

Good morning. As a parent of 3 children attending New Canaan High School, I strongly oppose SB 738, SB 457, and SB 874 and any other bill that opens the door to forced regionalization of Connecticut Public Schools.

We chose to live in New Canaan because of the quality of the public school education in New Canaan. I feel regionalization will erode the quality of our school system by forcing larger schools with larger classroom sizes. None of these bills even mention school quality. In turn this will drive people away from town as it will no longer be special and unique. Thus, property values will drop. How is that fair to the hardworking taxpayer who moved here to take advantage of the excellent school system for their children? If you do this, you will have one more family leaving the state of Connecticut. You've lost a net \$200 million of tax revenue in a single recent year. Can you afford to have a mass migration of families to other states?

Community is a driving force in New Canaan. We will lose that sense of community if you are busing kids long distances and/or making larger schools with other towns. Why would you take that away from us? Let Local Boards make decisions of what works best for their communities!

The State of Connecticut needs to fix the high debt and high costs within our state. Do not use our local school system as your guinea pig. They are to educate our children not become a pawn in your games! 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.

Lauren Murphy
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