

**Friis, John**

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**From:** Michelle Raiti [michelle.raiti@snet.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 08, 2009 5:34 PM  
**To:** Friis, John  
**Subject:** Fwd: letter supporting SB259

Dear Senator Gaffey, Representative Fleischmann, and Members of the Education Committee:

SB259 was introduced and has my full support. I strongly believe that politics has no place on Boards of Education, and allowing municipalities to decide to run partisan or non-partisan campaigns is the first step. I have seen politics play entirely too much of a role in our local Board of Education. In one particular election, the two candidates who received the most votes.....were not given seats as they were associated with the wrong political party. There is definitely something wrong with this picture. The town was overwhelmingly in favor of these two candidates, yet they were not allowed to win the seats. Our primary concern should be with finding the BEST candidates period - not with having equal party seats.

As you know, 86% of town/counties across our wonderful nation have non- partisan Boards of Education. It's time Connecticut opened the law to allow the change. This new law would not be a mandate, but would instead provide every municipality the choice to make changes to their Charters if they so choose. In addition, this legislation is cost-free!

Please support this bill, report it favorably, and let's make this bill a law.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michelle Raiti  
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