

**Putnam
Northern
Westchester
C.S.A.**

**CHIEF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS ASSOCIATION
Putnam/Northern Westchester Counties
200 BOCES Drive, Yorktown Heights, NY 10598-4399
(914) 248-2303**

***PARTICIPATING
SCHOOL DISTRICTS***

*Bedford
Brewster
Briarcliff
Carmel
Chappaqua
Croton-Harmon
Garrison
Haldane
Hendrick Hudson
Katonah-Lewisboro
Lakeland
Mahopac
North Salem
Ossining
Peekskill
Putnam Valley
Somers
Yorktown*

*Joanne Marien
President*

*Judith Johnson
Vice President*

*Thomas Higgins, Jr.
Treasurer*

In light of hateful incidents that recently have occurred in some of our districts and recognizing that subtler expressions of intolerance persist in each of our communities and our schools, the Chief School Administrators of the Putnam/Northern Westchester region have joined together to forge a common commitment toward addressing this issue both within each of our individual districts and as a region. Our efforts are guided by the following statement:

In the history of our nation and our world, race and religion have been both powerful motivations for progress, as well as a source of conflict and intolerance. In fact, intolerance often extends to perceived abilities, socio-economic status, life style, and beyond.

The superintendents of the Putnam/Northern Westchester region, in concert with the New York State Council of School Superintendents, believe strongly that education is a civil right, which is essential to the achievement of the fundamental, inalienable right of equality.

We believe:

- All students must have access to a rich and challenging educational experience.
- All students must be provided the necessary support to achieve at a level that prepares them to be successful in the 21st century.
- All students should learn and value their roles as citizens in a global society.
- All students should embrace our differences and distinctiveness and understand that those characteristics contribute to the greater good.
- All students, when confronted with issues of intolerance, should challenge such attitudes appropriately.

We believe that as school district leaders, it is our responsibility to:

- Promote and support open and honest discussion about issues of intolerance.
- Create a climate of respect for all.
- Educate our students to appreciate and celebrate differences.

3/4/08

Bedford CSD	Brewster CSD	Briarcliff UFSD	Carmel CSD
Chappaqua CSD	Croton-Harmon UFSD	Garrison UFSD	Haldane CSD
Hendrick Hudson CSD	Katonah UFSD	Lakeland CSD	Mahopac CSD
North Salem CSD	Ossining UFSD	Peekskill CSD	P/NW BOCES
Putnam Valley CSD	Somers CSD	Yorktown CSD	