

The City Council's Education Committee will be holding a public hearing on mayoral control and school governance. **We are especially interested in hearing from parents, students, CECs and advocates on this topic. Please share this information with anyone who made be interested.**

Below is information regarding this hearing:

Hearing title: **“Oversight: Mayoral Control and School Governance”**

**Date: Monday, March 3, 2008**

**Time: 10:00\*am to 7:00pm (\*public testimony will begin approximately 2:00pm)**

**Place: Council Chambers, City Hall**

The State law that established mayoral control of City schools is due to expire on June 30, 2009. Prior to that date, the State Legislature must decide whether to renew mayoral control in its present form; to retain mayoral control but amend it in some way; or to allow the law to expire and revert back to the old governance structure of a central Board of Education with local Community School Boards.

Last year, the City Council formed an internal working group, co-chaired by Council Members James Vacca, David Yassky and Robert Jackson, to look at the issues of mayoral control and school governance with the goal of proposing recommendations to improve the governance structure of the City's public schools. This working group has already met with a number of organizations and individuals who have been vocal on governance issues. At this time, members of the working group and the Education Committee would like to hear from concerned education

stakeholders and the general public on this subject.

**We invite members of Community Education Councils, parents, students, educators, advocates, and all other stakeholders and interested members of the public to testify at this hearing.**

Testimony will be **limited to 2 minutes per person** to allow as many as possible to testify. **The Committee would particularly appreciate specific recommendations for improvement of the governance structure**, as well as hearing about problems with the current system. Although the hearing starts at 10:00am, public officials will testify and answer questions from Council Members at the outset, so **we do not expect to hear from others until after 2:00 pm.**

Please let us know if you plan to testify by emailing either [jatwell@council.nyc.gov](mailto:jatwell@council.nyc.gov) or [jculp@council.nyc.gov](mailto:jculp@council.nyc.gov) and also let us know if you have particular time constraints, which we will try our best to accommodate. If you plan to bring written testimony, please bring at least 20 copies. Feel free to share this information with any interested groups or individuals. Thank you for your assistance and we look forward to seeing you March 3<sup>rd</sup>!

For information about hearings and other events, check the Council's website at <http://council.nyc.gov/html/home/home.shtml> or, if you'd like to receive email notices of upcoming hearings, you can sign up at the following link [http://council.nyc.gov/html/action\\_center/signup.shtml](http://council.nyc.gov/html/action_center/signup.shtml).