



ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN

Helping children succeed in school

Advocates for Children of New York, Inc.
151 West 30th Street, 5th Floor
New York, NY 10001
Phone: (212) 947-9779
Fax: (212) 947-9790
www.advocatesforchildren.org

PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Gisela Alvarez, 212-822-9502

Statement on Corrective Action Plan to Support New York City's English Language Learners

October 12, 2011. The following is a statement by Advocates for Children of New York, Inc. in response to New York State's announcement that it has reached an agreement with the New York City Department of Education on a plan to improve educational services for English Language Learners.

Despite persistent underperformance on measures of academic achievement, English Language Learner (ELL) students have long been overlooked in wave upon wave of New York City's broad-based school reform efforts. We have worked with immigrant families, ELLs, immigrant-serving community based organizations, schools, and, at times, the City's Department of Education (DOE), to identify the city's failures to serve these students and craft solutions to the problems we raise. Too often we have found that problems arose because ELLs were an afterthought, if they were considered at all. We hope that the State's intervention will bring the needs of New York City's ELLs to the forefront of discussions about reform.

For more than 40 years, Advocates for Children of New York has been serving the most educationally vulnerable students in the New York City public schools and speaking out on their behalf. More information on the organization and its programs is available at www.advocatesforchildren.org.

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