

Heather Tolisano

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2/28/19

To Whom It May Concern,

As a parent of public school students, 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.

I am a long-time resident of North Haven. I moved here with my husband at the time, and father of 2 of my 3 children for the schools, and existing school quality is what keeps me and my current husband and father of my 3rd child here. In the Hamden-Wallingford-North Haven area, North Haven is known for its good school system. We have brand new and like-new buildings and facilities, and our teachers and curriculum are top notch. I fear for what the proposed changes would do to this and what buildings, facilities, teachers and curriculum my children would be exposed to. This will not ultimately save money given the costs of combining resources; none of these bills include even one mention of school quality. It seriously erodes the quality and the character of our local schools, which erodes the quality of our town. I have grave concerns about potential impact of larger school sizes, decreasing administrator and community engagement. This is already preventing people from coming to CT, or is driving decisions of people to leave CT.

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.

Sincerely,

Heather Tolisano