

RESOLUTION AGAINST FIELD TESTING

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has previously expressed its opposition to the increasing amounts of time, money and energy spent on high-stakes standardized testing; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Education Department (SED) has stated that field tests are a crucial part of the test development process, needed to ensure the validity and reliability of the New York State operational tests and that school districts are required to administer such field tests; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education is strongly opposed to stand alone field testing because, among other things, it cuts into the precious instructional time of our students and staff, it does not contribute to critical, reflective and creative thinking and to developing our students as 21st century learners, and does not inform instruction; and

WHEREAS, the New Paltz Central School District has been chosen as one of the school districts to administer the stand alone field testing by SED;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education will administer the field tests, as required by SED, under protest, and will honor parent requests for refusal of their child/children to take such field tests; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education renews its commitment as an advocate for students and calls upon the Commissioner of Education, the Board of Regents, the New York State Legislature and the Governor to eliminate stand-alone field testing that largely benefits commercial enterprise, rather than the educational enterprise, negatively impacts students and wastes instructional time that could be put to better use; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the District Clerk is directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Commissioner of Education, Board of Regents, State Senator Bonacic, State Assemblyman Cahill, the head of each Legislative Chamber and the Governor.

BOE APPROVED 6/4/14