Wenming (Angie) Chen	Maya Rozenblat (ELL Rep)
Yanqing (Angi) Chen	Tamara Stern (BP Rep)
Fabiola Mendieta-Cuapio (BP Rep)	Kevin Zhao

Resolution 9 (SY23-24)

Resolution for Renewal of Mayoral Control with Reforms

Approved by a vote of 8 Yeses on March 13th, 2024

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| 1. Stephen Stowe - Yes | 6. Wenming (Angie) Chen - Yes |
| 2. John Ricottone - Yes | 7. Yanqing (Angi) Chen - Yes |
| 3. Elizabeth Chan -Yes | 8. Fabiola Mendieta-Cuapio - Absent |
| 4. Xiaoqiong (Joyce) Xie -Yes | 9. Maya Rozenblat - Absent |
| 5. Meifang (Junmi) Chen - Ye | 10. Tamara Stern - No |
| | 11. Kevin Zhao - Yes |

Sponsor: Stephen Stowe

Co-sponsor(s): John Ricottone, Xiaoqiong (Joyce) Xie, Kevin Zhao

WHEREAS, in 1969, the New York State Legislature ended Mayoral Control of New York City Public Schools and established a decentralized model of education governance based on community school boards. This was done partly in response to protests that “schools had failed to educate black and Hispanic children”¹.

WHEREAS, in 2002, the New York State Legislature ended the community school boards. This was done partly in response to concerns that many community school boards were corrupt and ineffective^{2, 3}.

WHEREAS, since 2002, New York City Public Schools (NYCPS) are governed by a Mayoral Control system in which the Chancellor of Education is appointed by the Mayor and the Panel of Educational Policy (PEP) has a majority of members appointed by the Mayor.

WHEREAS, Mayoral Control of the schools is the same governance structure as every other City agency, all of which have administrators appointed by and reporting to the Mayor. This allows for efficient administration and accountability in the form of Mayoral elections.

¹ [CONSENSUS ON CITY SCHOOLS: HISTORY; Growing Outrage Leads Back to Centralized Leadership - The New York Times \(nytimes.com\)](https://www.nytimes.com/2019/03/13/us/politics/consensus-on-city-schools-history.html)

² [Third New York School Board Is Suspended As Hearings in Corruption Scandal Continue \(edweek.org\)](https://www.edweek.org/news/2019/03/13/third-new-york-school-board-is-suspended-as-hearings-in-corruption-scandal-continue)

³ [For School Districts Sullied By Corrupt Past, New Doubt - The New York Times \(nytimes.com\)](https://www.nytimes.com/2019/03/13/us/politics/school-districts-sullied-by-corrupt-past-new-doubt.html)

WHEREAS, the current system of Mayoral Control was extended for two years on June 30, 2022, but will revert to the decentralized system on June 30, 2024 unless Mayoral Control is extended or replaced with a new governance system by the State Legislature⁴

WHEREAS, the State Legislature has yet to identify a viable alternative to Mayoral Control, and implementation of any such alternative would require a public input process and a phase-in period lasting several years to avoid undue disruption to schools

WHEREAS, under Mayoral Control, Community Education Councils (CEC's) have few legal powers and serve largely advisory roles.

WHEREAS, CEC's provide only "consultation" input into the Community Superintendent hiring and evaluation process⁵. The NYCPS is entirely responsible for screening candidates and presenting candidates to the CEC's for this consultation. CECs do submit an annual evaluation of the Community Superintendent however the entire scope of this responsibility is narrow and limited to "Submit an annual evaluation of the superintendent to the chancellor"⁶. The acceptance and utilization of the evaluation is entirely at the discretion of the DOE with no transparency into the Community Superintendent's final evaluation by the DOE. This limited influence into the hiring and evaluation process of Community Superintendents results in a very weak accountability and governance structure between CEC's and the Community Superintendent

WHEREAS, notwithstanding the preceding clause, CEC's in their current form should absolutely NOT have ultimate authority over the decision to hire and fire Community Superintendent's.

WHEREAS, Community Education Council 20 (CEC 20) supports a continuation of overall Mayoral Control with certain changes to increase parent input on the selection of District leadership.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, CEC 20 urges the State Legislature to consider the following amendments to state education law:

- Extend Mayoral Control for 4 years
- Amend Education Law 2590-E to allow for the following:
 - For Community Superintendent hiring decisions, allow CEC's to select 3 finalist candidates for Community Superintendent from a preliminary list created by the NYCPS.
 - For Community Superintendent hiring decisions, allow CEC's to veto 1 candidate from a preliminary list or finalist list created by the NYCPS.
 - Establish a Community Superintendent performance evaluation committee which shall meet annually to assess the Community Superintendent's performance. The committee shall be composed of members of the NYCPS and CEC in numbers which give the NYCPS a simple majority. This same process shall apply when Superintendents are reviewed upon a change of Mayoral Administration.
 - Require that the final DOE annual Community Superintendent performance evaluation is made available to the CEC subject to standard confidentiality agreements.
 - Require the DOE to provide a written response to the CEC's annual evaluation of the Community Superintendent.

⁴ <https://www.chalkbeat.org/newyork/2022/7/1/23191277/hochul-signs-nyc-mayoral-control-bill-into-law-with-a-tweak/>

⁵ Chancellor's Regulation C-37, "Selection of Community Superintendents", issued August 1, 2019

⁶ Education Law, CHAPTER 16, TITLE 2, ARTICLE 52-A, SECTION 2590-E, "Powers and duties of community district education council"