

February 26

Senator Seth Bongartz, Chair
Senator Kesha Ram Hinesdale
Senator Terry Williams, Clerk

Senator David Weeks, Vice-Chair
Senator Nadar Hashim
Senator Steven Heffernan

Dear Senators,

I want to follow up on the letter you received today expressing the desire of the residents of the Town of Starksboro to have conversations with other towns about forming with a larger school district that reflects our communities values. After the letter was drafted, circulated and signed, we became aware that the Committee may be looking for a clear understanding as to where the Town of Starksboro wants to be located within the Committee's map, since the map may be enacted into legislation.

As a Representative of the Town of Starksboro, I ask that the Committee place our Town within the boundaries of the Randolph Area Supervisory Union.

Rationale:

- Better fit in terms of education values and societal characteristics. We are not convinced that we would coexist well in a larger Chittenden or Addison County supervisory district.
- If we are consolidated into a larger supervisory district, we would most assuredly lose our elementary school, Robinson School, even though the data demonstrates that Robinson provides a good education to our students, in a fiscally responsible manner.
- Our affinity to Lincoln. We are both "hill towns" who value their high-performing elementary schools as one of the pillars of our communities.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

Rep. Herb Olson. Addison-4. Bristol, Lincoln, Monkton, Starksboro.