

Suggests 'Yes' Vote

on Petition Issue

To the Editor:

On October 16, I was confronted with the reconfiguration concept in the eight-page outline that came home three days before the vote. I was startled then by the lack of information and that astonishment has not subsided.

We have been given little reason to consider this concept as an option for the future.

Teacher collaboration and unified curriculum? I think we can all agree that learning success has little to do with how many faculty members we have in a building, but rather involves administrative direction, parental commitment and talented teachers.

Dr. Cronin has the ability to offer us a new direction in Region 14, but that direction hardly has to be tied to an untested plan that is rendered nearly impossible by the logistics involved.

Cronin is doing the necessary job of bringing us a new curriculum in Region 14 and making an attempt to unify our students' learning experience. But why not bring this new curriculum to our kids rather than bringing the kids to the curriculum?

The kindergarten enrollment for next year has dropped by 25 percent; like it or not, parents of young children not battered by past fights, fail to see reconfiguration as a feasible option for their children.

We may be the new kids on the block, but ultimately we are the ones that need to make reconfiguration work. Why not present a plan that incorporates the needs of all parents and children and allow the community to decide?

The upcoming referendum is an opportunity to bring these communities back to the table. On May 31 in Bethlehem and June 12 in Woodbury, vote yes to preserve our right to be involved in the process, to save our schools and find a real plan for the future built on the needs of our children rather than the disappointments of the past.

Steve Cunningham

Woodbury