School Suspensions

Senate District 10

Senator James Sanders Jr

Jan. 2026

School Districts: NYC Geographic Districts 3, 4, 17, 18, 22, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, NYC Spec Schools - Dist 75

Charter Schools: Academy of The City, Achievement First (Crown Heights, Voyager) Amber CS East Harlem, Ascend (Brooklyn, Canarsie, Central Brooklyn, East Flatbush, Flatbush), Brooklyn Dreams, Brooklyn Prospect 15, Central Queens Academy, Challenge Preparatory, Cultural Arts Academy-Spring Creek, Dream East Harlem, East Harlem Scholars Academy (II), Elm Community, Explore (Empower, Exceed, Excel), Forte Preparatory Academy, Future Leaders Institute, Growing Up Green (II), Harbor Sci & Arts, Harlem Link, Harlem Prep, Harlem Village Academy East, Hebrew Language Academy, Innovation CHS, Ivy Hill Prep, Kings Collegiate, KIPP (AMP, Beyond), Lamad Academy, Leadership Prep Canarsie, Merrick Academy-Queens, Middle Village Prep, New American Academy, New Dawn CHS II, New Visions CHS (Aim I, Humanities IV, Adv Math/Science III, IV), NY French-American, NYC Autism Charter-East Harlem, Opportunity, Our World Neighborhood CS (2, 3), Peninsula Prep Academy, Renaissance (2), Riverton Street, Rochdale Early Advantage, Storefront Academy Harlem, Success Academy (Bergen Beach, Crown Heights, Far Rockaway, Flatbush, Harlem 1, 3, 4, Prospect Heights, Rosedale, South Jamaica, Springfield, Upper West), Urban Dove Team, Valence College Prep, Voice of New York

LEAs retrieved from NYSED Public Reports Portal – "All Institutions: Active Institutions with Congressional, Assembly & Senate Districts"

In New York, students are suspended from schools in response to a wide range of behaviors, including minor infractions like being late to class and dress code violations. This form of punishment begins as early as Pre-Kindergarten. The overreliance on exclusionary discipline continues despite research that indicates suspensions are ineffective and harmful and that they deepen academic inequities, especially for students of color, those from low-income backgrounds, and students with disabilities.

Some of the short- and long-term impacts of suspension on a child include:

- Lower math and reading scores
- Decreased school trust and identification with school
- Increased risk of drop out and criminal justice system involvement

During the 2024-2025 school year…

New York State

132,281 students suspended

including 8,329 in Pre-K to Grade 3 and 7,350 for 20 or more days cumulatively

840,067 total lost days of education

$10 Your District

9,191 students suspended

including 199 in Pre-K to Grade 3 and 314 for 20 or more days cumulatively

52,784 total lost days of education

		as often as	
Black students suspended	**3.1x**	White students
Students with disabilities suspended	**1.9x**	General education students
Economically disadvantaged students suspended	**2.1x**	Students who are not economically disadvantaged

For additional legislative district fact sheets, please visit: thechildrensagenda.org/nys-legislative-district-reports

For county-level fact sheets, please visit: https://thechildrensagenda.org/county-level-research/

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Solutions Not Suspensions

S.134/A.118

Students deserve policies that allow them to thrive in a supportive educational environment focused on accountability, healing relationships, and repairing harm.

The Solutions Not Suspensions bill would:

1. **Require school codes of conduct to include restorative approaches** to discipline and proactively foster a positive school climate
2. **Limit the use of suspensions in Pre-Kindergarten through 3rd grade** to only the most serious behaviors
3. **Shorten the maximum length of suspension from 180 to 20 school days** (except when required by federal law)
4. **Prohibit suspensions for minor infractions** such as tardiness, dress code violations, or insubordination
5. **Require that students who are suspended receive academic instruction** and the opportunity to complete assignments, take exams, and earn credit
6. **Require charter schools to follow state education law** on student behavior and discipline

What New York Voters Are Saying

A December 2025 statewide voter poll conducted on behalf of The Children's Agenda found that **73% of voters support Solutions Not Suspensions** legislation, with even higher rates of support for key elements of the bill: **limiting suspensions for small infractions (82%)**; eliminating suspensions in **Pre-K to 3rd grade (80%)**; and limiting suspensions to **no more than 20 days (74%)**.

24 *states have already enacted similar legislation limiting the length of suspensions*

Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Ohio, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, Washington, D.C., Wisconsin

17 *states have already enacted similar legislation limiting suspensions by grade level*

Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, New Jersey, Ohio, Oregon, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, D.C.

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