

# Monitors

MONITORS APPOINTED TO THE

East Ramapo Central School District

Wyandanch Union Free School District

Hempstead Union Free School District

Rochester City School District

# Statutory Authority for Appointment of Monitors

- ▶ **East Ramapo Central School District:** Education Law of 2016, as amended by the Laws of 2017 and the Laws of 2019, granted the Commissioner the authority to appoint up to three monitors.
- ▶ **Wyandanch Union Free School District:** Education Law of 2020, granted the Commissioner the authority to appoint a fiscal monitor.
- ▶ **Hempstead Union Free School District:** Education Law of 2020, granted the Commissioner the authority to appoint a fiscal and academic monitor.
- ▶ **Rochester City School District:** Education Law of 2020 granted the Commissioner the authority to appoint a fiscal and academic monitor.

# East Ramapo Monitor

- ▶ Mr. Bruce Singer was appointed as Monitor to East Ramapo effective March 3, 2020.
- ▶ Mr. Singer is working with Dr. Denise Lowe who has been a Monitor for the District since November 2018.
- ▶ Mr. Singer has more than 40 years of experience in managing district operations, most recently serving as the Interim Business Official for the East Quogue Union Free School District and the Associate Superintendent for Business Operations at the Sachem Central School District prior to that.
- ▶ Mr. Singer received his bachelor's degree from Bernard M. Baruch College, his MBA in Finance and Computer Science from Adelphi University and his School District Administrator Advanced Certificate from CW Post, Long Island University.

# Powers and Duties of East Ramapo Monitor

- ▶ Chapter 89 enumerates the powers and duties of the East Ramapo monitors. The monitors have the power and duty to:
  - ▶ Provide oversight, guidance and technical assistance related to the academic and fiscal policies, practices and decisions of the District, the Board, and the Superintendent;
  - ▶ Serve as a non-voting ex-officio member of the Board;
  - ▶ In consultation with the District, develop a long term strategic academic and fiscal improvement plan and annually revise such plan;
  - ▶ The improvement plan must include a comprehensive expenditure plan describing how the funds made available to the District pursuant to such Chapter will be spent;
  - ▶ In consultation with the Board, annually submit the District's proposed budget to the Commissioner for review and approval; and
  - ▶ Provide quarterly reports to the Commissioner on the fiscal and operational status of the District to ensure compliance the improvement plan and provide annual report to the Commissioner and the Comptroller on contracts that the district entered into throughout the year.

# Wyandanch Fiscal Monitor

- ▶ Albert Chase was appointed as the fiscal monitor of Wyandanch effective May 1, 2020.
- ▶ Mr. Chase brings 40 years of experience in managing district operations to the position, most recently serving as the Interim Assistant Superintendent for Finance and Operations for the Long Beach City School District and the Interim School Business Official for the Island Park Union Free School District prior to that.
- ▶ Mr. Chase received his bachelor's degree from Queens College, his MBA in finance from St. John's University and his School District Administrator and School Business Administrator Certificates from CUNY's Graduate School of Education.
- ▶ Additionally, Mr. Chase served as president of the Nassau Chapter of the NYS Association of School Business Officials ("NYSASBO") and currently serves as a mentor to New School Business Officials for NYSASBO.



# Powers and Duties of Wyandanch's Fiscal Monitor

- ▶ Chapter 18 enumerates the powers and duties of the Wyandanch monitor. The monitor has the power and duty to:
  - ▶ Provide oversight, guidance and technical assistance related to the fiscal policies, practices and decisions of the District, the Board, and the Superintendent;
  - ▶ Serve as a non-voting ex-officio member of the Board;
  - ▶ Adopt a conflict of interest policy that ensures board members and administrators act in the District's best interest and comply with applicable legal requirements;
  - ▶ Hold two public hearings which allow public comment from the District's residents, students, employees, parents, board members and administration;
  - ▶ Together with the Board of Education, develop a financial plan for the District;

# Powers and Duties of Wyandanch's Fiscal Monitor- Continued

- ▶ Annually review the District's proposed budget to ensure that it is balanced within the context of revenue and expenditure estimates and mandated programs, and to ensure that it is consistent with the District's financial plan;
- ▶ Provide semi-annual reports to the Commissioner, Regents, the Governor, the Temporary President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the Assembly on the fiscal and operational status of the District;
- ▶ Work with the District's shared decision-making committee in developing the financial plan, district goals, implementation of district priorities and budgetary recommendations; and
- ▶ Assist in resolving any disputes and conflicts.

