

**MONTAGUE BOARD OF EDUCATION
RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, the Montague Board of Education (“the Board”) has a sending-receiving agreement with the High Point Regional School District (“High Point”), whereby Montague’s students in grades 9-12 are educated at facilities administered under the authority of High Point; and

WHEREAS, for many years, the Board has had increasing concerns with the quality of the education being provided to its students at High Point Regional High School as well as continued safety concerns regarding transportation; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to explore appropriate cost-effective alternatives for educating its students, the Board retained Statistical Forecasting, LLC, Steven Cea, M.B.A., and John Kazmark, Ed.D. for the purpose of conducting a feasibility study on the possible termination of the sending-receiving relationship between the Board and High Point; and

WHEREAS, in October 2019 Statistical Forecasting, LLC, Steven Cea, M.B.A., and John Kazmark, Ed.D. issued a report that identified several attractive alternatives for the Board to consider; and

WHEREAS, the Board subsequently received and reviewed a traffic study by MBO Engineering which identified the hazardous nature of the travel to High Point; and

WHEREAS, the report concluded that the Board could sever the subject sending-receiving relationship with High Point and resume a sending-receiving relationship with the Port Jervis City School District without visiting a substantial negative educational, financial, or racial impact on any of the affected districts; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the aforementioned reports’ analysis that Montague’s students could receive an educational program of equal or superior educational opportunity in other school districts, such as Port Jervis, as well as reduce the current travel risks, the Board entered into extensive dialogue with the Port Jervis City Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, the Board enjoyed a sending-receiving relationship with Port Jervis for over 80 years before it was severed by the Department of Education in 2013 without the benefit of a feasibility study or traffic study,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that, after due consideration, the Board has determined that its students can receive an appropriate education at the 9-12 level from the Port Jervis City School District, which is ready, willing, and able to educate Montague’s high school students on a tuition basis; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, contingent upon termination of the sending-receiving relationship with High Point, the Board will enter into an appropriate sending-receiving relationship with Port Jervis; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that High Point has entered into a written agreement with the Board that High Point will not oppose this termination; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board authorizes its special counsel, Porzio, Bromberg, & Newman, P.C., to prepare and submit a petition to the Commissioner of Education seeking to terminate the sending-receiving relationship between the Board and High Point pursuant to *N.J.S.A.* 18A:38-13, and to take any and all appropriate action to obtain the required authorization from the Commissioner of Education and to implement same.