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**NEW YORK STATE VOTERS NIX MAYORAL CONTROL OF SCHOOLS,
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS;
VOTERS TRUST UNIONS MORE THAN GOVERNOR ON SCHOOLS**

New York State voters say 52 – 36 percent that the New York City mayor should not have control of the public schools in the city, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released today.

New York City voters support mayoral control of the public schools 54 – 40 percent, with opposition at 58 – 23 percent upstate and 61 – 27 percent among suburban voters, the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University Poll finds. Democrats support mayoral control of the schools 51 – 37 percent with opposition at 65 – 24 percent among Republicans and 57 – 31 percent among independent voters.

Voters statewide trust the teachers’ unions more than Gov. Andrew Cuomo to improve education in New York State 54 – 31 percent. Support for the unions is strong among all groups except New York City voters, who back the unions over Cuomo slightly 47 – 43 percent.

Students should be allowed to refuse to take standardized tests “designed to measure how well they are learning,” 48 percent of voters say, while 47 percent say students should not be allowed to refuse these tests.

“Gov. Andrew Cuomo and New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio both have challenges on the education front,” said Maurice Carroll, assistant director of the Quinnipiac University Poll. “The governor keeps butting heads with the teachers’ unions and New York State voters side with the unions.

“While New York City voters want their mayor to control their public schools, the issue is decided in Albany by the State Legislature. And those legislators, many of whom don’t like Mayor de Blasio to start with, answer to voters who don’t want him to keep control of the schools.”

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New York State voters say 69 – 26 percent that teacher pay should not be based on how well students perform on standardized tests. Opposition is strong in all party, gender, age and regional groups.

By a similar 67 – 28 percent margin, voters say teacher tenure should not be based on test scores.

Standardized tests are not an accurate way to measure how well students are learning, voters say 65 – 31 percent, with strong agreement among all groups.

New York State voters say 51 – 41 percent that there should be more charter schools. Support is 58 – 35 percent in New York City, with upstate voters divided 46 – 44 percent and suburban voters divided 47 – 44 percent.

Voters support 52 – 43 percent providing state income tax credits to individuals or companies which donate money to private schools, including religious schools.

By a larger 65 – 32 percent, voters support a \$500 state income tax credit for parents with an annual income of \$60,000 or less who pay tuition for their children to attend private schools, including religious schools. Support is strong among all groups.

From September 10 – 15, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,366 New York State voters with a margin of error of +/- 2.7 percentage points. Live interviewers call land lines and cell phones.

The Quinnipiac University Poll, directed by Douglas Schwartz, Ph.D., conducts public opinion surveys in Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Florida, Iowa, Ohio, Virginia, Colorado and the nation as a public service and for research.

For more information, visit <http://www.quinnipiac.edu/polling>, call (203) 582-5201, or follow us on [Twitter](#) @QuinnipiacPoll.

35. Who do you trust more to improve education in New York State, Governor Cuomo or the teachers' unions?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-34	35-49	50-64	65+
Cuomo	31%	32%	32%	34%	34%	28%	25%	30%	33%	36%
Teachers' unions	54	46	59	53	49	59	68	56	51	46
DK/NA	14	22	8	13	17	12	7	15	16	17
AREA.....										
	UpStat	NYC	Sub							
Cuomo	19%	43%	32%							
Teachers' unions	64	47	51							
DK/NA	17	10	17							

36. Do you think teacher - pay should or should not be based on how well their students perform on standardized tests?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-34	35-49	50-64	65+
Should	26%	32%	22%	29%	34%	19%	24%	26%	27%	28%
Should not	69	65	73	67	62	76	72	70	71	65
DK/NA	4	3	4	4	4	5	4	4	2	8
AREA.....										
	UpStat	NYC	Sub							
Should	24%	29%	27%							
Should not	73	66	69							
DK/NA	3	5	4							

37. Do you think teacher - tenure should or should not be based on how well their students perform on standardized tests?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-34	35-49	50-64	65+
Should	28%	32%	24%	32%	33%	23%	24%	29%	27%	30%
Should not	67	65	70	61	61	72	72	69	68	59
DK/NA	6	3	6	6	6	5	4	3	5	10
AREA.....										
	UpStat	NYC	Sub							
Should	26%	32%	24%							
Should not	69	63	67							
DK/NA	5	5	8							

