

Sandra and Howie,

My wife and I have a 17 year old junior that goes to Lincoln Academy and two middle schoolers that go to Whitefield school. I had high hopes for my son at Lincoln and things were going pretty good until the pandemic. It's has been rough for sure just like many others during covid. LA has been mostly remote since August. While RSU 12 did a great job at keeping kids in school LA has been dreadfully absent. LA administration has decided to make limiting every single case of COVID rather than making education a priority. In fact LA has gone above and beyond most if not all of CDC guidelines for opening schools. INstead of 3 feet apart they decided 6 feet and more was the only way they can have 1-2 days a week of instruction. They needlessly closed down from before Thanksgiving to mid January with remote only just because of 1 case of COVID. Just once case! Yeah you hear it one case!! The examples go on and on.

Anyway, what makes this entire experience worse is we have a group of students and parents at Whitefield that do not feel heard. That LA just thinks that our feelings in this matter have no consequence. We do not feel like we have a voice at LA. They are setting policy with no public input. My opinion is that because there is not an elected school board we do not have any one to plead our case to. This is wrong. My understanding is the school board's role is to set policy and when needed listen to the taxpayers, parents, and students when setting these policies. This is the fundamental role in a constitutional republic (United States). But what we have at LA is a small group of people (Head of School and maybe a board of trustees-not elected) making decisions with zero input from parents and students. This example of government is an oligarchy not a constitutional republic.

I realize that we can send my kids to other schools (Gardiner, Morse, Erskine) but we do not have representation in those schools either. My proposal is to start a conversation about having RSU 12 have their own HS. This way we can build a school that we want with representation.

I am happy to hop on a zoom call so we can discuss. Or happy to talk 441-9738.

Respectively submitted,
Anthony Anderson