

Dear Mr. Calabrese,

I respectfully request that you share the following letter with the education committee.

Dear Education Committee Members,

I am writing regarding the Governor's proposed bill # 6385 section 16 that addresses moving control of the state's technical schools to local boards of education. As a parent of a Wilcox Technical School (Meriden) student, I am respectfully request that you do not support this change. I do not see that this change will benefit our students. Wilcox students outperform Platt and Maloney (Meriden's public schools) students annually on CAPT scores and students in Wilcox are more disciplined and their behavior and conduct are better than their Meriden counterparts.

As I have read, if the power is transferred to the Meriden school system the superintendent plans to change the acceptance policy. Right now students must apply to the school and their grades, attendance, and conduct are all considered as part of the acceptance process. The superintendent proposes a lottery system for acceptance. This would certainly lower the standards of the school. Studying a trade requires a great deal of maturity and responsibility and students should have to prove that they are worthy of their acceptance. It could actually be a danger to have less mature and

less responsible students around the shop equipment on a regular basis.

Wilcox offers a great learning environment both in academics and in trades and I believe that this environment will be jeopardized if the power is transferred. I ask that you do not support this proposal.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Marcie Vázquez

Cheshire