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Students Respond to Rollout of Bulletproof Vests in Schools

NEW YORK, NY— In response to [reporting from Chalkbeat](#) that Mayor Eric Adams' Administration has quietly armed school cops with bulletproof vests, students with the [Urban Youth Collaborative](#), a youth-led coalition of NYC youth organizing groups, released the following statement:

“Schools are meant to be a safe space for us to grow and learn. But, the NYPD and their decision to equip officers with bulletproof vests tells us otherwise. The Adams Administration is funding the militarization of our schools while slashing services that actually help us. Cops never made us feel safe in school, but their decision to wear body armor reinforces our schools feeling like jails. We refuse to let this happen which is why we are demanding that the entire school police budget must be put towards protecting students and expanding mental healthcare, restorative justice and the proven services we need to grow. We will not stop fighting until our schools finally become a safe and supportive place for all students.”

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