



**Senator
Velmanette Montgomery**
Chair, Senate Standing
Committee on
Children and Families



**Senator
John C. Liu**
Chair, Senate Standing
Committee on New York
City Education



**Senator
Roxanne J. Persaud**
Chair, Senate Standing
Committee on
Social Services



**Senator
Zellnor Myrie**
Chair, Senate Standing
Committee on
Elections



**Assemblymember
Diana C. Richardson**
Assembly District 43

Senate Standing Committee on New York City Education Members:

Senator John C. Liu, Chair • Senator Jamaal T. Bailey
Senator Andrew Gounardes • Senator Robert Jackson • Senator Andrew J. Lanza
Senator Betty Little • Senator Velmanette Montgomery

Youth and Community Speak Out on Equity, Diversity and Admissions: The State of High Schools in New York City

Friday, May 10th • 6 PM – 8 PM
NYU Tandon School of Engineering
Bern Dibner Building
Pfizer Auditorium
5 MetroTech Center
Brooklyn, NY 11201

TESTIMONY BY
PRE-REGISTRATION ONLY AND
LIMITED TO 3 MINUTES
WRITTEN TESTIMONY ACCEPTED
RSVP to <http://bit.ly/HSBrooklynForum>
For questions or more information,
please call 718-643-6140.



UPCOMING NEW YORK STATE SENATE COMMITTEE ON NYC EDUCATION FORUMS ON SCHOOL DIVERSITY & SPECIALIZED HIGH SCHOOL ADMISSIONS:

Bronx Forum • Friday, May 17th, 2019 • 6 PM to 8 PM
Lehman College, Lovinger Theatre, 250 Bedford Park Blvd. W., Bronx NY 10468
For more information, please call 718-547-8854 or email ngaray@nysenate.gov

Manhattan Forum • Thursday, May 23rd, 2019 • 6 PM to 8 PM
P.S. 173M, 306 Fort Washington Avenue, New York, NY 10032
For more information, please call 718-765-6675 or visit: <http://bit.ly/LiuManhattanForum>

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NYStateSenatorVelmanetteMontgomery SenatorVelmanetteMontgomery NewYorkStateSenatorVelmanetteMontgomery

In January, over 70 high schools in NYC were designated as “Struggling” by the New York State Education Department. This forum will explore what is happening at high schools throughout New York City.

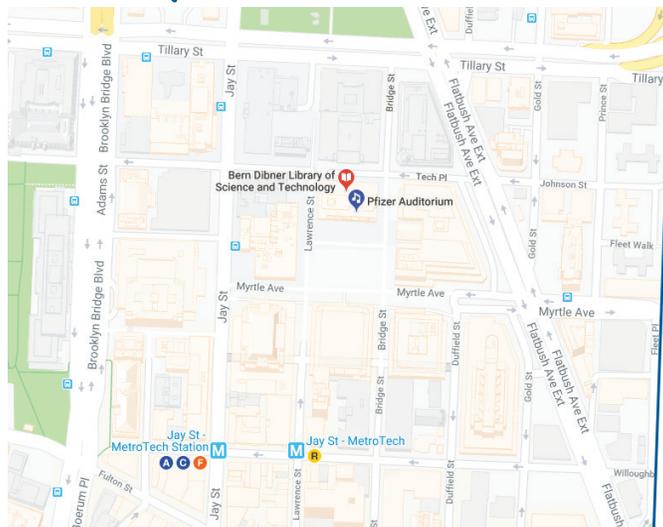
As we consider a legislative remedy to the issue of diversity in the specialized high schools, this is an opportune time to evaluate the state of New York City’s high schools overall. While the conversation with regard to the specialized high schools is a necessary one, these eight high schools only serve a small fraction of students in the public education system.

Parents, Youth and Community Leaders will testify on issues including:

- Equity of funding at individual high schools - what are the resources and needs of your high school?
- The impact of co-locations
- Admissions to New York City’s Public High Schools
- Admissions to New York City’s Specialized High Schools and the SHSAT exam
- Transfer schools and the impact of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) regulations
- Availability of guidance, college prep and college admissions counseling
- Availability of libraries, gyms and space for programming
- Advanced Placement Classes – what courses are offered at each school
- Availability of student extracurricular activities and athletic programs

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THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

SECRETARY, SENATE DEMOCRATIC CONFERENCE
RANKING MINORITY MEMBER

CHILDREN & FAMILIES
COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE
CRIME VICTIMS, CRIME & CORRECTION
EDUCATION
FINANCE
HEALTH
JUDICIARY
RULES

October 19, 2018

Chancellor Richard A. Carranza
New York City Department of Education
Tweed Courthouse
52 Chambers Street
New York, NY 10007

Dear Chancellor Carranza,

Specialized high schools in New York City are a great educational resource that provide our students with an unprecedented opportunity to excel in the public school system. Recently, there has been a renewed focus on the lack of diversity in these schools. Only 10% of students in these schools are Black or Latino even though they make up 70% of the overall student population.

I am supportive of efforts to increase access to the specialized schools and believe this is an opportune time for a comprehensive evaluation of all high schools city-wide. In order to help broaden the discussion between the Legislature, the New York State Board of Regents and the New York City Department of Education with regard to policy and resources, I am requesting the following information for all public high schools:

- demographics of student population at each school
- admissions criteria
- per-pupil spending
- ratio of college counselors to students
- graduation rates and numbers
- college acceptance rate
- number of advanced placement courses offered and in what subjects
- status of science labs and school libraries
- academic programs offered at each school

While the conversation with regard to diversity in specialized high schools is a necessary one, the eight specialized high schools only serve a small fraction of students. All of our young people deserve the chance to meet their full potential.

As we consider a legislative remedy to the issue of diversity in the specialized high schools, it is my hope that we take this opportunity to evaluate the state of New York City’s high schools overall. There are a number of high schools throughout the five boroughs that are high performing and successful yet are not part of the “specialized high school” system.

Your immediate attention to this request would be greatly appreciated. I look forward to our continued partnership on behalf of all students in the New York City public education system.

Sincerely,

State Senator Velmanette Montgomery
25th Senate District