

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

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December 10, 2018  
Start: 2:21 p.m.  
Recess: 2:34 p.m.

HELD AT: 250 Broadway - Committee Rm.  
14<sup>th</sup> Fl.

B E F O R E: MARK TREYGER  
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Alicka Ampry-Samuel  
Inez D. Barron  
Joseph C. Borelli  
Justin L. Brannan  
Andrew Cohen  
Robert F. Cornegy, Jr.  
Chaim M. Deutsch  
Daniel Dromm  
Barry S. Grodenchik  
Ben Kallos  
Andy L. King  
Brad S. Lander  
Stephen T. Levin  
Mark Levine  
Ydanis A. Rodriguez  
Deborah L. Rose  
Rafael Salamanca, Jr.  
Eric L. Ulrich

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

2 [sound check] [pause] [gavel]

3 CHAIRPERSON TREYGER: Okay. Good  
4 afternoon. I am Council Member Mark Treyger, Chair  
5 of the Education Committee. Thank you for joining us  
6 today as we vote on Proposed Introduction Nos. 1014-B  
7 and 1174-A as well as proposed Resolution No. 569-A  
8 all of which I'm proud to sponsor. I'd like to thank  
9 the members of the Education Committee who are here,  
10 Council Members Barron.

11 FEMALE SPEAKER: Nope.

12 CHAIRPERSON TREYGER: She's here.  
13 Council Member Deutsch, Council Member Dromm, Council  
14 Member Kallos, Council Member King, Council Member  
15 Levine, Council Member Grodenchik, Council Member  
16 Ampry-Samuel, Council Member Borelli and Council  
17 Member Rodriguez. The legislation we are voting on  
18 today relates to fair student funding, which is the  
19 main source of funding for most schools providing and  
20 average of two-thirds of an individual School's  
21 budget through a weighted pupil funding formula.  
22 Fair Student Funding is especially critical because  
23 it is flexible. It's actually the most flexible and  
24 could be used to meet the specific needs of each  
25 school students. However, the majority of schools

2 still do not receive the full amount of Fair Student  
3 Funding that they are entitled to in order to get a  
4 clear picture of which schools are getting full  
5 funding and which schools are not. In addition, the  
6 weights currently used for Fair Student Funding don't  
7 adequately reflect all reflect all of our students  
8 needs. Proposed Introduction 1014-B would require  
9 the Department of Education to report annually on all  
10 the school budget allocations allocated to each  
11 school in the prior school year. The report would  
12 include the amount of funding determined to be owed  
13 to the school pursuant to DOE's Fair Student Funding  
14 formula and the percentage of that amount actually  
15 allocated to each school. The bill would also  
16 require the report to be in machine readable format.  
17 Proposed Introduction 1174-A would create a task  
18 force to review and make recommendations relating to  
19 the formula used by the DOE to determine individual  
20 school budgets. The task force would include the  
21 Chancellor or his designee, the Speaker or his  
22 designee, representatives from Community Education  
23 Councils from each borough, as well as a rep from a  
24 union representing teachers, a rep from a union  
25 representing principals or parents of a currently

2 enrolled student and advocates who specialize in  
3 working with vulnerable student populations. The Task  
4 Force would convene on March 1, 2019, and will  
5 required to submit its report and recommendations by  
6 September 30, 2019. And finally, Proposed Resolution  
7 569-A calls on the DOE to factor in poverty as a  
8 weight in Fair Student Funding Formula for schools  
9 beginning at fourth grade or later. Currently, they  
10 only account for poverty up to the third grade.  
11 These important pieces of legislation will bring much  
12 needed oversight to our schools' budgets, and I urge  
13 my fellow committee members to vote in favor of  
14 Proposed Introduction 1014-B, Proposed Introduction  
15 1174-A and Proposed Resolution 569-A. I'd like to  
16 thank Education Committee staff Beth Golub, Jan  
17 Atwell, Kalima Johnson, Elizabeth Hoffman and Kaitlin  
18 O'Hagan. I'd like to also thank my staff Anna  
19 Scaife, Vanessa Ogle, and Eric Feinberg. Did  
20 everyone else join us? Councilman Brannan has joined  
21 us as well, and with that, I will ask our Committee  
22 Clerk to call the roll and begin the vote.

