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**NEW YORK CITY VOTERS BACK CUOMO NO-TAX PRE-K PLAN,
QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY POLL FINDS;
KEEP THE CARRIAGE HORSES, VOTERS SAY ALMOST 3-1**

New York City voters support 54 – 35 percent Gov. Andrew Cuomo’s plan to pay for universal pre-kindergarten using existing state funds, with no new taxes, over Mayor Bill de Blasio’s plan to pay for pre-K with a city income tax hike on families making more than \$500,000 per year, according to a Quinnipiac University poll released today.

In another question, support for state-funded universal pre-K is 86 – 11 percent, the independent Quinnipiac (KWIN-uh-pe-ack) University poll finds.

On the tax issue, support for Gov. Cuomo’s plan is 69 – 17 percent among Republicans, 51 – 41 percent among Democrats, 60 – 28 percent among independent voters, 50 – 39 percent among men, 57 – 33 percent among women, 56 – 34 percent among white voters, 51 – 40 percent among black voters and 54 – 37 percent among Hispanic voters. Voters with children in public school support the governor’s no-tax pre-K plan 52 – 40.

A total of 86 percent of New York City voters say universal pre-K is “very effective” or “somewhat effective” in improving education for all children.

A total of 82 percent of voters say universal pre-K is “very effective” or “somewhat effective” in helping to put poor children on a path out of poverty.

“Just about everybody favors Mayor Bill de Blasio’s call for universal pre-kindergarten instruction, but most New Yorkers prefer Gov. Andrew Cuomo’s plan to do it without a new tax,” said Quinnipiac University Poll Assistant Director Maurice Carroll.

“Should pre-K be mandatory like other schooling? Voters say yes 52 – 47 percent, less than the overwhelming support for the general concept. Voters with kids in public schools say 57 – 43 percent that pre-K should be mandatory.”

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Quinnipiac University Poll/March 19, 2014 – page 2

Mayor de Blasio should increase the number of charter schools, 40 percent of New York City voters say, while 14 percent say he should decrease the number and 39 percent say he should keep the number the same. Support for increasing the number of charter schools ranges from 36 percent among Democrats to 52 percent among Republicans, with white, black and Hispanic voter support all at about 40 percent. Among parents of public school children, 45 percent want more charters while 14 percent want less and 35 percent say keep it the same.

Voters are divided on whether charter schools should be required to pay rent when they are located in New York City public schools as 44 percent say pay and 47 percent say no. Public school parents say no 54 – 40 percent.

New York City voters give de Blasio a negative 38 – 49 percent rating for the way he is handling public schools. Approval is 50 – 40 percent among black voters and 47 – 42 percent among Democrats. Disapproval is 78 – 11 percent among Republicans, 55 – 28 percent among independent voters, 55 – 32 percent among white voters and 50 – 37 percent among Hispanic voters. Public school parents disapprove 55 – 39 percent.

School Chancellor Carmen Farina gets mixed grades as 34 percent approve and 36 percent disapprove. Public school parents disapprove 45 – 37 percent.

Carriage Horses

New York City voters say 64 – 24 percent that Mayor de Blasio should not ban horse-drawn carriages from the city. Opposition among every group listed ranges from 60 – 28 percent among Democrats and Hispanic voters to 86 – 7 percent among Republicans.

“On an issue that has generated an immense amount of interest – with celebrities speaking loudly on both sides – voters reject almost 3-1 Mayor de Blasio's opposition to horse-drawn carriages,” Carroll said.

From March 12 – 17, Quinnipiac University surveyed 1,234 New York City voters, with a margin of error of +/- 2.8 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, Ohio, Virginia, Iowa, 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](#).

3. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Carmen Farina is handling her job as New York City Schools Chancellor?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	HvKids InPubSch
Approve	34%	20%	41%	27%	33%	35%	27%	45%	38%	37%
Disapprove	36	58	29	41	34	38	41	27	35	45
DK/NA	29	22	30	32	33	27	32	28	27	18

15. Do you approve or disapprove of the way Mayor de Blasio is handling the public schools?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	HvKids InPubSch
Approve	38%	11%	47%	28%	41%	35%	32%	50%	37%	39%
Disapprove	49	78	42	55	45	53	55	40	50	55
DK/NA	13	11	12	17	14	12	13	10	13	6

20. Do you think Mayor de Blasio should or should not ban horse drawn carriages from New York City?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	HvKids InPubSch
Should ban	24%	7%	28%	24%	26%	23%	23%	23%	28%	19%
Should not	64	86	60	64	62	66	66	68	60	73
DK/NA	11	7	12	12	12	11	11	9	12	8

TREND: Do you think Mayor de Blasio should or should not ban horse drawn carriages from New York City?

