



HEBRON PUBLIC SCHOOL
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Myron Schaff - Superintendent

Jenifer Hosman - Principal

January 20, 2023

Members of the Education Committee,

On behalf of the Hebron Public School Board in Hebron, North Dakota we are writing to you today to please vote NO on HB NO. 1251.

This is a bill at its core is a limitation on local decision making by locally elected officials. Why would you ever take power away from the voters, the same voters who were smart enough to elect you to our legislature. The same voters who elect school board members. HB 1251 transfers power from the voters to the executive branch, which is the DPI. This very notion undermines democracy and the balance of power. Locally elected officials like us are losing our power, the legislature is relinquishing theirs while taking it from locals and the power is shifting and being given to the executive branch. That is NOT good for North Dakota.

Choosing a superintendent should be a local decision made by us the locally elected officials. If districts must share the decision with other districts or the state, our local people have no merit. Aren't we elected to make local decisions that best impact our schools? House Bill 1251 will take that authority away.

Sharing a superintendent will not automatically generate cost savings. Many of the districts, including ours will need to hire principals or change the title of our current superintendent to assistant superintendent to ensure there is leadership in the building every day. Now we would be spending more money on administrator salaries than before. We may also need to hire other positions that the superintendent is covering like transportation director and athletic director.

Schools are the pulse and heartbeat of small communities. We are proud of our school and our administration and we as a board deserve the right to make local decisions about the staffing of our school. Forcing districts to share a superintendent is the first step towards consolidation. Small communities should be able to have local authority to decide when they want to consolidate and how they are going to do it.

Please vote NO on House Bill No. 1251. This is North Dakota. We are better than that! Thank you.

Hebron Public School Board

Dave Kraenzel- President

Joel Opp

Josh Dakken

Holli Martinson

Ashlie Palmer