

196 Main Street, New Paltz, New York 12561  Tel. (845)256-4020  Fax (845)256-4025

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|   |  |
| BOARD OF EDUCATION Aimee Hemminger President Michael O’Donnell Vice President Brian Cournoyer Member Alison Easton Member Steven Greenfield Member Sophia Skiles Member Matthew Williams Member  SUPERINTENDENT Maria C. Rice  DISTRICT CLERK Dusti Callo  |   March 3, 2017  Dear Parents/Guardians of Secondary Students and New Paltz High School Students:  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Division of the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) and the Office of Civil Rights of the U.S. Department Education (DOE) rescinded previous guidance regarding schools’ Title IX obligation to provide a non-discriminatory environment for transgender and gender nonconforming students.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 Cournoyer Alison Easton Steven Greenfield Sophia Skiles Matthew Williams  |