Windham, 5/17/2021

Antje Ruppert

1683 Old Cheney Rd

Windham, VT 05359

To the Windham School Board,

Dear Board and community,

due to the changed meeting times, I am unable to attend the Board meetings at this time because of other commitments. However, I would like to express my serious objection to an email sent by Russ Cumming on April 14 to members of the Board, Bill Anton, and Greg Frost regarding the appearance of the school and in response to Beth McDonald’s comment that there is a plan to paint the school sometime during the summer. Somehow I was included in this thread and would like Russ’ response to be read and recorded in the minutes

Quote

---------- Forwarded message ---------  
From: **RUSSELL P CUMMING** <[rpcumming@snet.net](mailto:rpcumming@snet.net)>  
Date: Wed, Apr 14, 2021 at 2:54 PM  
Subject: Re: Windham  
To: Pete and Beth McDonald <[219woodburn@gmail.com](mailto:219woodburn@gmail.com)>  
Cc: William Anton <[wanton@windhamcentral.org](mailto:wanton@windhamcentral.org)>, carolyn partridge <[carolyn.w.partridge@gmail.com](mailto:carolyn.w.partridge@gmail.com)>, Greg Frost <[gfrost@windhamcentral.org](mailto:gfrost@windhamcentral.org)>

“it is more than just painting.  If you spend two hours of your time, and visit the 5 other Elementary school in our area you will see with you own eyes that other patents are seeing and wanting.  Go and compare the facilities of The Mountain Scholl,  Flood Brook, Chester and Grafton's school and the come back and look at WES.  There is a dramatic difference.  Then go online and review the staffing,  teachers and para's and  support staff  there is a difference by not a few feet but a wide mile.  Let's not put our personnel objectives ( like keeping the school open) before what is best for ALL the children of Windham. Why not listen to what many parents are saying ? “

I have to say that I find it appalling, insulting and actually rather embarrassing that someone with such serious spelling challenges passes judgement on the Windham School, its truly remarkable educational programs, and its more than dedicated staff. Besides that, Russ still seems to have a lack of understanding about the fact that all schools in the district have to follow the very same guidelines dictated by the AOE and - in our case - the WCSU. Some families have tried to send their children to the allegedly more superior schools and found that they did not work for their children. Once at WES, these students thrived.

I feel that at the very least Russ owes Mickey and Sara and by extension Gail Wyman, too, an apology.

Sincerely,

Antje Ruppert