# Hempstead Academic and Fiscal Monitor

- ▶ Dr. William Johnson was appointed as the academic and fiscal monitor of Hempstead effective July 1, 2020.
- ▶ Dr. Johnson brings 40 years of experience in education to his role as the academic and fiscal monitor of Hempstead.
- ▶ For the past 34 years, he has served as the Superintendent of the Rockville Centre Union Free School District. Prior to serving as superintendent, Dr. Johnson held numerous leadership roles in the District including in the areas of Curriculum and Instruction, Special Education and Business.
- ▶ Additionally, Dr. Johnson's vast experience includes serving as President of the NYS Council of School Superintendents, serving as a member of the State Education Commissioner's Advisory Council and participating in two Governor's commissions related to education.
- ▶ Dr. Johnson has received numerous awards including a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Long Island Association of TV Broadcasting, Phi Delta Kappa's Educator of the Year, the Abraham Krasnoff Courage and Commitment Award, and Education Week's Leaders to Learn From award.
- ▶ Dr. Johnson holds a doctorate in education and a masters in education from Columbia University, a certificate of advanced study from Fairfield University and a bachelor's degree from St. Bernard's College.



# Rochester Academic and Fiscal Monitor

- ▶ Dr. Shelley Jallow was appointed as the academic and fiscal monitor of Rochester effective May 26, 2020.
- ▶ Dr. Jallow most recently served as Senior Director of School Improvement in the Learning Innovations Program at WestEd.
- ▶ Prior to joining WestEd, Dr. Jallow supervised, coached and mentored school and district leaders in school districts throughout New Jersey, representing low-performing elementary, middle, and high schools. Her work resulted in a state designation change from Priority Schools to Schools in Good Standing.
- ▶ Additionally, Dr. Jallow has vast classroom and administrative experience, having served as a mathematics teacher, mathematics director, director of curriculum and instruction, chief academic officer, founding principal, assistant superintendent and deputy superintendent.
- ▶ Dr. Jallow holds a doctorate in education from St. John Fisher College in Rochester, a masters in Secondary Mathematics Education at the City College of New York, and a bachelors degree from Howard University.

# Powers and Duties of the Academic and Fiscal Monitors

- ▶ Chapters 19 enumerates the powers and duties of the Hempstead monitor and Chapter 56 enumerates the powers and duties of the Rochester monitor. Both monitors have the power and duty to:
  - ▶ Provide oversight, guidance and technical assistance related to the academic and fiscal policies, practices and decisions of the District, the Board, and the Superintendent;
  - ▶ Serve as a non-voting ex-officio member of the Board;
  - ▶ Adopt a conflict of interest policy that ensures board members and administrators act in the District's best interest and comply with applicable legal requirements;
  - ▶ Hold three public hearings which allow public comment from the District's residents, students, employees, parents, board members and administration;
  - ▶ Together with the Board of Education, develop a financial plan and an academic improvement plan for the District;

# Powers and Duties of the Academic and Fiscal Monitors- Continued

- ▶ Annually review the District's proposed budget to ensure that it is balanced within the context of revenue and expenditure estimates and mandated programs, and to ensure that it is consistent with the District's financial plan and academic improvement plan;
- ▶ Provide semi-annual reports to the Commissioner, Regents, the Governor, the Temporary President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the Assembly on the academic, fiscal, and operational status of the District;
- ▶ Work with the District's shared decision-making committee in developing the financial plan, academic improvement plan, district goals, implementation of district priorities and budgetary recommendations; and
- ▶ Assist in resolving any disputes and conflicts.

# Monitor Reporting to SED

- ▶ All of the Monitors will report to the Board of Regents on their findings regarding these Districts and their plans of action for the Districts to improve their academic and fiscal condition.

Thank you.