

Don't let Bloomberg throw our children under the bus

Billionaire Michael Bloomberg triggered the school bus strike, and our children are paying the price. Attendance is down but he says this problem can "only last until June."

The Metrocard/taxi 'solution' is an outrage. How can 3rd graders take mass transit? After the neglect of Hurricane Sandy survivors, how can we trust Bloomberg's promise to reimburse parents? What about inaccessible cabs and broken MTA elevators? Even families who live near transit can't always use it if the student has special needs; and registering for Access-a-Ride takes 8 weeks!

Relatives are missing work and school to transport children or to keep them home. If the City does not fulfill its obligations to the civil rights of students with disabilities, it can be held accountable.

NYC families need the experienced 8,800 school bus drivers, matrons and mechanics who are in Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1181-1061. We want the mayor to negotiate with them now.

EPP = Safety for Children, Justice for Workers

The richest mayor in history excluded the "Employee Protection Provision" (EPP) in contracts being offered to school bus companies for 2013-17.

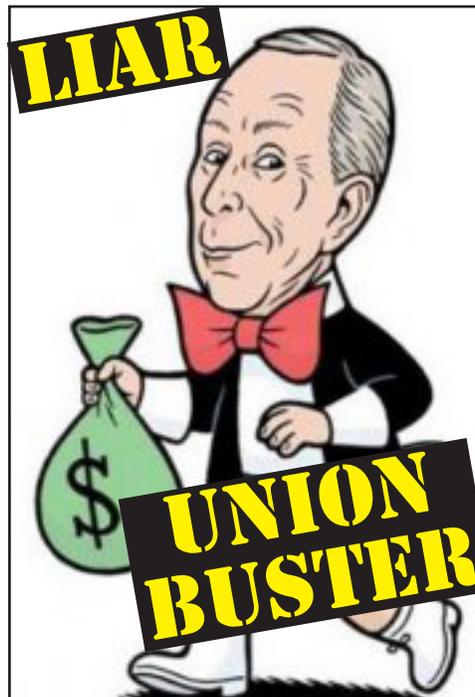


Illustration by Danny Hellman

As the New York State AFL-CIO wrote, "For the first time in 30 years, the mayor has removed a requirement that keeps the most qualified, experienced, and skilled drivers on the job." He did not have to do this and he can put it back legally!

If the contracts go forward on Feb. 12 without EPP, bus companies can stop hiring from the citywide seniority list. This would only raise profits for them, not funds for classrooms. And it would lower the safety and quality of busing! We don't want our children on non-union buses that pay minimum wage.

Call Mayor Bloomberg at 1-888-833-7428 and tell him EPP belongs in all school bus contracts. Sign the petition at: <http://nysaflcio.org/safety1st/>, which also lists picket lines you can visit to learn more.

ADVICE FOR PARENTS:

For safety's sake DO NOT hand your child over to a matron unless s/he has Dept. of Ed. ID with an effective date before the strike began.

Issued by:
Parents to Improve School Transportation
Call: 347-504-3310
(se habla español)
or email pistnyc@gmail.com
Facebook PIST-NYC
twitter @pistnyc

I want to help school bus workers get justice.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: ___ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please mail to Parents to Improve School Transportation, 147 West 24th St., 2nd Floor New York, NY, 10011