## Newtown Board of Education 3 Primrose Street Newtown, CT 06470

February 20, 2017

President Donald Trump The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

The Board of Education is part of the elected leadership in Newtown, Connecticut. We are volunteers doing our part to help make our town a little better every day. We are writing today asking for your help. As you know, four years ago our town was torn asunder by the murders of six of our educators and twenty of our children at Sandy Hook Elementary School. As a town, we continue to mourn, question why and try to find the kindness and goodness that we believe is out there. One of the significant roadblocks to our future is the continued rumors and viciousness spread by many people outside of our homes who believe that our tragedy was a staged government event that never happened, that the children and educators we lost never existed.

We are asking you, as the new President, to help in putting a stop to these horrific lies and demonization of the adults who so bravely protected our children and died doing so. One perpetrator of these lies is radio host Alex Jones. He continues to spread hate and lies towards our town, towards the people and organizations who came to help us through those dark days. Jones repeatedly tells his listeners and viewers that he has your ears and your respect. He brags about how you called him after your victory in November. He continues to hurt the memories of those lost, the ability of those left behind to heal.

We are asking you to intervene to try to stop Jones and other hoaxers like him. We are asking you to acknowledge the tragedy from 12/14/12 and to denounce anyone spreading lies and conspiracy theories about the tragedy on that December morning. After the fourth anniversary of the tragedy, a family who had lost a child on that tragic day received death threats made by one of these hoaxers. We are hopeful that with your help, these lies will end. Please clearly and unequivocally:

- Recognize that 20 children and 6 adults were murdered at Sandy Hook Elementary School on December 14, 2012; and
- Denounce any and all who spread lies that the tragedy was a hoax; and
- Remove your support from anyone who continues to insist that the tragedy was staged or not real.

We know that you have many and un-ending responsibilities as the President, but we are hopeful that with your support our town can continue to find ways to move forward and try to heal.

Respectfully,

Newtown Board of Education Keith Alexander, Chair