

PLAINVIEW-OLD BETHPAGE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
106 Washington Avenue, Plainview, New York 11803
www.pobschools.org



Dr. Lorna R. Lewis
Superintendent of Schools

September 22, 2015

Dear Board of Regents Members

I come seeking a listening ear for the future of mathematics in our state. We have a problem with the new Algebra II Common Core that is already starting a firestorm on Long Island. The new curriculum leaves out Trigonometry topics which are needed on the SAT, ACT and Physics exams. As a former Physics teacher I find this incredulous and all of my concerns have so far fallen on deaf ears. Parents are angry and asking us to ignore the CC Algebra II and, instead, prepare their children for the exams that matter. Has this been discussed with the Board of Regents? If not, I implore you to consider this for your next agenda. I have already communicated with the Commissioner's office regarding this topic.

We still have time to re-think the current direction as the old exam is now available this year. We could revisit the CC Algebra II curriculum to include the required Trigonometry topics next year. This should not be a major project as the Trigonometry topics are clearly delineated when you compare the two curricula.

If the Regents would be inclined to lean in this direction, this decision has to be made soon. It is the only wise direction to take for the future physicists and mathematicians of New York State.

As always, my gratitude goes to you for your efforts in serving all the children of New York State.

Sincerely,

Dr. Lorna R. Lewis
Superintendent of Schools
Plainview-Old Bethpage CSD
106 Washington Avenue
Plainview, NY 11803