

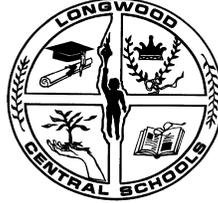
LONGWOOD CENTRAL SCHOOLS

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September 17, 2019

Honorable Betty A. Rosa Chancellor
12th Judicial District Regents Office
State Office Building
89 Washington Avenue
Albany, NY 12234

Honorable Denise Sher
100 Supreme Court Drive
Mineola, NY 11501

Dear Chancellor Rosa & Honorable Sher:

This letter of support is being written on behalf of the many families in the Longwood Central School District who have chosen to not vaccinate their children due to their undeniable rights dictated by their religious beliefs. Once more, in New York State a political decision was made far and away from the reality concerning the overall impact of this new legislation.

We urge you to carefully examine the facts, the statistics and most importantly hear the concerns of the great majority of families who have had their religious beliefs trampled upon by this legislation.

The data presented to our state government over these past months indicates that the number of students with religious exemptions is just a small percentage of overall unvaccinated students, and present no threat to community immunity levels.

The legislation was not fully vetted by the citizens of New York State, instead, politicians and Legislators reviewed skewed statistics and listened to "others" who professed knowledge about a possible outbreak of disease statewide. The extremely short time frame does not give any of the 26,000 families ample time to make a safe choice on how to provide education for their children. As it stands, families are being forced to make life-impacting decisions under duress.

The Board of Education and Administration strongly urge you to pull back on the implementation of this legislation and allow all citizens of New York State to voice their concerns and examine the programs that exist in other states and countries who have managed their health care in a proactive non-discriminatory manner.

Please, take the time to examine the facts and act accordingly to pull back on the deadlines that will hurt our children's access to the education they love.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael R. Lonergan".

Michael R. Lonergan, DSW
Superintendent of Schools

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank Muraca".

Frank Muraca
Board of Education President