

July 9th, 2023

THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL RECONFIGURATION IN THE SMALL-TOWN USA

WHAT EVERYBODY THINKS? OPINION SURVEY

1. Introduction:

Listening to a mother on the 4th of July we got the information. That Small towns in the USA have usually 2 schools “from 5 to 12” and there is concern about a reconfiguration unwanted by parents or children (All towns are different.) There is no set number of schools in town. This depends on the town’s size. This town has two grammar schools. At one time we had three but were convinced in the late 1970s that was not needed. It was torn down and homes were built in its place). This has always been an issue - why was this done?

The primary school system as it is had been working in a 6-year program.

In a region with population growth, caused by the pandemic, people from big cities buy/rent houses in smaller towns for good schools that the town offers.

School is an important childhood experience that offers them a strong education.

From this comes connections, friendships, and genuine attachment to the school, teachers, and administration.

Those schools raised many generations of fine people.

(Change is not the issue here. The issue is opposition to an idea unwanted by the community)

One school on the north of town and one school on the south side.

In this study, we refer to the 2 grammar schools in a town in Bergen County, New Jersey 8 miles away from the Washington Bridge entry of Manhattan

What do people think about the school reconfiguration?

#kindengarden #primaryschool #children #education #5years.old #12years.old



2. Facts:

The reconfiguration would change schools from both currently designated grades k-6 to grades k-3. And the other 4-6. It is as well bizarre that in the moment of visible transfer of the population from big cities to the immediate region of small towns and suburbs, there we are faced with a reduction ...

Example: if Collen is 7 years old, she got 2 options of schools now: one in the north of the town... short distance to the house and one in the South of town. The reconfiguration means soon she will have only one option.

3. Critical Analysis:

Why the change? ... this is not in concordance with all the other schools' functions in the state. And the demanded reconfiguration is not well received by the local community What is the desire? To change the school system of a good town in an experimental way detrimental to our community and cut those schools in half?

This action would lead to an enormous inventory of school material transfer and loss, faculty body transfer, probably loss of jobs, as well as the discomfort of going to the other side of the town with the important increase in the streets traffic and danger. We find the thought of this reconfiguration, dangerous. Not to mention splitting siblings apart when they can grow together, help each other, and strengthen bonds.

We put into question the reasons. This move would be very expensive, and we wonder why to play with such a basic and normal system that is in place and works for so long. This expense and discomfort... are they justified? The beautiful school in 5 min. a walk, 2 min.

4. Conclusion and hope

Most of the families with children and the entire community count to keep the town with the 2 schools, as they are.

In the community, the parents started a petition. It has already shown important interest. The consequences of this reconfiguration would also lead to a decrease in the value of the homes. This is un-American.

We hope that the small-town USA is lucky enough to keep those 2 schools as they are now, preparing children for life. Destabilization of the society by segregation of age groups in the education system showed a reduction in child progress

Education, culture, comfort & community are key to the development of society!



1. Bibliography

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5. <https://www.nj.gov/education/>
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8. <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/811e2-schools-reconfiguration-for-diversity/>
9. <https://www.change.org/p/closing-and-reconfiguration-of-city-of-erie-schools-please-don-t-close-or-reconfigure-these-schools>

General Opinion Questionnaire:

Name(optional) Email
address(optional).....
Address(optional).....Phone
number(optional).....

What do you think about school reconfiguration?

1. Is best to keep the schools as they are?
Yes No ...
2. Traffic caused would affect the town life
Yes ... No ...
3. Would the change affect the children negatively
Yes ... No ...
4. Would the home values be decreased by the cut of schools
Yes ... No ...
5. Do you oppose the reconfiguration
Yes ... No ...
6. Do you think there is corruption?
Yes ... No ...
7. Where do you live

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Comments or Suggestions:

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This questionnaire would help to get statistical evidence for literature research purposes only

3. Opinion Questionnaire about Reconfiguration for School Employees!

Name(optional) Email
address(optional).....
Address(optional).....Phone
number(optional).....

Are you a:
Teacher:
Administrator:
Staff:
Leadership:

Do you work in the affected school: Yes ...? No ...
What do you think?

- | | | |
|---|----------|--------|
| 1. Is best to keep the schools as they are? | Yes | No ... |
| 2. Traffic caused would affect the town | Yes ... | No ... |
| 3. Would the change affect the children | Yes ... | No ... |
| 6. Do you think there is corruption? | Yes ... | No ... |
| 5. Do you oppose the reconfiguration | Yes ... | No ... |
| 6. Are you afraid will lose your job? | Yes ... | No ... |
| 7. Are you afraid to express an opinion? | Yes ... | No ... |
| 8. Where do you live | | |

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Comments or Suggestions:

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This questionnaire would help to get statistical evidence for literature research purposes only

2. Opinion Questionnaire about Schools reconfiguration for Families and Friends!

Name(optional) Email

address(optional).....

Address(optional).....Phone number(optional).....

Town

Are you a:

Student

Parent: Mother

Father

Other Relative

Friend of the family

Sibling

Do you study in the affected school: Yes ...? No ...

What do you think?

- | | | |
|--|----------|--------|
| 1. Is best to keep the schools as they are? | Yes | No ... |
| 2. Traffic caused would affect the town | Yes ... | No ... |
| 3. Would the change affect the children negatively | Yes ... | No ... |
| 6. Do you think there is corruption? | Yes ... | No ... |
| 5. Do you oppose the reconfiguration | Yes ... | No ... |
| 6. Are you afraid will lose your school? | Yes ... | No ... |
| 7. Are you afraid to express an opinion? | Yes ... | No ... |
| 8. Are you a relative of a special aid student in those schools? | Yes ... | No ... |

Where do you live?

Comments or Suggestions:

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For literature research purposes only