



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
Hon. Stephanie A. Miner, Mayor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: March 9, 2015

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**NYC AND SYRACUSE MAYORS URGE GOVERNOR,
STATE TO MEET LEGAL SCHOOL FUNDING
OBLIGATION SO LOCAL COMMUNITIES CAN
INVEST IN CRITICAL SCHOOL REFORMS**

NEW YORK—New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio and Syracuse Mayor Stephanie A. Miner today called on the State to meet its school funding obligations under the Campaign for Fiscal Equity court decision and provide the much-needed resources local communities require to implement critical reforms that will turn around struggling schools and best serve our students.

Some of these groundbreaking reforms currently pursued by municipalities like New York City include offering community schools services like mental health supports that will keep kids in the classroom; providing extended day learning; creating new CTE and STEM programs so students graduate ready for the jobs of today and tomorrow; expanding summer school opportunities to ensure summer learning loss doesn't hold back progress, and putting more guidance counselors into schools so students can access critical social and emotional supports. Syracuse's fair share of CFE dollars would enable the City to focus on reforms like extending the school day, hiring more great teachers, and expanding STEM and arts education programs for students.

However, under the landmark CFE court decision^[1], local municipalities across New York State have continued to be chronically underfunded. In fact, local municipalities are still owed \$5.8 billion. New York City, for example, is still owed \$2.6 billion under the CFE ruling for this year alone, while Syracuse has been shortchanged \$87.1 million. At the same time, the State enters the 2015-2016 budget cycle with a nearly \$8 billion surplus^[2].

“Having the dollars needed to implement the reforms that will fix a broken status quo is critical,” said **New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio**. “Providing the proper dollars to invest in game-changing reforms like community schools that decrease absenteeism and provide social and

^[1] New York City Office of Management and Budget

^[2] Assembly Ways and Means Committee / New York State Comptroller



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Syracuse: -\$87.1 million
Total Statewide CFE shortfall: -\$5.8 billion

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