

Daniel V. Jerram
First Selectman



Town Hall
530 Main Street
Post Office Box 316
New Hartford, CT
06057

Joshua Adams, Chairman
New Hartford Board of Education
530 Main Street, New Hartford, CT 06057

February 27, 2014

RE: \$6,608,897 School Building Project Proposed for Ann Antolini School

Dear Josh:

At Tuesday night's Board of Selectmen's meeting, the Board heard a presentation from the School Building Committee that proposed a \$6,608,897 renovation of Ann Antolini School (that had been previously been presented to the Board of Education at an estimated cost of \$6,651,800). The Selectmen had many questions and it quickly became evident that there was significant concern over the total cost of the proposed project. While the Selectmen remain committed to moving a renovation project for Ann Antolini forward, especially one that addresses core issues like roof and window replacement (and perhaps other key issues), the Selectmen believe the total cost of the current project significantly reduces the chance of success at the polls. We believe that a scaled back plan that addresses only the facilities most pressing needs should be presented at this point in time.

We realize the Board of Education strongly desires to make an investment in Ann Antolini School and have endorsed the larger scale plan as presented. That said; the Selectmen have requested that I write a note expressing our concern to you, kindly requesting further thought and consideration, in the hope that together, with our Building Committee and Board of Finance, a consensus could be reached on a scaled back design that could ultimately gain approval at referendum.

Please note that the Town has many pressing needs, and limited funds from which to draw. Further, the Selectmen are firm in their belief that any proposed bonding initiative should also give thoughtful consideration to local infrastructure improvements such as the Maple Hollow & Carpenter Road Bridges.

The Board of Selectmen appreciates all of the efforts of the volunteers who serve as member on the Board of Education and we look forward to working together with you and the School Building Committee to move this proposal forward. If you would like to meet to discuss the proposal, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Thank You,


Daniel V. Jerram
First Selectman

CC: Ben Witte, Chairman Board of Finance
CC: Selectmen Alesia Kennerson & John H. (Jack) Casey
CC: Denton Butler & Roy Litchfield, School Building Committee