38. How much should these tests count in a teacher evaluation: 100%, 75%, 50%, 25%, or not at all?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-34	35-49	50-64	65+
100%	4%	5%	4%	2%	4%	3%	-	2%	6%	6%
75%	14	13	16	15	12	16	17	10	13	14
50%	28	31	24	33	32	26	27	28	30	30
25%	29	30	29	28	30	29	33	32	28	24
Not at all	23	19	25	20	20	25	22	26	22	20
DK/NA	2	2	2	2	2	2	-	1	2	5

AREA.....
UpStat NYC Sub

100%	3%	5%	3%
75%	11	18	14
50%	30	30	23
25%	29	28	31
Not at all	25	18	27
DK/NA	2	1	2

39. Do you think standardized tests are or are not an accurate way to measure how well students are learning?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-34	35-49	50-64	65+
Yes/Accurate	31%	32%	31%	33%	38%	24%	27%	30%	34%	31%
No/Not accurate	65	63	65	61	57	72	70	68	62	59
DK/NA	5	6	4	6	5	5	4	3	4	10

AREA.....
UpStat NYC Sub

Yes/Accurate	28%	36%	27%
No/Not accurate	67	61	67
DK/NA	5	4	6

40. Do you think students should or should not be allowed to refuse to take standardized tests designed to measure how well they are learning?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-34	35-49	50-64	65+
Should	48%	47%	48%	43%	48%	48%	59%	48%	48%	39%
Should not	47	49	47	52	48	46	37	49	47	53
DK/NA	5	4	5	5	4	6	4	3	5	8

AREA.....
UpStat NYC Sub

Should	51%	45%	47%
Should not	45	51	43
DK/NA	3	4	9

41. As you may know, charter schools are operated by private or non-profit organizations. The schools are paid for with public funds. Do you think there should be an expansion of charter schools in New York State or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-34	35-49	50-64	65+
Yes	51%	52%	49%	51%	51%	51%	56%	53%	53%	46%
No	41	38	45	42	41	40	36	39	42	41
DK/NA	9	10	6	8	8	10	8	8	5	13

AREA.....

	UpStat	NYC	Sub
Yes	46%	58%	47%
No	44	35	44
DK/NA	10	7	10

42. As you may know, in New York City the mayor has control of the public schools. Mayoral control of the New York City public schools expires this year, unless the state legislature renews it. Do you think mayoral control of the New York City public schools should continue or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-34	35-49	50-64	65+
Continue	36%	24%	51%	31%	40%	31%	42%	35%	34%	29%
Stop	52	65	37	57	50	54	44	50	56	58
DK/NA	12	11	12	12	9	15	14	15	10	12

AREA.....

	UpStat	NYC	Sub
Continue	23%	54%	27%
Stop	58	40	61
DK/NA	19	6	12

43. Do you support or oppose providing state income tax credits for individuals and companies which donate money to private schools, including religious schools?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-34	35-49	50-64	65+
Support	52%	59%	49%	52%	53%	51%	62%	52%	50%	46%
Oppose	43	36	46	43	42	44	35	41	45	48
DK/NA	5	5	5	5	5	5	3	7	5	6

AREA.....

	UpStat	NYC	Sub
Support	52%	52%	51%
Oppose	44	42	42
DK/NA	4	6	7

44. Do you support or oppose providing \$500 state income tax credits for parents with an annual income of \$60,000 or less who pay tuition for their children to attend private schools, including religious schools?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	AGE IN YRS.....			
							18-34	35-49	50-64	65+
Support	65%	70%	62%	69%	65%	66%	72%	70%	64%	56%
Oppose	32	28	35	27	34	30	26	27	34	36
DK/NA	3	2	3	4	2	4	2	2	2	7

	AREA.....		
	UpStat	NYC	Sub
Support	64%	69%	63%
Oppose	33	30	32
DK/NA	3	2	5