

# **Chappaqua Central School District**

## **RESOLUTION**

**Bill No. A.8291-A/S.5771-A**

would grant tenure status seniority rights to non-competitive and labor  
classes of employees during layoffs and rehiring of employees

Board Meeting

August 8, 2012

**WHEREAS**, the New York State Legislature has passed Bill No. A.8291-A/S.5771-A that would grant tenure status seniority rights to non-competitive and labor classes of employees during layoffs and rehiring of employees; and

**WHEREAS**, the bill constitutes a mandate that is unsound and unduly burdensome and was introduced without due consideration of its negative educational impact on students with respect to school programs and school district staffing needs; and

**WHEREAS**, the bill would force school districts to base hiring decisions on staff seniority and union interests rather than on actual needs and the best interests of public school students; and

**WHEREAS**, the bill would dramatically undermine a district's ability to improve educational programs and services for children; and

**WHEREAS**, the bill is in direct contravention of state mandate relief efforts to grant greater efficiency of resources and flexibility in staffing decisions; and

**WHEREAS**, the bill is in contravention of New York State Governor Cuomo's policy goal, as stated on the NY Students First website, that "education should be about the STUDENTS and that we need to shift the focus in Albany to a system that focuses on improving student performance and school accountability"; and

**WHEREAS**, the bill is in further contravention of New York State Governor Cuomo's statement that "our system has suffered because Albany has spent more time worrying about the business of education -- contracts, salaries, and benefits -- than they have worrying about the children"; and

**WHEREAS**, the bill will undermine efforts to institute the new APPR statewide teacher and principal evaluation system that is meant to put students first; and

**WHEREAS**, similar legislation has been vetoed by the Governor's predecessors based on the bill's evisceration of the collective bargaining process in conferring a significant benefit to unions at the expense of student needs.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Chappaqua Board of Education calls on Governor Andrew Cuomo to put the needs of students ahead of politics and veto this onerous and inappropriate legislation.