

## VALLEY STREAM SCHOOL DISTRICT 24

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Dr. Unal Karakas
Superintendent of Schools

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Guercio & Guercio, LLP School Attorney Dear Valley Stream 24 Families,

As we begin this new calendar year, I want to take a moment to thank you for your continued support and partnership. Together, we are creating an environment where our students thrive, and I am continually inspired by the dedication of our staff, families, and community.

I am writing to share an update regarding regionalization, a topic that has been under discussion among school districts. Initially, the New York State Education Department (NYSED) directed districts to participate in discussions about regionalization. However, due to a lack of clarity on the regionalization process, NYSED allowed districts to opt out of regionalization. The great majority of school districts in Nassau County are deciding to opt-out. As such, our district will also be opting out of regionalization at this time.

It is important to note that NYSED has emphasized that regionalization is intended to be inclusive rather than exclusive, meaning districts have the flexibility to join at a later date if they choose. We remain committed to continuing to collaborate with our neighboring districts, all while upholding our district's local priorities and continuing to provide the high-quality education our students receive and deserve.

Thank you for your support as we work together to ensure the continued success of our students, preparing them to thrive as 21st-century learners.

Warmly,

Dr. Unal Karakas

Superintendent of Schools