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**BOARD OF
EDUCATION**

Patrick G. Rausch
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Via Email: president@whitehouse.gov
comments@whitehouse.gov

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Vice President

December 6, 2012

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The Honorable Barack H. Obama
President of the United States of America
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

The Board of Education of the New Paltz Central School District at their regularly scheduled meeting on December 5, 2012 approved the following resolution regarding the need for the Federal Government to take appropriate action to stop the unconscionable cuts that sequestration will impose on the quality of education for our nation's children:

SUPERINTENDENT
Maria C. Rice

DISTRICT CLERK
Elena Maskell

***WHEREAS**, under the Budget Control Act of 2011, the failure of the Super Committee on Deficit Reduction to reach agreement has triggered sequestration, a series of spending cuts totaling \$1.2 trillion which will automatically take effect on January 2, 2013 unless Congress takes action; and*

***WHEREAS**, under sequestration, federal funding to education will be subject to cuts of 9.1% in Fiscal Year 2013, a reduction of \$4.1 billion from current levels; and*

***WHEREAS**, cuts to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) alone would total nearly \$1.1 billion, setting funding for IDEA back to 2005 levels; and*

***WHEREAS**, sequestration would impact millions of students across the nation educated through programs such as Title I grants for disadvantaged students, English Language Acquisition, Career and Technical Education, and Community Learning Centers; and*

***WHEREAS**, if these automatic cuts are allowed to occur, they will place an unfair burden on local school districts and taxpayers already overburdened by cuts to state education aid; and*

***WHEREAS**, in New York State, the effect of these cuts will be exacerbated by the Property Tax Levy Limit Law, which has already had a devastating effect on public education funding;*

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Education of the New Paltz Central School District calls upon the President of the United States, Barack H. Obama, Speaker of the House John Boehner, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, and members of the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate to reach a reasonable agreement to resolve this conflict before the January 1, 2013 deadline and stop these unconscionable cuts that jeopardize the quality education of our nation's children.

We implore you to do whatever you can to remedy this situation by working with the members of Congress to arrive at a reasonable solution. Thank you for your efforts on behalf of our students and the taxpayers of our community.

Sincerely yours,

Members, Board of Education
New Paltz Central School District
New Paltz, New York

c: The Honorable John Boehner, Speaker of the House of Representatives – Fax: 202-225-5117
The Honorable Harry Reid, Senate Majority Leader – Fax: 202-224-7327