

## Against Region 14 Reconfiguration

To the Editor:

On October 16, the BOE voted to adopt Superintendent Cronin's plan to reconfigure Region 14's elementary schools, forcing hundreds of children to be bused out of their community.

Did the BOE spend endless hours dwelling over this thought-out plan? This plan was presented to the board members in a 1-1/2-hour workshop on October 4.

According to the minutes on file, there was no discussion amongst the members, even though there was no factual information given to ensure its success.

Is this a case of the cart before the horse?

This decision would make Woodbury one of only two towns in Connecticut without an elementary school. Families looking to move to Woodbury could not send their children to school here until third grade.

This reconfiguration fails to address the need to relieve overcrowding at Mitchell and fails to unify community members to support necessary renovation referendums.

I don't understand (as I'm sure most of you don't either) what would motivate eight adults to move forward with a plan that has many holes and will take apart two functioning elementary schools.

I urge you to become informed on what is down the pike. This plan segregates parents from their children and their schools. We will have failed as a community if we ship these children out of town.

No one is unaffected by this plan: visualize more buses on your streets, small children at bus stops as early as 7:30, increased traffic of families driving their children to school to avoid the illogical three-tiered bus route, your money paying for diesel fuel while our youngest citizens are breathing the fumes, and still no real solution to improve our schools.

Please attend the next BOE meeting, November 13, 7:30 p.m. at Nonnewaug High.

Pamela Racevicius

Woodbury