



Oyster Bay - East Norwich Central School District

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November 13, 2024

Dear Oyster Bay – East Norwich Community,

This communication provides a critical update on our ongoing legal challenge against the New York State Education Department's (NYSED) proposed Regionalization Regulation. We are deeply grateful for your continued commitment and engagement in this crucial matter, which directly impacts the future of our district's unique educational structure and the quality of education our children receive. Your active participation remains vital to our success.

Over the past two weeks, we have pursued a multi-pronged legal strategy designed to effectively oppose this detrimental regulation. These decisive actions include:

- **Strategic Legal Counsel Secured:**
Following a thorough evaluation process, the Board of Education unanimously approved Rigano LLC as our special legal counsel. Rigano LLC possesses extensive experience in challenging similar regulations. Their expertise will be invaluable in navigating the complexities of this legal challenge.
- **Article 78 Proceeding:**
In a unanimous vote during our Board meeting on November 12, 2024, the Board authorized Rigano LLC to file an Article 78 action. The legal arguments, comprehensively detailed in the letter published on our district website [[Letter to Community](#)], directly challenge the legal basis and practical implications of the proposed regionalization.
- **Direct Communication with State Officials:**
Formal letters outlining our objections and concerns have been delivered to the NYSED Commissioner, the Governor, the Chancellor and the Assistant Commissioner. These communications clearly articulate the potential negative consequences of the proposed regulation and underscore our unwavering commitment to protecting our district's educational autonomy. [[Letters can be found on our advocacy page](#)]

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To help inform the state's review of the proposed regulation, you may submit a letter through the online portal [[Link to submission portal](#)]. This provides an opportunity to share your perspectives and contribute to the ongoing dialogue surrounding this important issue. Your input, along with that of other community members, will be compiled and considered as part of our comprehensive response to the state.

The Board of Education values community input and will continue to keep you informed of the process. We appreciate your ongoing support as we work to protect our district's educational future.

Sincerely,

Dr. Francesco Ianni
Superintendent of Schools

Laurie Kowalsky
Board President

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Board Vice President

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