



CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT of ALBANY

1 Academy Park • Albany, New York 12207

(518) 475-6010 • Fax: (518) 475-6014

BOARD of EDUCATION

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July 14, 2023

Dear NYSSBA Colleagues:

The City School District of Albany asks that you consider the following resolution in support of legislation that would revise New York's school receivership law.

Be it resolved,

that the New York State School Boards Association supports legislation that would revise New York's school receivership law to remove punitive consequences and provide a more supportive, equitable system for assisting schools and school districts in need of improvement.

Rationale,

We commend – and share – the State of New York's focus on raising the knowledge, skill and opportunity of every student in our state. We value the state's emphasis on achieving these goals through an equitable distribution of resources and a data-driven focus on the strengths and needs of every child. However, we believe that the state's receivership law, much of which is fundamentally grounded in these principles, also goes too far with punitive measures that perpetuate deeply held perceptions about low-performing schools and the communities they serve. The harsh consequences for schools and school districts embedded in the receivership law also make it difficult for those entities to attract and retain the high-quality, highly effective leaders and teachers that low-performing schools need to succeed. We request that the state remove the punitive portions of the receivership law and develop a stronger and deeper system of support and assistance for schools and school districts in need, aligning with the recent restructuring of the state's overall accountability system that established the more supportive and achievement-centered Targeted Support and Improvement Schools (TSI) and Comprehensive Support and Improvement Schools (CSI) framework. We want every student to succeed, and we want them to be able to do so in school environments that uplift and support them no matter the challenges their community faces.

Thank you for your consideration of this resolution.

Sincerely,

Vickie Smith
President
Board of Education

VISION STATEMENT

The City School District of Albany will be a district of excellence with caring relationships and engaging learning experiences that provide equitable opportunities for all students to reach their potential.

MISSION STATEMENT

We will work in partnership with our diverse community to engage every learner in a robust educational program designed to provide the knowledge and skills necessary for success.