



StudentsFirstNY Raising Parent Voice in 2016

StudentsFirstNY's 13,000 parent members are the result of the most significant district parent organizing effort in the country. From the halls of power in Albany to the steps of City Hall in New York City, our parents speak truth to power and demand better education opportunities for their children. The following are recent notable examples of our parent members in 2016 alone.



JANUARY 2016 | ALBANY STATE CAPITOL

Parents Tell New York State Leaders All Kids Can

Hundreds of parent advocates traveled to Albany to call attention to the need for better school options. At the event, held just as the 2016 legislative session was getting underway, parent advocates who live in low-income communities across New York City and have children who attend both district and charter schools wanted to make sure their voices were heard.

[**Watch the video to see more.**](#)

[**Read the release on the event.**](#)

[**Read an article from the Times Union on the event.**](#)



FEBRUARY 2016 | ALBANY STATE CAPITOL

Panel on How New York's School System Can Best Serve Communities of Color

At the annual NYS Black & Puerto Rican Caucus Weekend, StudentsFirstNY teamed up with Assemblymember Michael Blake to host a panel discussion on how New York's school system can best serve communities of color. Moderated by NYCAN Executive Director Derrell Bradford, the panel featured leaders in the education reform movement as well as public school parents from across the state. The overflow audience included hundreds of StudentsFirstNY parents.

[Watch the video to see more.](#)

[Read the release on the discussion.](#)

[Read an oped from a Jamaica, Queens public school parent and grandparent.](#)



APRIL 2016 | NYC DOE HEADQUARTERS

Parents Demand Answers from Mayor de Blasio About ATR Cover-up

More than one hundred district school parents stood outside the Department of Education's headquarters to demand equity for their children – and full transparency from Mayor Bill de Blasio. For five months, the de Blasio Administration has been stonewalling parent efforts to find out where ineffective teachers from the Absent Teacher Reserve (ATR) are being placed. The parents called on the Mayor to end this ATR Cover-Up and provide real answers to their requests for information.

[Watch the video to see more.](#)

[Read the release on the event.](#)

[Read an article from the New York Daily News on the event.](#)



MAY 2016 | OUTSIDE MAYORAL CONTROL HEARING

Parents Call for Accountability from Mayor de Blasio Outside Mayoral Control Hearing

Dissatisfied public school parents gathered outside the New York State Senate's mayoral control hearing in New York to demand Mayor de Blasio be held accountable for New York City's education crisis. They were there to send a clear message: parents are dissatisfied with the quality of NYC public schools and they expect Mayor de Blasio to be held accountable.

[Watch the video to see more.](#)

[Read the release on the event.](#)

[Watch coverage from ABC 7 on the event.](#)



JUNE 2016 | NYC CITY HALL STEPS

500 Parents Rally to Tell Mayor de Blasio They Deserve Details About the ATR

More than 500 district school parents rallied outside City Hall demanding answers from Mayor de Blasio about the Absent Teacher Reserve (ATR). In just two months, more than 7,500 parents have now signed on to the effort to get the de Blasio Administration to turn over basic information about where ineffective teachers from the ATR pool are being placed. In the middle of the rally, Mayor de Blasio exited City Hall, but instead of responding to the 500 parents' call for details about the ATR, he never broke stride.

[**Watch the video to see more.**](#)

[**Read the release on the rally.**](#)

[**Watch coverage from Fox 5 on the rally.**](#)

