Subject: District Map for Waterford VT

Tue 2/17/2026 2:06 PM

Dear Members of the Education Committee,

I am writing as a parent in Waterford who is deeply concerned about the practical effects of the proposed district map dated February 5. My family chose to build our life in Waterford in large part because of the educational opportunities available here, including dependable access to the high school that has traditionally served our community. As it stands, this proposal would require students to travel much farther, despite the fact that their closest and long-established option remains right nearby.

For generations, most Waterford students have attended St. Johnsbury Academy. This longstanding relationship has offered consistency, strong academic performance, and a sense of continuity for families throughout the Northeast Kingdom.

Under the proposed changes, students would be expected to bypass the nearest high school and take on a significantly longer commute. In a rural area where families already manage extended travel times and limited resources, this shift does not reflect the everyday realities of life in the Northeast Kingdom. It is concerning to see such a major disruption suggested for a community where the current arrangement has been effective and stable.

I respectfully ask that you reconsider and adjust the proposed map to reflect geographic practicality and to maintain reasonable access for Waterford families.

Sincerely,
Carleigh Dunnells
Waterford/Lunenburg Resident