

POLITICO NEW YORK
PLAYBOOK
 AZI PAYBARAH AND JIMMY VIELKIND'S
 MUST READ BRIEFING FOR
 KNOWLEDGEABLE NEW YORKERS.

DELIVERED DAILY
 TO YOUR INBOX

POLITICO New York

SECTIONS | PRO

De Blasio on school segregation: 'Not an easy thing to solve'



Mayor Bill de Blasio. (Demetrius Freeman/Mayoral Photography Office)

By **ELIZA SHAPIRO** 3:28 p.m. | Nov. 6, 2015 **1**

Mayor Bill de Blasio reiterated Friday that his administration is taking New York City's school segregation problem seriously, as City Hall [faces growing pressure](#) from advocates and elected officials to integrate city schools.

"We care deeply in creating...inclusion," de Blasio said during a press conference. "But it's not an easy thing to solve."

De Blasio did not offer any new policies to address segregation on Friday, but said he does not believe that the city should dramatically change its local school zoning process for elementary schools. The mayor noted that rezonings can cause disruption and said the city should "respect" families who move to particular neighborhoods in order to quality for desirable school zones.

Rezoning in downtown Brooklyn and the Upper West Side have already sparked significant controversy over the last several months, and both rezoning proposals have been postponed to encourage more local feedback.

MORE ON POLITICO

- City Hall Pro: Streetcar questions; de Blasio as Mayor Pothole
- At Bay Ridge town hall, no problem too small for de Blasio
- Vance applauds CA federal court

De Blasio did not address the question of controlled choice, an alternative admissions process used in some diverse districts, though he has said before that he is open to the idea of integrating controlled choice into the city's admissions policies.

POLITICO
 IN EUROPE. FOR EUROPE.

NOW LIVE POLITICO.EU

MOST POPULAR

- 1** Staten Island borough president gets approval to name new streets for greed
- 2** Fresh off PR shake-up, Moskowitz lashes out again at Times
- 3** Cuomo budget amendment broadens state oversight of homeless shelters
- 4** Moskowitz defends another widely criticized 'anomaly' in her schools
- 5** Port to move forward with \$6.2 billion in airport projects

order to disable encryption

The mayor also said he and city schools chancellor Carmen Fariña speak about school segregation frequently.

He repeated his argument that segregation is the result of decades of local and federal policy.

"This is the history of America," de Blasio said. "This is something much deeper than some kind of push a button solution."

A UCLA study published last year found that New York City schools are the most segregated

in the nation, and members of the New York City Council and education advocates have made increasingly strong and public pleas to the administration to address segregation directly.

Bronx councilmember Ritchie Torres criticized the administration's "deeply disheartening" rhetoric on school segregation earlier this week.

Fariña has also been [criticized](#) for recently suggesting that a local pen pal program could help ease segregation in city schools.

De Blasio also addressed the large and growing population of homeless students in city schools on Friday, calling it a "huge problem."

"This is something we should be deeply concerned about," de Blasio said, adding, "it has gotten worse because it's more of an economic problem now."

About 7 percent of the city's 1.1 million students were either living in shelters or staying with family or friends during the 2013-2014 school year, according to [data](#) released this week by the Independent Budget Office, a number that has grown over the last year.

MORE: [EDUCATION](#) [REAL ESTATE](#) [CITY HALL](#) [BILL DE BLASIO](#) [CARMEN FARINA](#) [DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION](#) [EDUCATION](#) [HOMELESS CHILDREN](#) [HOMELESSNESS](#) [NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL](#) [REZONING](#) [SCHOOL SEGREGATION](#) [SEGREGATION](#)

 Author: **ELIZA SHAPIRO**

[MORE IN CITY HALL](#)

City Hall Pro: Streetcar questions; de Blasio as Mayor Pothole

AROUND THE WEB

More From The Web

Sponsored Links by Taboola



You'll Never Go Back to a "Normal" Belt After You



New York Drivers Are Stunned By This New Rule



Mileage Maxers Rejoice! 30 Cars With 40+ MPG



This Startup Wants To Turn Your \$5K Into \$2.5

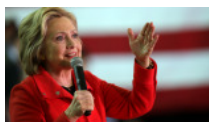
See This
MORE FROM POLITICO
SlideBelts

[Provide-Savings Insurance Quotes](#) [Kelley Blue Book](#)

Billion
[Business Insider | Fundrise](#)



De Blasio warns Airbnb after reports of data purge



Clinton casts Sanders as a 'single-issue' candidate in Harlem



Court monitor faults NYPD's stop-and-frisk data collection



City EDC announces Urban Tech initiative

[ABOUT US](#) [EVENTS](#) [ADVERTISE](#) [CONTACT](#) [PRIVACY POLICY](#) [TERMS AND CONDITIONS](#)