

Dear Education Committee,

My (republican) husband and I (democrat) chose to live in New Canaan starting in 2003 first and foremost because of its schools. Our property prices have not only not increased but have decreased - but we stayed - because this is a close knit community that is safe and caring and is amongst the top in terms of its schools.

Senator Looney's Bill must be defeated. Connecticut has a lot of problems - lack of 5G service, potholed roads, trains that are slower today than 50 years ago, multiple taxes - but the one thing it has going for it are its schools.

School consolidation for our town is a nonstarter- our communities each have their own history and volunteers (mostly mothers) who have helped make the schools what they are - it is not for the State to decide how local schools are run. These are large school districts that require their own administration, buildings, etc.

Real estate prices have ALREADY been effected just with the notion of the multiple school regionalization bills . Just talk to any realtor across Fairfield County. The angst and confusion around the bills is causing open house buyers to pause.

We have so many problems in the State and many of us spent 14 hour days volunteering our time to help the Democrats win across the state up and down the ballot.

Leave our schools alone ! Let's get to work on growth, infrastructure, digital gov't, the environment (BAN the bags, don't tax them), etc, etc, etc.

I believe in Governor Lamont - he is the leader we need at this time in CT's history.

Our schools must remain in tact without interference from Hartford.

Thank you for your public service - it is not easy and I am grateful to members from BOTH sides of the aisle who chose to serve.