Hilton schools postpone vote on arming security

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The Hilton school board has decided to postpone a vote on a proposal to arm some its security officers.

The Hilton Central School District Board of Education was scheduled to vote Tuesday on the resolution that could have led to some armed security on campus.

“In light of the community asking to engage in a dialogue about the proposed resolution to arm security officers, the District has decided to postpone the Tuesday, June 12 vote,” District spokeswoman Grace Griffie said in a statement Monday.

“This will provide all stakeholders an opportunity to more fully understand the proposal, as well as have their questions answered,” she said.

The district has yet to schedule dates for the meetings, but will post the information on its website once the dates are determined.

The measure was designed to apply to certain security officers, officially called youth assistants, who have experience in law enforcement. The district said the plan is in response to “security issues” at schools around the country, including “active shooter incidents.

The question of whether school employees — including security and teachers — should be armed has been a topic of controversy since the mass killing in February at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida.

That shooting left 17 dead, and prompted calls to arm guards in schools, including those in New York.

There was pushback to the proposals, even from local law enforcement in Monroe County. And the local chapter of the New York Civil Liberties Union implored the Hilton district to reconsider.

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