

Rochester Kids First Coalition Continues Mayoral Control Push



Carlet Cleare (2010-06-11)

ROCHESTER, NY (WXXI) - An alliance of parents, elected officials, clergy, business and labor leaders gathered at the Ryan Community Center Thursday to show their support for the mayoral control legislation over Rochester city schools.

The Rochester Kids First Coalition expressed how low graduation rates are unacceptable, and urged that city residents jump on board with Rochester mayor Robert Duffy's plan.

City Council president Lovely Warren says she's committed to seeing that the legislation goes through. The advocacy group thanked Duffy for starting the process, and plans to "pass off the baton" to the community in hopes that they will support mayoral control.

To symbolize their effort, a baton was handed to a elementary student at the center. Governor Paterson sent the mayoral control bill for the Rochester City Schools to the state legislature Wednesday.

The bill would put the city schools under the direct authority of the mayor for a five-year period beginning in July of next year.