



94 Central Avenue, Albany, New York 12206 (518) 432-5315

March 12, 2015

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor of New York State
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Cuomo:

The Alliance for Quality Education writes concerning your Administration's policy of directing State officials and agencies to delete and remove all electronic communications after 90 days, and to specifically ask you to preserve any and all email related to communications with hedge fund managers, campaign contributors and charter school advocates, as well as state agencies, elected officials and their offices, and Executive Department officials, related to education policy and funding in this year's state budget.

AQE advocates for the rights of New York school children to a sound basic education under the New York Constitution, including the provision of adequate funding under the 2007 Foundation Aid formula.

There is outstanding litigation that has been filed concerning this matter, and AQE is investigating additional potential State constitutional violations across the state in order to prepare for further litigation if needed.

Accordingly, we ask that the Executive branch desist from destroying or deleting any emails or other documents which may in any way be relevant to the State's school finance system and its constitutional obligations to provide students with a sound basic education, and to the processes of government by which those obligations have been met or not met.

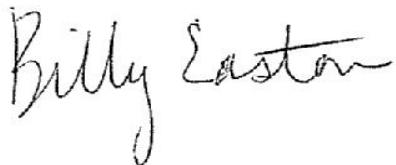
Specifically, we are requesting that you desist from destroying any emails that pertain to school finance, state revenues, the state education budget and all education policy issues.

This includes, but is not limited to, emails or other communications with any representatives of government, the State Board of Regents, and school districts pertaining to those areas.

It also includes emails or other communications with any lobbyists (registered or unregistered), campaign donors or advocacy organizations related to all education policy matters and the other aforementioned areas.

This includes, but is not limited to, communications with Paul Tudor Jones, Daniel Loeb, William Ackman, Paul Singer, Eva Moskowitz, any and all representatives of or donors to New Yorkers for a Balanced Albany and/or Students First PAC, New Yorkers for Putting Students First Independent Committee, the Coalition for Public Charter Schools PAC, New Yorkers for Achievement Now PAC, all representatives of the Robin Hood Foundation board and staff, Families for Excellent Schools, Democrats for Education Reform, Education Reform Now, Students First, Students First NY, and to any further communications with advocates, political operatives, campaign contributors and hedge fund and private equity managers and executives communicating with any state employee including all staff of the Executive Chamber, offices of the Governor and/or state employees doing work for any Executive Chamber staff, including budget and policy analysis, legislative relations, public communications, digital media, public events (including the use of state-owned or state-controlled facilities) and film and video production.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Billy Easton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with "Billy" on top and "Easton" below it, both starting with a capital letter.

Billy Easton
Executive Director