

Senator Toni Harp
Appropriations Committee Co-Chair
Legislative Office Building, Room 2700
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

Dear Senator Toni Harp

3/21/11

My name is Tatiana Stewart and I am a senior in the Wamogo agriscience program in Litchfield. I live in Torrington and I attend this regional agriscience school choice program because I am interested in the program that this school offers. The agriculture program has allowed me to learn more about Floral Design as well as Landscaping. Being a student at Wamogo has allowed me to gain more knowledge on both of these. Wamogo doesn't just stop at educating students; we also do extracurricular activities that are further going to help us in life. By coming to Wamogo I have learned many different ways to work with flowers as well as landscaping. I have also learned more people skills because we are always dealing with outsiders trying to attract business and promote what our school offers and do. For my SAE, I have worked with dogs, pigs and also landscaping. Each of these SAEs is going to help me later in life because I have learned about having responsibility and keeping a good work habit.

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.

Sincerely,



Tatiana Stewart