



KENNETH P. ZEBROWSKI
Assemblyman 96th District
Rockland County

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July 9, 2015

Hon. Thomas DiNapoli
State Comptroller
110 State Street
Albany, NY 12236

Dear Comptroller DiNapoli:

I am writing you regarding the distressing situation in the East Ramapo Central School District.

As you know, this school district is facing a host of fiscal and academic challenges that is severely impacting the educational opportunities of the students. Your fiscal stress monitoring system has designated East Ramapo as the 3rd most fiscally stressed school district in the State which is attributed to a growing fund balance deficit and poor financial management. As their financial outlook worsens, it is necessary to provide the public with a more in depth look into their budgeting practices and operations.

I am requesting that your office conduct a forensic audit of the East Ramapo Central School District to determine whether any fraud or misappropriation of funds have occurred over the past several years. A forensic audit will provide a multi-year extensive review of how funds were appropriated, internal financial controls and budgeting practices. The audit results will give the district and public a detailed explanation into district appropriations to ensure that no impropriety has occurred and the district is using the best practices in financial management.

This type of critical review is necessary to help the district move out of financial disrepair and begin to restore the trust between the school board and parents which has deteriorated over the past few years. I have also written to State Education Commissioner Elia this week requesting that a temporary monitor be appointed to provide some oversight into district operations. This oversight, coupled with a forensic audit, will provide a multi-faceted assessment of the school district and how to move forward in a manner that is in the best interest of the students.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and look forward to discussing this matter with you further. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact my office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kenneth P. Zebrowski'.

Kenneth P. Zebrowski
Member of Assembly