23 CLERK: William Martin, Committee Clerk.

24 Roll call vote Committee on Education. All items are  
25 coupled. Chair Treyger.

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2 CHAIRPERSON TREYGER: I vote aye.

3 CLERK: Barron.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote aye and  
5 ask to be added to all the legislation we're voting  
6 on today. Thank you.

7 CLERK: Deutsch.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: [off mic] Aye

9 CLERK: Dromm.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

11 CLERK: Kallos.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Aye on all.

13 CLERK: King.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Permission to  
15 explain my vote.

16 CHAIRPERSON TREYGER: Permission granted.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: First, I want to  
18 thank the Chair for help springing a lot of these  
19 conversations when it comes to the Department of  
20 Education and our children. I do want to add to the  
21 record while we're talking about fiscal equity across  
22 the city of New York and our school system, I'm  
23 asking all the adults in the room from State  
24 Legislators to Federal Legislators to the City  
25 Legislation, did we do right by our children? We

2 always come up with catchy phrases on how we should  
3 protect our children, educate our children, how  
4 knowledge is the key, wisdom and all these slogans,  
5 but we never put our money where our mouth is. We  
6 shouldn't be here having a debate and passing  
7 resolutions and introductions that tell the State to  
8 give us money that was committed and given to us over  
9 a decade ago. We got to get better as adults to  
10 manage our children's lives, and if there are ways to  
11 have better adults, that means our education system  
12 has to be top notch and across the United States of  
13 America. That all being said, please add me to these  
14 legislations, and I vote aye. [pause]

15 CLERK: Lander.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: [off mic] I vote  
17 aye and I also ask to be added as a sponsor of the  
18 bill.

19 CLERK: Levine.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: I vote aye on  
21 all. Thank you.

22 CLERK: Rodriguez.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: I vote aye and  
24 please add my name and if I'm—if I'm not included in  
25 any of the bill.

2 CLERK: Grodenchik.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: I vote aye  
4 and I'm already on two of the bills. So I feel like  
5 I'm a trend setter. [laughter] So thank you, Mr.  
6 Chair.

7 CLERK: Ampry-Samuel.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: I vote aye  
9 on all and thank you for your leadership.

10 CLERK: Brannan. [background comments/  
11 pause]

12 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: [off mic] I Vote  
13 aye and please add me as a co-sponsor.

14 CLERK: Borelli.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Aye on all  
16 except Reso 569-A.

17 CLERK: By a vote of 13 in the  
18 affirmative, 0 in the negative and no abstentions,  
19 Introductions 1014-B and 1174-A have been adopted and  
20 by a vote of 12 in the affirmative, 1 in the negative  
21 and no abstentions, Resolution 569 is also adopted by  
22 the committee. [background comments/pause]

23 CHAIRPERSON TREYGER: So with that, we'll  
24 just leave the vote open for another five or so



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2 minutes. I thank the members for their support.

3 [pause]

4 CLERK: Continuation roll call Committee  
5 on Education. Council Member Levin.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye on all.

7 [pause] And we've been joined by Council Member  
8 Cornegy. [pause]

9 CLERK: Continuation roll call Committee  
10 on Education. Council Member Cornegy.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: I vote aye.

12 [pause]

13 CLERK: Final vote Committee on Education,  
14 Introductions 1014-B and 1174-A have been adopted by  
15 the committee 16 in the affirmative, 0 in the  
16 negative and no abstentions, and Resolution 569-A is  
17 adopted by the Committee 15 in the affirmative, 1 in  
18 the negative and no abstentions. [pause]

19 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Officially  
20 adjourned. [gavel] [pause] I thank-I thank my  
21 colleagues for their support and this hearing is  
22 officially adjourned. [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 31, 2018