



Dear Manhasset School Community,

I am writing to provide you with an update regarding the New York State Education Department's Regionalization regulations. On Tuesday, November 26, the Commissioner of Education shared the [attached memorandum](#) with school districts, outlining revisions to the proposed regulations that will be presented to the Board of Regents in December. These edits include the following:

1. Clarification on Monitoring and Amendments

Section 124-2.5(d) will be revised to note that suggested amendments to regionalization plans will remain advisory rather than mandatory.

2. Voluntary Participation Acknowledgment

To address concerns about mandatory participation, a new provision (Section 124-2.8) will be added, which allows districts in consultation with their school boards, to elect not to participate in the regionalization planning process by submitting written notification by January 15, 2025.

The Board of Education discussed this memorandum during its meeting on November 26. While this recent communication indicates that districts are exempt from the initial planning process, the broader Regionalization regulation remains in effect. If the proposed language is approved, school districts will still be required to implement regionalization plans that receive the Commissioner's approval. Based on the clarification that submitting the Strengths and Needs Tool as part of the Regionalization initiative is not mandatory, the District has decided not to submit the tool. After careful deliberation, the Board of Education voted to appoint a special counsel and authorize the District's participation in an Article 78 proceeding to challenge the State Education Department's adoption of these regulations. A recording of the Board's discussion is available on the [District's YouTube channel](#).

We will continue to monitor this matter closely and keep the community informed of any substantial developments. We thank you for your ongoing support of our schools.

Sincerely,
Dr. Gaurav Passi
Superintendent of Schools