

SAFETY FOR ALL STUDENTS

Public Charter School Students Deserve Access to Security Guards

Hundreds of schools serving tens of thousands of NYC students have been left out of a program that provides funding to hire school safety agents. Every student should feel safe from violence in and around their schools, and schools should feel equipped to support public health inside the building and public safety outside of their building.

It is long overdue for NYC to provide publicly funded security guards to public charter schools in private space! Amend & Pass Intro 532-2024!

Over 73,000 Public Charter School Students Are Excluded from School Safety

There are approximately 213 public charter schools in private space, serving over 73,000 students, that are not able to access the School Safety Guard Program. In addition, non-public schools with fewer than 300 students are not currently eligible for reimbursement.

These excluded public charter schools educate primarily low-income students of color: 90% of charter school students are Black or Latino; 79% of NYC charter school students are economically disadvantaged.

Borough	Economically Disadvantaged		Black Students		Latino Students		# of Charter Campuses in Private Space	# of Enrolled Students
	charter	district	charter	district	charter	district		
Bronx	88%	90%	37%	23%	58%	64%	83	27,197
Brooklyn	79%	77%	59%	26%	28%	31%	52	17,410
Manhattan	83%	66%	41%	16%	49%	47%	43	15,142
Queens	72%	75%	45%	14%	38%	43%	27	10,267
Staten Island	75%	65%	31%	11%	44%	30%	9	3,121
Total	82%	77%	46%	19%	43%	43%	214	73,137

Source: NYSED Preliminary Enrollment Data 2023-24

There is a simple solution.

The City Council should update the School Safety Guard Program by amending and passing Intro 532-2024 to include all charter schools in private space, along with non-public schools that serve less than 300 students.

“Our tax dollars should protect all our children.”

Mayor Eric Adams as Brooklyn Borough President, 2018*

* *Charter school advocates' next push: Funding for school security*, May 22, 2018, available at <https://ny.chalkbeat.org/2018/5/22/21105029/charter-schools-advocates-next-push-funding-for-school-security>