

My name is Debra Stoleroff. I am the Director of the Renaissance Program at Twinfield Union School in Plainfield. I am also a resident of Plainfield and it is in that capacity that I speak. I am not representing Twinfield tonight.

I am very proud to be on the faculty of Twinfield -- a small PreK -12 school that has been ahead of the curve in everyway in regards to Act 77. It has been said that small schools cannot offer their students adequate programming. However, at Twinfield -- through the Renaissance program -- we offered 8 different languages to high school students this year. One of our students studying Korean was just accepted to the highly competitive federal NSLI-Y program for an all expense paid summer intensive immersion program in Korea this summer. I have another student who, at this moment is assisting a Physician's Assistant in Haiti. I don't have time to read the list of the 70 or so learning experiences Twinfield students designed this year but I will attach it to this testimony. These are not online classes. All Renaissance students meet weekly with mentors who are experts in their fields. Through programs like Renaissance, small schools can absolutely meet the academic needs of all students.

The Twinfield School Board believes there is value in Act 46 and, along with Cabot and Danville has been working hard to comply with all that has been asked of us through that law. S122 has opened some new paths but it doesn't go far enough for our situation. Both Twinfield and Cabot are outliers to other Supervisory Unions. No matter what we do, we will never be a preferred structure. We just don't have the numbers. We have proven that we are a GREAT SMALL school. So I am asking tonight that you consider decreasing the student numbers OR better yet, totally delete the expectations for the amount of students in any structure you describe -- preferred or alternative.

Twinfield like many of the schools you have heard from tonight is trying to comply to Act 46. Just as Act 77 requires multiple and flexible pathways to graduation we hope S122 and Act 46 will allow for multiple and flexible paths to school governance. Schools need this flexibility to maximize their strengths. I hope you will seriously consider the stories you have heard tonight to broaden the governance paths of Act 46 so schools like Twinfield, whose school boards want to comply with the law are able to continue making the best local decisions for our students.

Thank-you for holding this public hearing. It is appreciated.

2016-17 Semester 1 Renaissance Learning Experiences

Action Journalism with Jesse Huffman

Adventure Photography with Shem Roose

American Sign Language 1 with Karen Mueller-Harder

American Sign Language 3 with Karen Mueller-Harder

Architectural Drafting with Flor Diaz-Smith

Astrophysics with Bobby Farlice-Rubio

Ballet with Moving Light Dance Studio

Bass Guitar *with Johnny Rovetto*
Beginning Guitar *with Heidi Wilson*
Blacksmithing *with Lucian Avery*
Culture of Rape *with Nancy Keller*
Cooking *with Alana Dorf and Anne LaBrusciano (over)*
Contradictions of the 1950's *with Shelley Vermillya*
Creative Writing *with Laura McCaffrey*
Digital Photography *with Terry Allen*
Electric Guitar Building *with Creston Lea*
Film Photography *with Emily Sloan*
German *with Fletcher Dean*
Electric Guitar *with Dave Kellor*
Herbalism *with Angie Barger*
The Evolution of Weapons *with Chris Sheehan*
Italian *with Joanne Van Arsdale*
Japanese *with Michiko Oishi*
Jazz Dance *with School of Contemporary Dance and Fitness*
Korean 2 *with Hyeon Song*
Large Farm Animal Biology *with Kim Hagen*
Nursing Shadowing and Internship *multiple sites*
Piano *with Ira Friedman*
Portrait Photography *with Andrew Kline*
Sailing *with International Sailing School*
Vinyasa Yoga *with Chaya Thannhauser*
Women's Self-defense *with Fred Vallari*

2016-17 Semester 2 Renaissance Learning Experiences

The 1960s *with Shelley Vermillya*
Agility and Strength Training *with Abdul Mujib*
Algebra 2 *with Mary Trerice*
Anatomy and Physiology of Massage Therapy *with Allie Bauer*
American Sign Language 1 *with Karen Mueller-Harder*
American Sign Language 3 *with Karen Mueller-Harder*
Astronomy *with Bobby Farlice-Rubio*
Astrophysics *with Bobby Farlice-Rubio*
Ballet *with School of Contemporary Dance and Fitness*
Baking and Cake Decorating *with Tammy Farnham*
Bass Guitar *with Johnny Rovetto*
Batting Practice *with Mark Mooney*
Blacksmithing *with Lucian Avery*
Cooking *with Anne LaBrusciano*
Clowning *with Rob Mermin*
Creative Writing *with Laura McCaffrey*
Evolution of Weapons *with Chris Sheehan*
Field Botany *with Brett Engstrom*

German *with Fletcher Dean*
Guitar *with Dave Kellor*
Herbalism *with Angie Barger*
Herbalism *with Beatrix Dalton*
Figure Drawing Techniques *with August Burns*
Independent Anatomy and Physiology
Japanese *with Michiko Oishi*
Korean 2 *with Hyoeun Song*
Landscape Drawing *with Jeneane Lunn*
Learning to Teaching Yoga *with Chrissy LaFavour*
Life Drawing *with Billy Brauer*
Marketing a Fashion Blog
Polarization In the US *with Mary Whalen*
Physician's Assistant Job Shadow *with Justine Gadd*
Sailing *with Trevor Tait*
Climate Justice *with Erik Gilliard*
Scottish Gaelic *with Norman Kennedy*
Songwriting *with Heidi Wilson*
Travel to Haiti as an Assistant to a Physician *with Justine Gadd*