Michael & Teresa Russo Burlington CT Regional School District #10

RE: S.B. 457, S.B. 738 and S.B. 874

Chairmen McCrory and Sanchez, Ranking Members Berthel and McCarty, and esteemed members of the Education Committee, thank you for allowing me to submit testimony on SB 457, SB 738 and SB 874

My wife and I have both had well-traveled lives spanning multiple countries on multiple continents. We chose to set down roots and raise our family in Burlington CT for its small-town feel, sense of community, beautiful location and excellent school district. Once our children were born, we became more integrated with our community via the Harwinton/Burlington regional school district structure. These two towns are tightly intertwined via many school related activities.

The smaller classroom sizes provide the opportunity for the facility to provide our children with a safe, personal, nurturing educational environment.

We appreciate the engagement and commitment of the region 10 faculty and staff and the quality education our children are receiving. We do not believe that the three proposed bills referenced above would benefit the community of Harwinton/Burlington in any way.

Thank you again for hearing our testimony. We would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Michael & Teresa Russo and daughters, Mariah (Gr 8) & Melina (Gr 5)