

From: [Kelly Pajala](#)
To: [Diop, Mohamed](#); [Fearon, Grey](#); [Gleason, Kimberly G](#); [Kolbe, Tammy](#); [Jepson, Lyle](#); [Lovett, Tom](#); [O'Farrell, Jennifer](#); [Samuelson, Jennifer](#); [Werner, Richard](#); [Wilburn, Aaliyah](#); [Bouchev, Heather](#)
Subject: In support of the State Board of Education
Date: Friday, August 18, 2023 9:58:04 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

To State Board of Education:

The "Education Equity Alliance" has shared a copy of its August 16 memo to the State Board of Education with members of the Legislature.

The inflammatory tone of the memo, including accusations that your board is operating in an "opaque" manner, is simply unacceptable. Having observed first-hand how the "Alliance" operates in the Legislature, I am not surprised by their tactics, but nonetheless, I am disappointed by this latest attack.

I took particular offense to this statement in the memo:

"The State Board used an opaque process to advance the Rule 2200 series changes over the course of a few weeks during the summer while Vermont was recovering from catastrophic flooding."

As someone who has personally been impacted by the flooding (my children and I were flooded out of our home), this comment does not sit well with me. Despite these challenges, life goes on, and I continue to attend to my legislative duties (including committee meetings over the past month), my day job, and my responsibilities as a parent. And yes, I still find time to stay abreast of the relentless attempts by the "Alliance" to take educational opportunities away from students in the region I represent.

I appreciate your board's thoughtful and balanced approach with respect to your updates to Rule Series 2200, and encourage you not to become discouraged as you continue with your process. Keep calm and carry on.

Sincerely,
Rep. Kelly Pajala