

I am writing to address the Senate Education Committee in a written fashion for the Dec. 5, public hearing.

- 1) I am VERY opposed to any rapid redistricting efforts.
- 2) I advocate that Vermont schools should be primarily in the hands of local communities. Our children are OUR children. Local parents and community members should have open transparent opportunities to manage and engage in educational opportunities for their children. They can decide if there are benefits to larger districts for aspects of financial benefits, best options for special needs education opportunities, and training opportunities. Homeschooling and school choice are essential components.
- 3) Finding reasonable ways to control costs is essential. Our schools MUST be affordable, encourage high academic standards, encourage critical thinking, and provide students opportunities to develop their creative talents that will promote future community wellbeing.

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