	Mar 19 2014	Jan 16 2014
Should ban	24	28
Should not	64	61
DK/NA	11	11

25. Do you support or oppose the state government funding universal pre-K education, so that all New York State children can attend pre-school?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	HvKids InPubSch
Support	86%	61%	93%	82%	84%	88%	79%	92%	94%	91%
Oppose	11	30	6	15	13	10	18	6	5	8
DK/NA	3	9	1	3	4	2	4	2	2	1

26. How effective do you think universal pre-K would be in improving education for New York State children very effective, somewhat effective, not so effective, or not effective at all?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	HvKids InPubSch
Very effective	55%	27%	65%	41%	49%	59%	39%	67%	71%	69%
Smwht effective	31	36	28	38	35	29	39	25	22	25
Not so effective	5	14	2	9	7	4	10	3	2	1
Not effective at all	7	21	3	10	7	6	9	3	4	5
DK/NA	2	2	2	2	3	2	3	2	-	-

27. How effective do you think universal pre-K would be in helping to put poor children on a path out of poverty; very effective, somewhat effective, not so effective, or not effective at all?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	HvKids InPubSch
Very effective	43%	16%	53%	34%	39%	47%	30%	55%	59%	50%
Smwht effective	39	42	38	40	41	38	45	34	33	37
Not so effective	8	13	5	11	9	6	12	5	3	5
Not effective at all	8	26	3	12	9	7	11	5	4	7
DK/NA	2	3	1	3	3	2	2	2	2	-

28. Governor Andrew Cuomo wants to pay for pre-K for all New York State children without raising taxes by using existing state funds. New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio wants to pay for pre-K for New York City children by raising New York City income taxes on households earning more than \$500,000 saying that if state funding gets cut, pre-K for New York City children will still be funded. Do you think that New York City should raise these taxes to fund New York City pre-K or do you think that New York State should fund statewide pre-K without raising taxes?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	HvKids InPubSch
NYC w tax increase	35%	17%	41%	28%	39%	33%	34%	40%	37%	40%
NYS w existing funds	54	69	51	60	50	57	56	51	54	52
BOTH (VOL)	3	2	3	2	2	3	3	3	2	3
NEITHER (VOL)	3	8	1	4	4	2	4	1	-	3
DK/NA	5	4	5	7	5	5	3	6	7	2

29. Do you think pre-K education should be mandatory or optional?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	HvKids InPubSch
Mandatory	52%	36%	60%	42%	48%	55%	40%	66%	55%	57%
Optional	47	62	39	56	51	44	58	33	44	43
DK/NA	1	2	1	2	2	1	2	-	1	-

30. As you may know, charter schools are operated by private or non-profit organizations. The schools are paid for with public funds and do not charge tuition. Do you think the mayor should increase the number of charter schools, decrease the number of charter schools, or keep the number of charter schools the same?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	HvKids InPubSch
Increase	40%	52%	36%	47%	43%	38%	39%	39%	42%	45%
Decrease	14	7	18	9	15	13	17	12	10	14
Keep the same	39	39	39	38	37	41	37	43	44	35
DK/NA	7	2	7	6	5	8	7	6	4	6

31. Do you think charter schools should be required to pay rent when they are located in New York City public school buildings or not?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	HvKids InPubSch
Yes/Pay rent	44%	30%	48%	42%	47%	43%	43%	50%	35%	40%
No	47	61	43	51	45	49	47	46	53	54
DK/NA	8	9	9	7	9	8	10	4	12	6

32. Do you have any children in a charter school or on a waiting list to get into a charter school?

	Tot	Rep	Dem	Ind	Men	Wom	Wht	Blk	Hsp	HvKids InPubSch
Yes/In school or on waiting list	8%	6%	9%	9%	6%	10%	4%	11%	17%	22%
No/Neither	90	92	90	89	93	88	95	88	81	76
DK/NA	1	1	1	3	1	2	1	-	2	2