

# 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

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## Resolution Two – Commences legal action in the event that the Regionalization Plan includes Syosset against its will

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.”

WHEREAS the Syosset Board of Education has elected not to participate;

WHEREAS the State Education Department in its Frequently Asked Questions document regarding the Regionalization Plan stated:

“The regional plans will only include activities that individual school districts consent or agree to pursue and implement in their local context. A district cannot be identified against their will as a participant in any particular activities listed in the regional plan. No individual school district is required to commit their local resources without their agreement or consent.” <https://www.nysed.gov/regionalization/frequently-asked-questions>

WHEREAS the Syosset Central School District has repeatedly indicated it will oppose any attempt to diminish its local control, to redirect local resources, or to require the Syosset Central School District to participate in a regionalization plan or any of its activities in contravention to the above excerpted guidance from the New York State FAQ concerning regionalization;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Syosset School District will commence legal action to preserve its local control in the event that it is required against its will to participate in any activity listed in any regionalization plan.

Moved/Second: LA/LC 9-0