PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 200-2020

A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE NASSAU COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO COMPLY WITH THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH "INTERIM GUIDANCE ON MANDATORY COVID-19 TESTING IN PUBLIC AND NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS LOCATED IN AREAS DESIGNATED AS 'YELLOW ZONES' UNDER THE NEW YORK STATE CLUSTER ACTION INITIATIVE" AS ISSUED ON OCTOBER 9, 2020 AND UPDATED ON NOVEMBER 12, 2020

WHEREAS, on October 9, 2020, the New York State Department of Health issued a memorandum entitled "Interim Guidance on Mandatory COVID-19 Testing in Public and Non-Public Schools Located in Areas Designated as 'Yellow Zones' Under the New York State Cluster Action Initiative" whereby the New York State Department of Health issued a mandate that schools open to the in-person instruction in geographical areas experiencing elevated COVID-19 positive tests and are designated as a yellow zone must test in person students, teachers and staff for infection by the COVID-19 virus; and

WHEREAS, on November 12, 2020, the New York State Department of Health issued an addendum to the above-referenced memorandum indicating that Local Health Departments ("LHD"), including the Nassau County Department of Health, "are required to allow schools to operate under their Limited Service Laboratory ("LSL") for the purposes of conducting weekly testing. If the LHD does not have an operational LSL or is unable to support the school in conducting testing, the LHD must work with the school to identify community partners with an LSL; and

WHEREAS, it is essential to the health and safety of our residents that School Districts be granted the option to operate under Nassau County's Limited Service Laboratory so that the testing protocols established by the New York State Department of Health are satisfied; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, the Nassau County Department of Health shall allow school districts that have been designated to be in a Yellow Zone by New York State and subject to the COVID-19 testing mandates as per New York State Department of Health guidance the option to operate under the Nassau County Department of Health's Limited Service Laboratory for the purposes of conducting COVID-19 testing as required by New York State; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution shall be effective immediately.