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December 1, 2020

Dr. Betty Rosa  
Interim Commissioner of Education  
New York State Education Department  
89 Washington Avenue  
Albany, New York 12234

Dear Commissioner Rosa:

As State appointed Monitor I am submitting the financial and academic improvement reports for the Hempstead Union Free School District. These documents are being sent to you in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 19 of the Laws of 2020.

These plans, including recommended actions for improvement in the school, were presented in final form to the Hempstead Board of Education on November 13, 2020. In a letter of transmittal to the Board of Education they were asked to review the reports and if they had a disagreement with one or more of the findings or recommendations they were asked to submit their disagreement in writing using a form provided by the State Education Department. In that same letter they were told that I would be prepared to discuss the report at a regularly scheduled Board meeting on November 19, 2020. A public hearing on the reports was held on November 30, 2020.

To date I have not received any of the forms from any member of the Board of Education. Last evening, November 30, 2020 a special meeting of the Board was scheduled to approve the plans. The Board would not approve the reports at this meeting. Members of the Board indicated that they had problems with the reports and asked that a meeting be scheduled to discuss the reports. That meeting is now scheduled for Saturday, December 5. I will be attending that meeting. I will keep you informed of the results of this meeting. I am still hopeful that the reports will be approved by the Board and if not, that they submit their concerns or alternate recommendations for your consideration on the appropriate forms provided to them in my earlier transmittal.

I look forward to moving on to the next phase – implementation, where we can work together to improve the District and the lives of all the children we serve here in Hempstead.

Sincerely

William H. Johnson  
State Monitor

CC: Kimberly Wilkins  
President Board of Education  
Interim Superintendent of Schools