We, as a Board of Education, condemn the voices of hatred and violence that were so graphically and sadly displayed during the recent events in Charlottesville, VA. The Peekskill City School District is a beacon of cultural acceptance that cherishes our diversity as a strength reflecting the principles of freedom, liberty, and democracy and embrace the true meaning of E Pluribus Unum—"we are a community of many uniting as one".

Therefore, as a Board of Education, we categorically reject equating neo Nazism, White Supremacists and the KKK with the Americans who stood for the principles of our Nation against racism, anti-Semitism and hate. In the face of uncertain times, it is our responsibility to educate and prepare our students to be the future leaders in our nation. Therefore, we call for our schools to embrace, reinforce, and strengthen the tenets of democracy, equality, and deep respect for individual differences that define our school system.

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Lisa Aspinall-Kellawon, Board President
Branwen MacDonald, Trustee
Maria Pereira, Trustee
Jillian Vilson, Trustee

Michael Simpkins, Vice President
Samuel North, Trustee
Colin Smith, Trustee

Mary Keenan Foster, Interim Superintendent

8/28/17
Dated