

EAST ISLIP UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Christopher Zachry, President
Michael Dorgan, Vice President
William Carpluk, Trustee
Stephen Ruland, Trustee
Timothy Sassone, Trustee

May 3, 2023

Dear East Islip Community,

Earlier last week, the New York State Board of Regents voted unanimously to ban the use of mascots, team nicknames and logos that display Native American imagery or likeness for all New York public schools. This comes on the heels of a period during the covid crisis where unelected officials made decisions based on political agendas. Learning Standards, policy that are well thought out and universally accepted. However, the capricious mandates as of late are political in nature and represent an overreach by the Board of Regents that burden taxpayers and usurp local control of decision making affecting our district. The East Islip School Board is in the process of reviewing the decision. Legal counsel will be consulted in order to ascertain every conceivable option that we can take.

Faithfully,
Your East Islip Board of Education

Christopher Zachry - Board President
Michael Dorgan - Vice President
William Carpluk - Trustee
Stephen Ruland - Trustee
Timothy Sassone - Trustee

Paul E. Manzo
Superintendent of Schools