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Black and Brown Students Respond to Cancellation of School Cop Class

NEW YORK, NY— In response to reporting from the [Daily News](#) that the Adams' Administration is canceling the incoming class of 250 school cops, students with the [Urban Youth Collaborative](#), a youth-led coalition of NYC youth organizing groups, released the following statement:

“We are pleased that the Adams’ Administration is finally listening to students by canceling the incoming class of school cops. In the Fiscal Year 2024 budget alone, the City allocated \$350 million dollars to school police. We have the largest school police force in the country, with more school cops than guidance counselors, social workers or restorative justice coordinators. This injustice has harmed countless futures and expanded the school-to-prison pipeline.

“As Black and Brown New York City public school students, we know firsthand that cops do not make our schools safe. Everyday we go to school we fear that we are just one bad day away from being arrested. Even though we only make up 66 percent of the school population, Black and Brown students like us are targeted in 90 percent of school policing incidents.

“We ask that our elected leaders prioritize our care, not criminalization, as they navigate budget cuts, a hiring freeze and upcoming expiration of federal COVID relief. It is past time we break the cycle of throwing money at the cops to solve the bigger issues in our education system. Our futures deserve to be invested in by expanding mental healthcare, restorative justice and the other programs proven to help us thrive and succeed.”

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The [Urban Youth Collaborative](#) is a student-led coalition of NYC youth organizing groups fighting to end the school-to-prison and deportation pipeline and transform the city's public schools into nurturing, inclusive, and supportive learning environments.