

State University of New York College at Buffalo - Buffalo State College

## Digital Commons at Buffalo State

---

Correspondence

The Dr. Catherine Collins Collection

---

2-10-2006

### Correspondence; 2006-02-10; Assemblymember Sam Hoyt

Catherine Collins

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.buffalostate.edu/collins\\_correspondence](https://digitalcommons.buffalostate.edu/collins_correspondence)



Part of the [Education Commons](#), and the [History Commons](#)

---

#### Recommended Citation

"Correspondence; 2006-02-10; Assemblymember Sam Hoyt." Correspondence. Monroe Fordham Regional History Center. Archives & Special Collections Department, E. H. Butler Library, SUNY Buffalo State. [https://digitalcommons.buffalostate.edu/collins\\_correspondence/18](https://digitalcommons.buffalostate.edu/collins_correspondence/18)

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the The Dr. Catherine Collins Collection at Digital Commons at Buffalo State. It has been accepted for inclusion in Correspondence by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons at Buffalo State. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@buffalostate.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@buffalostate.edu).



THE ASSEMBLY  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
ALBANY

SAM HOYT  
Assemblymember 144<sup>TH</sup> District

Room 454  
Legislative Office Building  
Albany, New York 12248  
(518) 455-4886  
FAX (518) 455-4890  
hoys@assembly.state.ny.us

General Donovan State Office Building  
125 Main Street  
Buffalo, New York 14203  
(716) 852-2795  
FAX (716) 852-2799

CO-CHAIR  
Task Force on Demographic  
Research & Reapportionment

CO-CHAIR  
Task Force on High Speed Rail

COMMITTEES  
Ways and Means  
Transportation  
Energy  
Tourism, Arts & Sports Development  
Children and Families

MEMBER  
Puerto Rican/Hispanic Task Force

February 10, 2006

Catherine Collins  
Board of Education  
Room 801 City Hall  
Buffalo, NY 14202

Dear Dr. Collins:

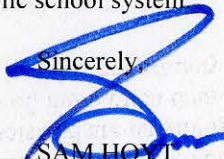
I am in receipt of the report of the Charter School Moratorium Task Force that you mailed to me on February 3, 2006. I am disappointed that you and a majority of your colleagues have voted to impose a two year moratorium on new charter schools in the City of Buffalo.

Notwithstanding the "financial impact" that charters are having on the District's budget, parents and children are voting with their feet. Inner city parents are making a very clear statement: They are dissatisfied with the quality of education their children are receiving in the traditional district schools and are unwilling to wait for the problems to be fixed. By imposing this moratorium, you are denying thousands of, more often than not impoverished, inner city families the opportunity that their more affluent city counterparts enjoy, that opportunity is CHOICE!

I am sensitive to the concerns expressed by the school district regarding the budgetary impacts, which is why I have introduced bill A4510 which would provide reimbursement to the traditional public school district in which a new charter school is established or an existing charter school is significantly expanded.

Currently great inequity exists wherein the affluent (largely white) urban community have a choice of what school to send their children to while the more impoverished (largely African American and Latino) inner city residents do not. As we mourn the loss of a great civil rights leader, Coretta Scott King, I am amazed that this great inequity is allowed to continue. To me, the denial of a quality education to any child or group of children is the most egregious form of discrimination.

As I often say, I do not believe there is an individual in Western New York who fights harder for our public schools than I do. One could argue that we do not need charters; rather we need to fix our traditional schools. I agree with this theory and my record clearly shows that, however, I am not willing to deny another generation of inner city children a quality education and chance for success in life while we tinker around with the edges in an effort to fix our city schools. We must provide choice for our inner city families while at the same time aggressively working to transform what is too often determined to be a failing traditional public school system

Sincerely,  
  
SAM HOYT

MEMBER OF ASSEMBLY

cc: James Williams, Superintendent  
City of Buffalo Board of Education