

Dear senator Harp,

My name is Jessica Goggins and I am a Sophomore in the Ellis Clark Regional Agriscience and technology program in Woodbury . I live in Ansonia and I attend this regional agriscience school choice program because when I was in 8th grade I could think of only one thing I wanted to do in my life that was to work with animals . This school has the perfect program for me . I am able to take vet science and Agricultural production and learn about diseases and animals and many more things . I do not know what I want to be when I get out of high school now, but I know by time I am a senior I will know what I am going to do and what college I will go to . Right now I work at the Ansonia Nature center and the Silver Hill kennel in Ansonia . Also in this school I have been able to do many interesting activities that I would not be able to do in any other public school . I have been able to castrate pigs, learn how to give shots and medicine properly, and also see animals give birth and help out . Not only have I done those amazing things in school but I have also gone to Canada on a school trip to see the Royal Winter Agricultural Fair . This was an amazing opportunity to see how hard people work and how agriculture is used in everyday life . Another thing that has happened to me here is that I have met amazing people that I know I wont forget they have become my best friends and people I know I can trust because by being in the program you grow up a little faster, because they put more responsibility on us and we don't want to let any one down . We grow from the experiences we go through in class and learn by doing them . The choice to come to this school has made me grow into a more responsible person and also a more confident one . I wouldn't give up this school program for anything and I want others who have the chance to go to this school to feel what I feel when I walk into the doors of my high school everyday .

Sincerely,
Jessica Goggins

I am writing this letter to encourage you to **please urge the Appropriations Committee to pledge 9 million dollars of the school choice funding increases proposed in the Governor's budget to the state's 19 regional (vo-ag) agriscience programs.**

Our agriscience programs have been drastically underfunded for over 20 years as compared to the magnet schools, charter schools, vocational technical schools and the other school choice funding programs. (Please see attached flyer with details)

This will allow hundreds of more students like me to enroll in these successful programs so they will have the same positive experience I am having now.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter.