



SCARSDALE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

2 Brewster Road
Scarsdale, N.Y. 10583

Trustees

Pamela Fuehrer, President
Alison Singer, Vice President
Karen Ceske
Carl Finger
Robert Klein
Ronald Schulhof
Amber Yusuf

Phone: (914) 721 - 2410

Fax: (914) 722 - 2822

KEEP SCHOOL BUILDINGS OPEN RESOLUTION

Whereas school buildings in New York State were permitted to reopen in fall 2020 when state-wide positivity rates were well below the 5% marker set by the Governor if school districts fulfilled the COVID-19 guidance of the NYS Department of Health and Education Department; and

Whereas NYS COVID-19 community positivity rates have been climbing in November 2020, and surveillance testing is one mechanism used to track viral spread and help maintain the health and safety of our school communities; and

Whereas under the Governor's Micro-Cluster Initiative, school-based random surveillance testing is mandated to keep school buildings open for in person learning; and

Whereas public school districts have faced exceptional burdens on finances and administrative and faculty time and effort to ensure the health, safety, and ongoing education of the young people of our state; and

Whereas schools in locations where community transmission rates have resulted in the designation of a micro-cluster zone are not set up from a financial, logistical or regulatory perspective to take on the added burden of random surveillance testing; and

Whereas county departments of health are currently overwhelmed in coordinating the community-wide COVID-19 pandemic; and

Whereas school districts may desire to achieve the regulatory ability to pursue surveillance testing within their schools, either as a district or working with an outside medical partner;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that:

The Board of Education of the Scarsdale Union Free School District calls upon New York State leaders to ensure that public school districts receive the financial, logistical and regulatory support to undertake mandated or Board-approved COVID-19 surveillance testing of students, faculty and staff, to ensure that school districts are not forced to keep school buildings closed due to lack of resources to ensure the safety of students and adults in school buildings.

SIGNATURE *Pamela M. Fuehrer* DATE Dec. 21, 2020
Pamela M. Fuehrer (Dec 21, 2020 21:14 EST)

NAME Pamela Fuehrer TITLE Board of Education President

- Amy Paulin, State Assembly Member
- Andrea Stewart-Cousins, the Majority Leader of the New York State Senate
- Andrew Cuomo, the Governor of the State of New York
- Carl Heastie, the Speaker of the New York State Assembly
- Michael Benedetto, State Assemblyman, Chair, Committee on Education
- Shelley Mayer, State Senate, Chair, Committee on Education
- Dr. Howard A. Zucker, Commissioner of Health
- Betty Rosa, NYS Interim Commissioner of Education
- Andrew Brown, Vice-Chancellor, NYS Board of Regents
- Frances Wills, NYS Board of Regents
- Karen Belanger, Executive Director, Westchester Putnam School Boards Association