

Wolcott Public Schools

1488 Woodtick Road • Wolcott, Connecticut 06716
Telephone 203-879-8183 • Fax 203-879-8182

Superintendent of Schools
Anthony J. Gasper, Ed.D.

Assistant Superintendent
Frank Purcaro



Business Manager
Todd W. Bendtsen, C.P.A.

Director of Student Services & Alt. Programs
Kevin Hollis

A Letter of Testimony to the Education Committee of the Connecticut General Assembly Regarding School District Efficiencies and Regionalism Wolcott Board of Education

February 27, 2019

Distinguished Members of the Education Committee:

We, the duly elected members of the Wolcott Board of Education, wish to strongly express our opposition to forced regionalization of school districts as recently proposed in the legislature and by Governor Lamont. As a panel of volunteer elected officials charged with the governance of an efficient and effective school district, we find these and any such proposals to be an affront to the philosophy of local control; upon which our state's constitution is based.

We dedicate hundreds of hours each year in our quest to ensure that Wolcott's children benefit from Wolcott's schools in ways that are meaningful and right for our local community. Financial and student performance data verify that our school system is highly effective and also one of the most efficient. We see no potential benefit for the students of Wolcott in any forced conjoining with bordering municipalities.

Whether local residents choose to maintain small or large school systems has no bearing on the state legislature's investment in education via the Education Cost Share grant. Whether local residents choose to invest more or less money in their school systems should be left up to municipal governments. State government should not meddle in affairs that do not impact the state budget. Please support our viewpoint and oppose any and all efforts for forced school regionalization.

Respectfully submitted,

Members of the Wolcott Board of Education