



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

October 26, 2022

The Honorable Betty A. Rosa  
Commissioner of Education  
New York State Education Department  
89 Washington Avenue, Room 111  
Albany, NY 12234

Dear Commissioner Rosa:

I am writing to recognize New York's ongoing commitment to the Maintenance of Equity requirements under section 2004(b) of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP). Knowing the numerous, competing priorities facing States, State educational agencies, and local educational agencies, your early work to implement these new, critically important resource equity requirements is appreciated. We note that New York's action is a result of cooperative efforts involving Governor Hochul, appropriators in your State Assembly, and State educational agency leadership and staff.

ARP maintenance of equity requirements help ensure that State and local education funding supports students who experienced longstanding opportunity gaps before, and were disproportionately impacted by, the COVID-19 pandemic. In implementing these provisions through a mix of data quality efforts, engagement with Department-provided technical assistance, and maintenance of State education funding for the communities and students who need it most, New York is taking critical steps to accelerate academic recovery and close opportunity and achievement gaps.

My team looks forward to continuing our work with yours in implementing the second year of maintenance of equity requirements in fiscal year 2023. Thank you for your collaboration on this issue and all you do for New York's students, educators, and families.

Sincerely,

James F. Lane, Ed. D.  
Senior Advisor, Office of the Secretary  
Delegated the Authority to Perform the Functions  
and Duties of the Assistant Secretary for  
Elementary and Secondary Education

CC: The Honorable Kathy Hochul  
Office of the Governor  
State Capitol Building  
Albany, NY 12224