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FROM CITY HALL

SCHOOL SAFETY: A longtime union leader is demanding Mayor Zohran Mamdani come up with a plan to keep classrooms safe amid recent weapons seizures at public schools.

Gregory Floyd, who heads Teamsters Local 237, pointed to several recent incidents, including a student [caught with a loaded gun](#) at a Staten Island high school.

His union represents nearly 2,000 municipal workers, including school safety officers.

“He’s yet to say anything, he’s yet to address it,” Floyd told Playbook. “Before we get further into the school year, we want him to come up with a comprehensive plan to make sure that no one in the public school system is seriously injured or possibly killed.”

Floyd decried a shortage of school safety agents, noting that the city has lost 2,000 agents since 2022. And the Mamdani administration, he said, isn’t hiring.

A City Hall spokesperson did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

The city saw a decrease in major felony crimes in schools, according to the mayor’s management report released Thursday.

Mamdani faced criticism over the summer after [eliminating vacant school safety agent positions](#), drawing backlash from parents and advocates as felony assaults in schools rose.

Floyd pointed specifically to a lack of metal detectors. The most current version in schools, he said, has proven incapable of detecting smaller scalpels, which he described as an emerging threat in schools. Fewer than 100 schools currently have full-time scanners, according to Floyd.

— *Madina Touré*

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