

WAPPINGERS

Central School District



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BOARD OF EDUCATION



January 27, 2016

THIS WILL CERTIFY that at the Board of Education meeting of January 25, 2016 the following resolution was offered and passed unanimously:

WHEREAS the cost involved in providing an appropriate public education to every student in New York State, as mandated in the New York State Constitution, continues to increase due to factors beyond the control of local school boards, including (but not limited to), increased cost of external services required to meet state requirements, and the ever-increasing cost of teacher and employee retirement plans and contractual benefits; and

WHEREAS the unprecedentedly low inflation rate this year means that the New York State Tax Levy Cap for the 2016-17 year will be close to 0%, allowing little or no increase in overall school tax revenues; and

WHEREAS the aforementioned increasing mandated costs are in no way exempted or accounted in the calculation of the annual Tax Levy Cap; and

WHEREAS, since its inception, \$8.8 billion statewide, has been lost to the State under the Gap Elimination Adjustment and the Wappingers Central School District alone has lost over \$48,392,833; and

WHEREAS New York State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli projects a \$3 billion New York State budget surplus for 2015;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Wappingers Central School District calls upon Governor Andrew Cuomo to include both repeal of the Gap Elimination Adjustment and an increase in school Foundation Aid in his Executive Budget; and

RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Wappingers Central School District calls upon the New York State Assembly and New York State Senate to actively support Gap Elimination Adjustment repeal and significantly increased foundation aid in the coming budget negotiations; and

RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Wappingers Central School District calls upon Governor Andrew Cuomo, the New York State Assembly and New York State Senate to oppose the adoption of any budget which does not include Gap Elimination Adjustment repeal and significantly increased foundation aid; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the Wappingers Central School District invites all of the members of the Wappingers community to contact their elected representatives in Albany to demand immediate action to repeal the Gap Elimination Adjustment and to increase foundation aid to all school districts statewide.

The Board of Education of the Wappingers Central School District directs the District Clerk to send a copy of this resolution to:

- Andrew Cuomo, the Governor of the State of New York
- Carl Heastie, the Speaker of the New York State Assembly
- John Flanagan, the Majority Leader of the New York State Senate
- Catherine Nolan, Assemblywoman, Chair, Committee on Education
- Didi Barrett, Assemblymember District 106
- Kieran Michael Lalor, Assemblymember District 105
- Sue Serino, New York State Senator
- Dutchess County School Boards Association

Respectfully Submitted,



Alberta Pedro
District Clerk