



**PLAINVIEW-OLD BETHPAGE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

106 Washington Avenue, Plainview, New York 11803

[www.pobschools.org](http://www.pobschools.org)

May 6, 2025

Dear

As elected trustees of the Plainview-Old Bethpage Board of Education, we write to express our profound concern regarding the ongoing discussions surrounding federal Medicaid funding and its potential ramifications for our students, particularly those with special needs.

While Medicaid is often understood primarily through the lens of healthcare, it is critical to recognize its indispensable role in supporting public education. In our district, Medicaid funding is not a peripheral resource; it is a vital mechanism through which we provide legally mandated and ethically imperative services to students with disabilities. Any reduction in this funding stream would have immediate and detrimental effects on our School District's ability to meet our students' needs which we are legally mandated to provide through these services.

Based on our three-year average (2022–2024), the Plainview-Old Bethpage Central School District anticipates receiving \$820,000 in Medicaid-related aid for the 2025–2026 school year. These funds, detailed in the enclosed documentation, are allocated across three primary sources and directly support essential special education services.

These funds are indispensable to our mission of serving our most vulnerable students. These vulnerable students depend on these services, which include therapies and behavioral interventions to participate fully in school and are mandated by federal and state law. Disruption could harm their development, attendance and academic outcomes and restrain us from meeting our legal obligations. We urge you to ensure any forthcoming changes not disrupt these services.

With our special education population steadily increasing, any reduction or disruption in this funding would not absolve us from the obligation to the services we can provide and will also necessitate difficult budgetary decisions in future years. This could shift costs directly to local taxpayers or require cuts to other student programs, a burden our community's taxpayers cannot be asked to endlessly shoulder. School boards invest in services to support all students across our district with equity. Any gap will undermine the student support systems which are the charge of public schools.

We respectfully urge you to affirm Medicaid's central role in advancing educational access and opportunity. This funding is not an abstract budget line; it is the foundation of services for our most vulnerable students. Undermining this support undermines the very principles of public education. We urge you to be partners as together we work to protect the education sector.

We welcome the opportunity to continue this conversation with you. Our administrative team stands ready to serve as a resource on this matter and other issues affecting public education. We encourage you to reach out to our Superintendent, Dr. Mary O'Meara, to further this dialogue.

We thank you for your continued partnership and advocacy on behalf of our schools and community.

Sincerely,

**Board of Education**

[pobboe@pobschools.org](mailto:pobboe@pobschools.org)

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**Central Administration**

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Dr. Christopher Dillon

Mr. Christopher Donarummo