

Regarding regionalization;

I have been teaching since 1982 and it seems to me that the benefits of regionalization are cost effective but the resistance is based on a fear of relinquishing local control of academic curriculum decisions. It should be possible to share costs for things like toilet paper and #2 pencils while still allowing local school boards to make educational decisions regarding reading programs and math materials. We already have 6 Regional Education Service Centers. Why not use these RESCs as a basis for regional cost sharing of supplies and transportation services as well as upper administrators and allow the towns within the six regions to devise their own plans for collaborating on other tiers of administration and curriculum as best serves their needs? The six regional administrators could also collaborate on statewide issues whereas local school boards could still make local educational decisions. We should be able to realize the economic benefits of regionalization without sacrificing the quality control local decision making promises. I support regionalization. We can create a plan to make it work for our students.

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