



**THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK**

Commissioner of Education  
President of the University of the State of New York  
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July 1, 2025

Dr. Kimberly Young Wilkins  
764 New Scotland Avenue  
Albany, NY 12208

Dear Dr. Young Wilkins:

Pursuant to Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2025, I hereby appoint you as the monitor to the Mount Vernon City School District (MVCSD or "the district") effective July 1, 2025.

As monitor, you will oversee district operations and propose actions for improvement, with the goal of ensuring that the district provides students with access to appropriate programs and services and continues its efforts to improve educational outcomes and achieve fiscal stability. Your responsibilities will include:

- Working with the board of education ("the board") to develop and update annually academic improvement and financial plans for the 2025–2026 and four succeeding school years;
- Reviewing the district's annual proposed budget and making recommendations to the commissioner on whether the budget should be amended;
- Disapproving travel outside the State paid for by the district;
- Requiring the board to vote on cost-saving measures including, but not limited to, shared service agreements;
- Assisting in resolving disputes and conflicts, including but not limited to, those between the superintendent and the board, and among members of the board;
- Providing semiannual reports to the Commissioner and other designated officials; and
- Notifying the board and the commissioner in writing when the district is violating an element of the long-term strategic academic and fiscal improvement plan. Such notification may result in the commissioner compelling the board to cease violating the plan and take steps to come into compliance with its provisions.

As monitor, you will become a consultant to the district, and the reasonable and necessary expenses you incur in performing your duties as monitor will be a charge upon the district. Additionally, as monitor you shall be entitled to defense and indemnification by the district to the same extent as a district employee. I will direct the board to take action at its next voting meeting in July to enter into a contract in accordance with the provisions of the enclosed draft contract. Your contract will be in effect through June 30, 2027.

Please note that if required by law, the district must conduct a fingerprinting and criminal history record check before you can begin work in the district.

I have also enclosed a letter I sent to Board President Saunders on June 17, 2025, which provides more detailed information on the roles and responsibilities of the monitor and the district in carrying out the provisions of the law.

Deputy Commissioner Jason Harmon will be reaching out to you to arrange for your onboarding in your new role.

We are excited by the vast level of knowledge and expertise that you bring to this position, and I look forward to working together to improve academic outcomes in the MVCSD and to address the fiscal challenges facing the district.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Betty A. Rosa", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Betty A. Rosa  
Commissioner

cc: Dr. Lester W. Young, Jr., Chancellor  
Jason Harmon, Deputy Commissioner, P-12 Operational Support