



Legislation Text

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Int. No. 1552

By Council Members Rivera, The Speaker (Council Member Johnson), Rosenthal, Kallos and Lander

A Local Law in relation to creating district diversity working groups

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. District diversity working groups. a. Definitions. For purposes of this local law, the following terms have the following meanings:

Community school district. The term “community school district” has the same meaning as such term is defined in subdivision 2 of section 2590-a of the education law.

Department. The term “department” means the New York city department of education.

b. There shall be a working group established for every community school district to review and make recommendations to foster and increase school diversity. Each working group shall consist of at least 13 members. Members of each working group shall be appointed by the mayor and consist of, at minimum, the following:

1. One elementary school teacher currently employed by the department and assigned to a school within the respective community school district;
2. Two middle school teachers currently employed by the department and assigned to a school within the respective community school district;
3. Two principals currently employed by the department and assigned to a school within the respective community school district;
4. Four parents of students attending a school within the respective community school district;

5. Two students currently attending a middle school within the respective community school district;
 6. One representative of the community education council within the respective community school district; and
 7. The superintendent, or superintendent's designee, with jurisdiction over the respective community school district.
- c. For each working group, the mayor shall appoint a department representative to serve as a co-facilitator.
 - d. Each working group shall select a community based organization to serve as a co-facilitator selected from a list established by the mayor. A community based organization is required to have a mission focused in support of multicultural education, diversity, or equity and justice.
 - e. All members shall be appointed within 90 days after the effective date of this local law. No member shall be removed except for cause by the appointing authority. In the event of a vacancy during the term of an appointed member, a successor shall be selected in the same manner as the original appointment.
 - f. Membership on a working group shall not constitute holding of a public office, and members of a working group shall not be required to take or file oaths of office before serving on the taskforce. Each member of a working group shall serve without compensation.
 - g. Each working group shall be required to meet no less than quarterly. Each working group shall additionally be required to hold at least one public hearing every quarter to solicit public comment and recommendations on improving diversity within the respective community school district.
 - h. The mayor may designate one or more agencies to provide staffing and other administrative support to each working group.
 - i. Each working group shall create a plan to foster and increase school diversity. Areas that should be examined include but are not limited to: admission policies, transfer trends, language access and student transportation.

j. Each working group shall submit a report of its findings and a plan to increase school diversity to the mayor, chancellor of the city school district of the city of New York, and the speaker of the council no later than September 1, 2020.

k. Each working group shall dissolve upon submission of the plans required by this local law.

§ 2. This local law takes effect immediately and is deemed repealed upon issuance of the plans required by section one of this local law.

MMB
LS #8100
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