



Livingston County School Superintendents

February 2, 2022

The Honorable Kathy Hochul
Governor of New York State
NYS State Capital Building
Albany, NY 12224

Governor Hochul:

Thank you for stepping up to lead the important and complex efforts to move us forward during this pandemic. As school superintendents, we appreciate and understand that tough and unpopular decisions often need to be made to advance the greater good. We also know from experience that clear, transparent communication of any decision is vitally important to ensuring continued trust and partnership.

Livingston County Department of Health continues to be a great partner in navigating safe, practical, and responsive public health policy within our schools. With their partnership, we've successfully provided students and families with safe and as normal as possible in-person learning, athletics, and extracurricular activities. We believe that as the pandemic transitions to become endemic, that it is vitally important that decisions revert back to local control where the most responsive, pragmatic, and targeted approaches can be implemented to ensure public health safety.

We respectfully request for you and the NYSDOH to develop appropriate guidance for an exit strategy regarding all mitigation measures, but *not* mandates; and we request for local control be fully restored to our school districts to enable us to make decisions appropriate for our individual communities, in consultation with our local DOH.

Respectfully,

Ryan P. Paucutt, Ed.D.

Avon CSD

Robert Molisani

Cal-Mum CSD

Amy Jones

Dansville CSD

Cily Flan

Geneseo CSD

Thomas K. Kopp

Keshequa CSD

Mr. Cole

Livonia CSD

Meg Bunn

Mount Morris CSD

Ellen M. Feinman

Way-CO CSD

David Kullt

York CSD