



# SAFE SCHOOLS ARE STRONG SCHOOL COMMUNITIES

## TO CREATE SAFE SCHOOLS, WE DEMAND

**INVEST IN THE CITY'S COMMITMENT TO RESTORATIVE JUSTICE BY GIVING \$30 MILLION DIRECTLY TO SCHOOLS TO BUILD THEIR OWN SCHOOL CLIMATE INITIATIVES**

**INCLUDING HIRING COMMUNITY MEMBERS AND/OR DEDICATING TO ROLES SUCH AS:**

- **PEACEBUILDERS**
- **MENTAL HEALTH AND HEALING SUPPORT STAFF**
- **YOUTH ADVOCATES**
- **RESTORATIVE JUSTICE COORDINATORS**

**REFOCUS RESTORATIVE JUSTICE MODEL WITH A SCHOOL-CENTERED APPROACH**

**CREATE A RESTORATIVE JUSTICE ACCOUNTABILITY COMMISSION COMPRISED OF STUDENTS, EDUCATORS AND PARENTS WHO HAVE EXPERIENCE WITH RESTORATIVE JUSTICE IN THEIR SCHOOLS.**

**HALT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF 300 NEW NYPD YOUTH OFFICERS, PROPOSED IN THE GUISE OF "SCHOOL SAFETY."**

**ELIMINATE THE \$20 MILLION INCREASE TO SCHOOL POLICING**

The Dignity in Schools Campaign-New York (DSC-NY) is a partnership of students, teachers, families, and advocates working toward a vision of school safety and accountability rooted in respect, responsibility, care, and support. Teachers, students, and their families know what is best for their schools, and should be partners in decision-making. **DSC-NY calls for the prioritization of funding initiatives within school communities that honor collaborative leadership, inclusion, and relationship-building—some of the cornerstones of the restorative justice philosophy.**

The school safety budget should focus on keeping schools safe while developing student leadership and conflict-resolution skills and increasing school-based staff. We oppose the Mayor's proposed appropriation of \$451 million, a \$20 million increase in the NYPD School Safety Division, as well as the initiative to place 300 new youth officers in precincts and increase NYPD coordination and information-sharing with School Safety Agents. These increases undermine the City's own efforts to create safe and supportive schools. You cannot have a positive school climate by directing public funds to school police. **Last year, Mayor de Blasio and Chancellor Carranza announced a citywide Restorative Justice initiative, showing a philosophical commitment to school safety rooted in respect, accountability, and care. However, the Mayor has not allocated new funding to these efforts.**

Research shows that embracing restorative justice fosters a sense of belonging and creates safe, positive school climates. Restorative justice offers people a chance to respond to a conflict or wrongdoing in a way that is both meaningful and just. **By emphasizing the needs of those who were hurt, holding accountable those who caused the harm, and including the community, restorative justice promotes accountability, healing, and learning rather than punishment.**



**CONTACT US**  
**DSC-NY**

[WWW.DIGNITYINSCHOOLS.ORG](http://WWW.DIGNITYINSCHOOLS.ORG)

[KATEM@DIGNITYANDRIGHTS.ORG](mailto:KATEM@DIGNITYANDRIGHTS.ORG)

917.994.0683