POWER & AUTHORITY
Authority

- Power that has been granted to give orders, make decisions, and enforce obedience
Power

- The ability to influence the behavior of others or the course of events.
Authority vs. Power

- Power need not be consensual but authority must be
- We all have Power; no one has to give it to you; it doesn’t need permission
- Authority has to be given; It needs permission
- We give Authority to elected officials by electing them, but we still retain our Power while they are in office
The DOE District Restructure:
And What It Means For Parents and Families
Framework & Goals

- "This system will create consistency and clarity across the school system, and help us better meet the needs of our students, schools, and school communities" ~Chancellor Fariña

- The goal is to create a more equitable system that can deliver services to all schools

- Central offices have NOT changed...only district offices
## Old vs. New

### Current Structure
- 55 Support Networks
- Not geographically based
- Business model
- Principals are “CEO’s” of their schools
- Superintendents have limited authority
- Supports could look very different across networks

### New Structure
- There will not be any more networks
- Districts and supports will be geographically based
- Support Services Districts; and their supports will be geographically based
- Superintendents will have authority
Staffing at District Offices

- Superintendents will have a staff of up to seven:
  - An administrative assistant,
  - Two family engagement officers
    - District Family Advocate
      - Supports parent leaders
    - Family Support Coordinator
      - Supports all parents and families; will also handle 311 calls
  - Field support liaison
  - Principal Lead Facilitator:
    - Principal professional development
  - Director of Renewal Schools (where applicable)
  - Open position the District may need
    - i.e. Data Specialist
Affinity Groups

- Affinity Groups, formally called Partnership Support Organizations (PSO’s), will continue to play a role in this new support structure.
  - These Affinity Groups will report to superintendents and be held accountable for school performance.
  - The Department will facilitate the opportunity for schools to collaborate across the city through professional learning communities, such as the Learning Partners Program.
Borough Field Support Centers

- There will be two BFSCs in Brooklyn, two in Queens, and one each in the Bronx, Manhattan, and Staten Island.
  - Locations are to be announced

- Each BFSC will be led by a Borough Field Service Center Director, and house the full range of school support personnel, including experts on: instruction; operations; and student services such as health resources, counseling and supporting English Language Learners and students with special needs.

- These centers open summer 2015.
How Do We Insert Our Voices?

- Lobby your City Councilmember
- Share your story about your experiences with parent engagement
- Be a part of a CEJ parent engagement research team
- Write an editorial on the importance of engaging families
- What else can we do?
What is Community Organizing?

In your groups...

With these images as a guide, come up with your own definition of Community Organizing

“Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will.”
—Frederick Douglass
What is Community Organizing?

- Community Organizing – the process of building relationships and organizations between marginalized people, who then use their collective power to win changes in peoples’ lives and shift the balance of power in their communities.
Assata Shakur

It is our Duty to Fight for our Freedom
It is our Duty to Win
We must Love and Protect one another
We have Nothing to lose but our Chains