

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 9, 2025

Chancellor Melissa Aviles-Ramos
New York City Department of Education
52 Chambers Street
New York, NY 10007

Dear Chancellor Aviles-Ramos:

I write to urge you to ensure that New York City Public Schools takes active steps to share information regarding safe firearm storage with as many parents and families in our communities as possible.

As you know, last year, NYC Public Schools [successfully distributed](#) information and resources regarding the safe firearm storage to parents and families. These efforts built upon [actions](#) taken by Biden-Harris Administration to promote the safe storage of firearms in an effort to combat gun violence. A key part of this approach involved the U.S. Department of Education issuing new resources for school officials to share with families on the importance of safe firearm storage to ensure that weapons do not end up in the wrong hands or accessed by children. However, school principals and administrators were not required to share this information which meant that without any encouragement or commitment by local leadership, this potentially lifesaving information would not reach parents, families, guardians, and caregivers.

Recent [data](#) suggests that approximately 4.6 million children live in homes with unsecured firearms, posing clear risks to their safety, and as many as 350 children under the age of 18 unintentionally shoot themselves or someone else every year. When guns *are* securely stored, the risk of children and teenagers accessing them and potentially causing harm to themselves or others—whether intentionally or accidentally—significantly [decreases](#). Proper storage is crucial for preventing tragedy and it is vital that our schools play a role in keeping our kids safe from the dangers of gun violence.

Given the importance of understanding the benefits of secure firearm storage, and the new academic school year having begun on September 4, 2025, I respectfully request that NYC Public Schools take the following actions:

1. Send firearm safe storage resources again this year to all parents and guardians, using multiple methods (letters, emails, flyers) to maximize outreach and visibility.
2. Provide an update on last year's outreach, including how many schools and families were reached, what communication methods were used, and any lessons learned about effectiveness.

Thank you for your partnership and I look forward to hearing from you about this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dan Goldman', written over a horizontal line.

Dan Goldman
Member of Congress