Landscape of Guidance Counselors & Social Workers in NYC Schools

According to the annual report on guidance counselors pursuant to Local Law 56 of 2014, reported on February 15, 2019, there were 2,881 full-time guidance counselors and 1,320 full-time social workers in schools during the 2018-2019 school year. Further, there were 72 school sites listed with neither a single full-time social worker nor a full-time guidance counselor.

Across 913 school sites covering grades 6 through 12, with a total enrollment of 575,989 students, there were 2,120 full-time guidance counselors and 734 full-time social workers:

Social Workers:

- There are 449 school sites listed that do not have a single social worker.
- 6 school sites have only a part time social worker.
- In addition to the schools without a full-time social worker:
  - 361 schools are operating above the 1:200 ratio.
  - 405 schools are operating above the 1:150 ratio.
- Only 59 schools are operating with a social worker to student ratio at or below 1:150.
- For all schools to reach a ratio of...
  - 1 to 200, there would need to be 2,646 additional social workers.
  - 1 to 150, there need to be 3,570 additional social workers.
- The City’s suspension rate is 3.2 per 100 students.
  - 550 schools are operating above that rate.
    - To bring only those schools to a ratio of...
      - 1 to 200, there would need to be additional 1,423 social workers.
      - 1 to 150, there would need to be additional 1,918 social workers.

Guidance Counselors:

- There are 40 school sites listed that do not have a single guidance counselor.
- 6 school sites have only a part time guidance counselor.
- In addition to the schools without a full-time guidance counselor:
  - 602 schools are operating above the 1:200 ratio.
  - 725 schools are operating above the 1:150 ratio.
- Only 148 schools are operating with a guidance counselor to student ratio at or below 1:150.
- For all schools to reach a ratio of...
  - 1 to 200, there would need to be 1,317 additional guidance counselors.
  - 1 to 150, there would need to be 2,203 additional guidance counselors.
- As mentioned above, there are 550 schools operating above the City’s suspension rate.
  - To bring those schools to a ratio of...
    - 1 to 200, there would need to be 652 additional guidance counselors.
    - 1 to 150, there would need to be 1,127 additional guidance counselors.

Data referenced above retrieved from InfoHub: