

OPPOSITION TO SB 738, SB 457, SB 874

Dear Education Committee Members,

I strongly oppose SB 738, SB 457 and SB 874 and any bill that opens the door to forced regionalization of Connecticut Public Schools. I firmly believe that the quality of Wilton schools will decline dramatically as a result of regionalization.

My family and I moved here from Chicago and we struggled with finding a good school district for our children. It was a tough search but we settled on Wilton. And we are grateful we did. Because of the district, we discovered our son has some developmental issues. Something we always knew may exist but the teachers and administrators of Wilton Public Schools were able to help us go through the process.

Without their help our son would fall through the cracks. Our son would struggle and find himself behind which would lead to lack of confidence and self-esteem issues. He has a team at Middlebrook Middle school that sees his strengths and they embrace that. They teach to help him realize his potential. He would not have this focus at a larger school. We would lose our son in a system that doesn't work.

Larger school districts, by default, incur higher costs and therefore change the quality of education that our children receive. This "experiment" has widely failed throughout the country and we in Wilton are not willing to play the role of guinea pig when our award winning school district is at stake. Historically Wilton has been a town that families, including my own, have moved to for the quality of the schools. Stripping schools of local control will irreversibly change the character of our town.

As a parent of 2 young children and resident of Wilton, CT, I feel my beliefs are both well-formed and justified.

I hope you will oppose SB 738, SB 457, SB 874 and any other legislation that opens the door to forced regionalization of Connecticut public schools.

Can I count on you??

Sincerely,
Selina Santos Lugo
Wilton, CT