

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor of New York State
Executive Chamber
New York State Capitol Bldg.
Albany, NY 12224

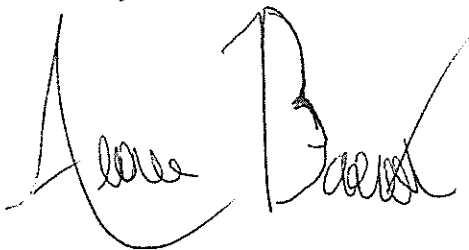
Sagamore Middle School
57 Division Street
Holtsville, NY 11742

2/22/13

Dear Governor Cuomo,

Hello, my name is Allison and I am an eighth grade student at Sagamore Middle School. Sagamore is an amazing school and sachem is an amazing district. I love my school, my teachers, my classes, and my clubs. I am in Chorus, Writing Workshop, and Drama. I have been in Drama for two years, Chorus for two years, and Writing Workshop for one year. I love Drama and I feel if it was cut I would not be able to enjoy school. When I am older I hope to be an actress, or a musician. In Chorus I learned how to read music and find pitch. Without chorus I feel I would not know what to do when I am older. Drama has taught me to not be afraid on stage and have confidence. Drama has given my confidence to answer questions in other classes and not be afraid. The state aid that sachem is getting is close to One Million dollars less than last year and it is far too little to have a wonderful school district. It will be too difficult to work as a Sachem society without the money we need. We need the support of the aid to function. Many things will have to be cut if we do not get this money. I have been in the Sachem School District since Kindergarten. Sachem is very important to me because I grew up here and I love Sachem.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Allison Bartol". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "A" and "B".

Allison Bartol

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February 22, 2013

Dear Governor Cuomo,

Hello! My name is Alyssa and I am an 8th grader at Sagamore Middle School. Sachem is a really great community that has very smart kids with awesome teachers. My experiences at Sachem have been amazing. With everything that we the people are able to do, it is outstanding. Without special activities, many students will miss out on curricular activities that express who we are, such as art and music. In school, I am involved in Music and drama. If drama and Music were to be taken away, I would be very upset among many others who want to carry out music as a career. Music teaches kids lots of things that are very important. You never know when you will need to know notes and pitches! It always comes in handy. Drama has taught kids that they shouldn't be afraid to be on stage, good teamwork skills, and a chance to express your talents. Art teaches us colors, and how to be creative. These are things that shouldn't be taken away. Many kids rely on these classes to learn new and fun things.

This year, Sachem will receive close to 1 million dollars less than last year and that was a big disappointment and was not expected. The Sachem families cannot tolerate this and we all need support from anyone who can help. Our district has many fun things. Charity is often done. Without money, we cannot have fun things to do at our school and relax. For example, Sagamore has a day called 'Sagamore Day', a day where we all do fun activities and just relax and show talents. A budget cut will not allow this, and this will upset many including me. Sachem is a great place for many families to be, and if special activities are to be cut, it will disappoint many. Sachem means the world to me, considering I go here, and it's a great place to be. We need your help desperately. We need your help to get us back on our feet so we can all have the classes we love.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Alyssa Rabbit in black ink. The name 'Alyssa' is written in a cursive style, and 'Rabbit' is written in a more stylized, blocky cursive.

Alyssa

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Sagamore Middle School

2/22/13

Dear Governor Cuomo,

Hi, my name is Jordan, I recently moved here, so I'm pretty new to this district. I used to live in Central Islip before I moved here, but I have to say, Sachem is a way much more better community, Sachem is such a great district. Ever since I moved here, things have gotten much more easier, I like all of my teachers, they are really fair. In this school, I get really active, I do track and I'm in band. I play the clarinet, sports are what make the school fun too.

Sachem will receive this year is close to 1 Million Dollars less than last year and far less than what was expected. We cannot do this and the entire Sachem community needs your support. Sachem really means a lot to me, since I'm new to this district. I really hope nothing happens to this district.

Sincerely,

Jordan Chong-Gayle

Jordan Chong-Gayle