

Regionalization of Schools – A very bad idea!

This is one very bad idea! What the state legislators need to eliminate the Minimum Balance Requirement (MBR) as at starting place. The MBR requirement that education budgets cannot be reduced by local decisions but rather requires permission from the state is over reaching and drives up the cost of education year over year. This creates a never-ending increase in towns education budgets/costs even when savings are found. All budgets should begin at zero for true budgeting and taxpayers get a break when a savings is found. It is nonsense to run any budget with this illogical over bearing state interference. If this logic continues after regionalization, I can imagine the over the top price tag!

I also have great concern with the length of the school day when children are being bussed to other towns. How long will their day be from the time they get on the bus to getting off the bus at the end of the school day. It seems this plan punishes the kids and small towns and again a government grab on decisions that belong to the towns!

What size will this new arm of the government be and cost? This clearly is another grab by politicians to run our lives and make decisions in towns they do not live in.

What town has the space to accommodate the consolidation of schools? Is the state going to build new schools and pass that cost onto taxpayers who already paid for schools to be built in their town!

All in all, this is a crackpot idea! Once again Hartford thinks they know what is best for towns they do not live in. It is an over reaching plan that in the end will cost the citizens more in taxes, with no substantial savings and burden the kids with being bussed to other towns.

Fix what is broken with current overbearing regulations regarding education rather than create a new school system the old overbearing regulations.

Layne McLennan

East Hampton CT