

Suggests Vote for Change

To the Editor:

In a recent letter to the editor, Jane Devries unfairly characterized Steve Sordi, Sue Scherf and Bill Barber as single-issue candidates. All have worked tirelessly to restore democracy and grant the people of this region the opportunity to vote on reconfiguration as the statute requires.

As a result, everyone in Region 14, those who agree and those who disagree with them, will be given the opportunity to vote on the future of this region.

The backbone of a democracy is the exchange of ideas between the electorate and those who represent them. Sometimes engaging the democratic process is less than lightning fast and sometimes it even involves (gasp!) dissent, but it ensures that the policies we implement incorporate diverse ideas and represent to the extent possible, the will of the people.

As a result, democracies produce better policies that more people find agreeable.

The Region 14 Board of Education seems to be suffering from a discernible ennui and a type of "group think" philosophy that may make them mercilessly efficient in terms of expediting direction quickly (in the case of reconfiguration, 12 days from start to finish), but less adept at conducting any meaningful dialogue on the issues before them.

The result is a reconfiguration plan that seems less reasonable each day and countless displeased parents.

Regardless of one's opinion on reconfiguration, the process by which this concept was adopted has clearly been abhorrent. The decision to reconfigure was made behind closed doors and the legal compact that formed this region has been flagrantly ignored.

We need to elect board members who are committed to restoring fundamental fairness, communication and transparency. Sordi, Scherf and Barber have demonstrated a commitment to these principles.

FFR14 is proud to endorse candidates who have embraced this "single issue." Please vote for change June 7.

Erica Barber

Families for Region 14

Woodbury