

Date

Representative Name

Address

Dear

I am writing to you today on behalf of the students and families in the Orchard Park Central School District. As you know, all schools are facing unexpected and costly COVID related expenditures associated with increased technology needs, safety equipment, additional personnel, sanitizing and cleaning supplies, and personal safety items. This all comes at a time when the enacted State budget includes language which allows for the reduction of aid based on certain timeframes and revenue thresholds. These revenue thresholds have been met and New York State now has authority to reduce aid to school districts. The State began to withhold 20% from all payments to school districts. The permanent reduction of this aid and the specific amount of any reduction appears contingent upon Federal pandemic financial assistance to New York State and local governments.

President Trump's Twitter message on Tuesday October 6 to cease stimulus package negotiations was followed up on Wednesday with a request to consider stand-alone bills (for Airline Aid and stimulus checks). This seems to indicate that a larger, much needed stimulus package that would help our schools is not likely to happen before the State withholdings become permanent reductions.

It is important to have the support of our United States representatives. I am writing to urge you to contact our Federal representatives on behalf of our school district. Please communicate that our community is counting on them to support a stimulus package that will provide assistance so that school districts like ours can provide a sound, quality education in a safe and healthful way. Please lend your voice in this appeal for federal assistance.

Sincerely,