

RyeNeck Schools

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Eric Lutinski, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

February 25, 2023

Ms. Dara Disko-McCagg, Chief of Municipal Audits
Office of the State Comptroller
Newburgh Regional Office
33 Airport Center Drive, Suite 103
New Windsor, NY 12553-4725

Dear Ms. Disko-McCagg:

The Rye Neck UFSD wishes to thank the State Comptroller's Office for the opportunity to determine whether the District could achieve cost-savings by offering a health insurance buyout incentive.

It is of the utmost importance to the district to protect public funds and spend these funds in the most fiscally responsible manner. Historically, a buyout has never been discussed with any of the district's four bargaining units, however the District is willing to consider potential buyout options with its bargaining units in the next rounds of collective bargaining agreement negotiations in order to realize potential cost savings for the district. The next planned collective bargaining agreement negotiations is for the Rye Neck Teachers' Association (Assistants/Aides Unit) commencing in fall 2023 and running through spring 2024. The district acknowledges that actual savings could vary greatly from what was calculated in this report. The district also acknowledges that a buyout could have significant financial implications if staff were to come off and on the health insurance plan during open enrollment periods and also if staff who take a buyout rejoin the plan prior to retirement.

In closing, the District thanks the Comptroller's Office for conducting this examination and offering information and a recommendation about the potential cost benefit of offering a health insurance buyout.

Regards,



Dr. Eric Lutinski, Superintendent of Schools