



**Mamaroneck Board of Education Passes Resolution to Call Upon New York State Officials to
Provide School Districts with Financial, Logistical and Regulatory Support
in Order to Keep School Buildings Open**

Nov 17, 2020 - Board of Education Business Meeting

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 fiscal and administrative challenges including administrative and faculty time and effort to ensure the health, safety, and ongoing education of the young people in our state; and

Whereas schools in locations where community transmission rates have resulted in the designation of a micro-cluster zone are not financially, logistically or regulatory equipped to take on the added burden of random surveillance testing; and

Whereas county departments of health are currently overwhelmed in coordinating a response to the COVID-19 pandemic; and

Whereas according to public health officials the rapid antigen tests provided by the state to some school districts could necessitate a further round of testing that may require administration by medical personnel; and

Whereas school districts may desire 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 Mamaroneck School District call upon New York State officials 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.

