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From: **Megan Kelty** <

Date: Mon, Feb 10, 2014 at 6:49 PM

Subject: Support of a Vote in Favor of Full Day Kindergarten

To: nfederspiel@nrsd.net

Dear Ms. Federspiel,

I am writing to share my support for Nashoba Regional's full-day kindergarten program initiative. Having been an elementary classroom teacher for ten years and most recently an elementary literacy specialist, I feel strongly that full-day kindergarten should be an option for all children. A full day with a certified teacher in a language-rich academic environment is of course preferable to only a half day in such a setting. Considering the rigorous literacy and math demands of the recently adopted Common Core Standards, I believe it is imperative that all kindergarteners have the opportunity to participate in a full-day program in order to be prepared for first grade.

Beyond my professional beliefs about the right to full-day kindergarten, I feel the full-day lottery is particularly inequitable to children of working parents. When my husband and I received the news that our daughter was at the end of the full-day waiting list, we knew immediately that she would have to attend kindergarten elsewhere because both of us have full time jobs out of the home. This is a very disheartening prospect, especially when we consider that we moved here because of the school district's notable reputation.

I encourage you to vote soon to approve full-day kindergarten for all children. I look forward to the conversation on this topic at tomorrow's School Committee meeting. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Megan Kelty

Bolton