

New Paltz Central School District Board of Education Reassures  
Students, Faculty, Staff, and Community it will Protect  
and Defend Rights of all Students

On the evening of March 1, 2017, the New Paltz Central School District Board of Education renewed its commitment to protect and defend the rights of all students by adopting the following statement:

*Students, Faculty, Staff, and Community:*

*On February 22, 2017, the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and the Office of Civil Rights of the U.S. Department Education (DOE) rescinded previous guidance regarding schools' Title IX obligation to provide a non-discriminatory environment for transgender and gender nonconforming students.*

*In the letter the DOJ and DOE specifically roll back guidance instructing schools to allow students to use bathroom and locker room facilities consistent with their gender identity or expression.*

*We would like to make clear that this action by the Federal government -- an abdication of moral responsibility that targets some of the nation's most vulnerable students -- will have no effect on the New Paltz Central School District. We will continue to protect and defend the rights of **all** of our students, faculty, and staff with a commitment to advance our positions and policies in the direction of inclusivity.*

*Sincerely,*

*Your New Paltz Central School District Board of Education*

*Aimee Hemminger, President  
Michael O'Donnell, Vice President  
Brian Courmoyer  
Alison Easton  
Steven Greenfield  
Sophia Skiles  
Matthew Williams*