

# Syosset Central School District

Dr. Thomas L. Rogers  
Superintendent of Schools

Board of Education  
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**Via USPS and electronic transmission:** [P12Deputy@nysed.gov](mailto:P12Deputy@nysed.gov)

Senior Deputy Commissioner Dr. Jeffrey Matteson  
Office of Education Policy  
New York State Education Department  
89 Washington Avenue, Education Building  
Room 2M EB, Albany, NY 12234.

December 10, 2024

Dear Dr. Matteson:

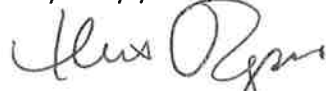
At their December 9-10, 2024 meeting, the Regents permanently adopted a new subsection 124-2.8 of Section 124 which provides a process by which school districts may elect not to participate in the development of a regionalization plan.

I am writing to advise you that the Syosset Central School District Board of Education discussed the matter at its December 9, 2024 meeting and adopted a resolution electing not to participate in any such plan and directing me to convey the same to your good offices.

Based on the discussion at the Regents P-12 Committee meeting on December 9, including representations made by you and the Department's Counsel, we understand that our Board's decision exempts the District not only from participation in the planning process but also from any obligation or initiative under any resulting regionalization plan.

While we rely on these and other representations by the Department, the District nevertheless explicitly reserves all its rights and remedies should it prove necessary to preserve, among other things, the Board's authority and local control.

Very truly yours,



Thomas Rogers, Ed.D.  
Superintendent

Enclosure: Resolution of the Board of Education

# Regionalization Resolutions for December

FINAL ADOPTED

## Resolution One – Opting out of the Regionalization Process and Plan

WHEREAS the New York State Board of Regents adopted by emergency regulation Section 124 enacting a Regionalization Planning Process;

WHEREAS at its December 2024 meeting, the Board of Regents adopted a new subsection 2.8 of Section 124 entitled: “Non-participation” which provides that: “A school district may elect not to participate in the development of a regionalization plan. If it so elects, the superintendent of a school district, after consultation with their board, shall communicate the district’s election, in writing, to the Department’s Office of Education Policy.”

WHEREAS the deadline for submission of such letters is January 15, 2025;

WHEREAS during public discussion at the meeting of the Board of Regents, Regent Tilles requested clarification on whether such letters would exempt school districts solely from the regionalization planning process or from plan implementation as well;

WHEREAS the NYSED Counsel confirmed for the record that such letter would exempt school districts from both regionalization plan development and regionalization plan implementation, and further that the Department may be held legally accountable by courts for statements made to the public;

WHEREAS the Deputy Commissioner further stated for the record that the State Education Department would not approve any regionalization plan that included any initiative not agreed to by an affected school district,

WHEREAS the Superintendent has consulted with the Board of Education as required by Section 124-2.8 in public session on December, 9, 2024,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Syosset Central School District Board of Education elects not to participate in the Regionalization Plan;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Syosset Central School District will therefore not submit the Strengths and Needs Tool to the State Education Department;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that at his earliest opportunity, the Superintendent will transmit a letter to the Commissioner of Education expressing Syosset’s election not to participate in the Regionalization planning process or plan itself and reserve all rights and remedies with respect to that decision.

Moved/Second: AL/SF 9-0