

February 25, 2019

Dear Legislators,

We are registered Democrats who oppose all three of these bills. We aren't explicitly talking about what we're supposed to be talking about. We welcome discussion and action on poverty, racism, and educational disparity--and school consolidation is an idea from the past that has not helped. Cost saving arguments don't add up, evidence of consolidation on education outcomes isn't compelling. Schools are the heartbeat of their communities; identity and independence are vital. Schools are the main draw for people moving here.

We need to look ahead, not back, and be absolutely open about what it is we want to address. We strongly oppose all three of these bills which would set our children back. If these are the solutions we're advancing as Democrats, we will understandably lose again in 2020.

Respectfully,

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