

Meeting of the Legislative Committee of the Forestville School District Board of Education

The Legislative Committee met by Zoom at 4:40 p.m. on October 15, 2020.
Present were Sylvester Cleary, Mervin Fry, and Renee Garrett.

Sylvester reported:

His meeting with George Borello and Andy Goodell was a positive. It is important to build relationships with meetings like this.

The CCSBA meeting has been postponed.

We should follow up on NYSBA alerts by contacting our representatives.

The Committee discussed:

Contacting our representatives can be accomplished by writing a series of letters. Carol Woodward can draft the letters and send them around by email for suggestions. The letters can be signed in person by Board members. They would be sent to the Interim Commissioner, Andy Goodell, George Borello, Tom Reed, and Senator Kennedy. The letters can have the following content:

1. "We are Forestville" to introduce ourselves as a small rural school district with a great program.
2. "Cuts should be fair and equitable" to remind our legislators that we are a fiscally conservative district, that we know there will be cuts, that cuts will affect different districts differently according to the percentage of the budget made up of federal and state grants, that cuts should be based on some kind of equitable allocation that we will suggest.
3. "No matter what" to emphasize that no matter what is happening in the world health wise and politically we will continue to do what is best for the education of our children.
4. "We need financial help" to communicate that we are worried about cuts, consolidation, merging, etc. and why we need Bullet Aid.
5. "Hidden gems" to highlight what is special about Forestville we should invite our representatives to an event, perhaps the opening of the Forestville Hiking Trail by the Town of Hanover in the spring. The Hiking Trail passes by one of the largest remaining American elms in New York.

The meeting ended at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mervin J. Fry