

My husband and I used to live in East Hartford, CT we were deliberately not having children at this time because we knew that we could not put a child in the school system that was rated so poorly. I even had the opportunity to observe classes at East Hartford High School, as I worked on my Masters Degree. I had a first hand account of how poorly the district operated. There were students in high school who were not reading and writing at a high school level but were in mainstream classrooms. My observation in relation to this was that this was a hinderance to the education of the remaining students who were doing "ok". In talking to the teachers often the parents were part of the issue parents didn't care or didn't discipline. This weighed heavily on my decision to leave East Hartford. We placed our house for sale but the ongoing fiscal irresponsibility in East Hartford left us in a position where we were upside on our house, continued rises in the property taxes with no return on the investment (especially in education) led the property values to plummet. At the end of the day to leave that town it caused us 100,000 just to be able to buy a home in a district where we could feasible send our future children. Now we live in a district that is rated high and we are happy to be able to put our now 3 year old into next year. We lost a fortune and gladly to have the peace of mind knowing our children would be in an incredible learning environment. Regionalization of schools punishing the parents who have done there research and understand the long term implications of a poor education. This isn't a socio economic or a diversity issue these issues in the poor districts are an accountability issue and an education issue that starts with the parents. Instead of punishing the parents who have done there do diligence, the state should invest in accountability measures and education of the parents in the districts that are doing poorly. Mandatory conferences and other measures

should be taken to gain and investment from the parents. Regionalization is not the issue the parents who don't care to parent will then infect other districts. Re-educate, enforce truancy laws, improve the districts and class sizes, don't punish the schools that are doing well.

Quite honestly the parents who do there research and can afford to cut ties with the state will likely leave. We as a family have discussed it if forced regionalization and increased taxes happen we will likely leave CT. We will just move over the border to Mass and commute to our CT jobs. At the alarming rate people are leaving CT you can't afford to force out more people, eventually there will not be enough of a tax base to support the states growing entitlements.

As a parent we love this state and the diversity and everything it has to offer we have grown up here and are happy to raise our child here, but at this point we are more concerned with our child's future than continuing to be CT residents.

Thank You,

Brianne S Lanzieri