

City of Philadelphia



Council of the City of Philadelphia
Office of the Chief Clerk
Room 402, City Hall
Philadelphia

(Resolution No. 230330)

RESOLUTION

Authorizing the Committee on Education to hold hearings investigating the use of an independent authority to bond and manage the school facilities modernization that safety calls for and students, parents, teachers and communities deserve.

WHEREAS, The School District of Philadelphia has a 300 building system spread over 140 square miles with an average building age of 73 years; and

WHEREAS, Due to unconstitutionally inadequate funding as determined recently in a landmark ruling the School District has had to make impossible choices between staffing classrooms and ensuring that the classrooms themselves were in working order; and

WHEREAS, As local control of the School District has been returned and City Council and the Mayor are leading the various agencies and legal bodies responsible for the school district; and

WHEREAS, The City must work to find ways to overhaul the School district's facilities in order to avoid losing the progress that has been made in recent years in graduation rates and academics; and

WHEREAS, A proactive, modern facilities inspection process is showing more building problems and forcing children out of their school buildings; and

WHEREAS, It is our responsibility to ensure that school buildings are safe places for kids to learn, grow, and become the next generation of Philly leaders; and

WHEREAS, The multitude of challenges the School District is tasked with handling makes it difficult for facilities to the priority they must be, City Council must look to new options to deliver the physical plant that makes learning possible; and

WHEREAS, Innovative solutions and increased funding should allow us to deliver a safe, welcoming and modern experience to this generation of Philadelphia children; now, therefore, be it

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RESOLUTION NO. 230330 continued

RESOLVED, that the Committee on Education hold hearings investigating the use of an independent authority to bond and manage the school facilities modernization that safety calls for and students, parents, teachers and communities deserve.

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RESOLUTION NO. 230330 continued

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RESOLUTION NO. 230330 continued

CERTIFICATION: This is a true and correct copy of the original Resolution, Adopted by the Council of the City of Philadelphia on the twenty seventh day of April, 2023.

Darrell L. Clarke
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL

Michael A. Decker
CHIEF CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

Introduced by: Councilmember Thomas

Sponsored by: Councilmembers Thomas, Harrity, Driscoll, Vaughn, Lozada, Squilla, Gilmore Richardson, Bass, Gauthier and Brooks