

January 30, 2023

Dear members of the Woodbridge Board of Education,

I am writing to request that you take action to reconsider your vote to eliminate the Woodbridge School District's participation in the Project Open Choice program lottery for seats in Beecher's incoming Kindergarten class for the 2023-24 school year.

As I stated at last week's joint meeting of the Boards of Selectmen and Finance, it is my belief that the Town of Woodbridge's long history of continuous participation in this program represents an important contribution to efforts to reduce racial, ethnic, and economic isolation in our public schools.

By annually committing to make available lottery-assigned seats in each Kindergarten class the WBOE not only allows for participation of Project Open Choice students through 7 years of elementary education at Beecher, it also makes possible the subsequent 6 years of education at the middle and high schools of the Amity Regional School District for participating students. I believe strongly that this participation benefits not just the Project Open Choice students and their families, but significantly enriches the education of all students in both the Woodbridge and Amity system. I would like to see participation continue uninterrupted.

I would greatly appreciate your prompt attention to this matter so action may be taken in time for this year's program lottery.

Sincerely,



Sheila McCreven

Member of the Woodbridge Board of Selectmen

CC: WBOS, WBOF, Superintendent Tencza,