

HALF HOLLOW HILLS CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
OF HUNTINGTON AND BABYLON

January 27, 2017

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Kirsten E. Gillibrand
478 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Schumer and Senator Gillibrand:

The Half Hollow Hills Board of Education and Central Office Administration join with New York State School Boards Association, New York State PTA, New York State United Teachers, and School Administrators Association of New York State in expressing opposition to the confirmation of Betsy DeVos as United States Secretary of Education.

The position of Secretary of Education requires the command of educational issues across all levels and areas of education. The Secretary of Education must have a working knowledge of the intersection and boundaries of state and federal education roles and the educational needs of all children.

During the public confirmation hearings, Ms. DeVos evidenced an extreme deficiency and lack of understanding of pedagogy, educational law and a lack of understanding of the scope of public education in America. Her lack of experience in public education at any level is of tremendous concern in terms of her ability to ensure for appropriate educational standards and expectations for all children and the development and oversight of educational laws and regulations.

As stated by the U.S. Department of Education:

The Secretary is responsible for the overall direction, supervision, and coordination of all activities of the Department and is the principal adviser to the President on Federal policies, programs and activities related to education in the United States.

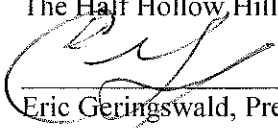
It is our position that Ms. DeVos does not possess the qualifications to fulfill the role of United States Secretary of Education.

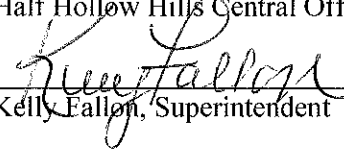
We join with you in opposing the confirmation of Betsy DeVos for United States Secretary of Education and we encourage you to continue your pursuit in respectfully advocating for public education in New York State and across the country.

Respectfully,

The Half Hollow Hills Board of Education

Half Hollow Hills Central Office Administration


Eric Geringswald, President


Kelly Fallon, Superintendent

Betty DeSabato, Vice President
Diana Acampora
Stephanie Gurin
David Kaston
Adam Kleinberg
Paul Peller, M.D.

Dr. Patrick Harrigan, Deputy Superintendent
Mary Rettaliata, Assistant Superintendent for
Elementary Education
John O'Farrell, Assistant Superintendent for
Secondary Education
Anne Marie Marrone Caliendo, Assistant Superintendent
for Finance and Facilities

