

To the SBE:

I was unsuccessful in my effort to address you in your meeting this morning, so here goes:

Like a majority of taxpayers in Windham, I am at a loss to figure out what we can do to close our failing school. As a couple of speakers may have pointed out this morning, the Education Quality Standards you've worked so hard on mean nothing if there is neither oversight nor enforcement.

My daughter and son-in-law must pay a high tuition as well as a colossal state ed tax because they have a school-age child and can't send him to the town school. Nobody knows what to do here. We have tried every recourse. Our most recent petition to close the school was ignored; the results of our previous referendum two years ago, in which a slim majority voted to close the school, were stolen through voter-fraud in a re-vote. The subsequent lawsuit, to restore the original referendum results, is entering its third year with absolutely no hope of a judgement in the foreseeable future. A separate lawsuit, joined by desperate parents, ditto. Clearly not the way to go.

So, any ideas? What if you were a parent in this town? What would you do? To whom would you turn?

We look forward to hearing your advice. We want the conversation about our predicament to take place at the SBE level because we've tried just about every other road we can think of.

Please don't dismiss us with gratitude for our expressing ourselves to you. Really now, we need something besides platitudes at this point.

Nancy Tips

Windham, Vermont