




John & Suki Collins

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Monday, 23 May, 2005

Board of Education
Monroe-Woodbury Central School District
Central Valley, NY 10917

RE: Communication to the Board of Education

Dear Members,

I urge you in your decision on next year's budget not to remove or otherwise change field trips for the students in anyway except to increase them. The law allows you to continue with their trips.

The budget you presented, although reasonable in the per student expenditure, in the details shows that you spend much more money percentage (and dollars) wise on Operations and Maintenance expenses and to a lesser extent, Transportation expenses. Additionally all employees will continue to receive raises and benefits regardless of what you do with the budget.

There are plenty of areas that you can find the \$75K+ that will be required to allow the children to go on field trips next year. I know that you and the administration can do this if you decide to do it. I urge you to do so.

In two previous austerity budget's you took away field trips and sports trips from the children. It's hard to imagine that you really care for the children when you will not invest the time and effort to ensure that the next budget doesn't hurt them specifically. I hope that you find the courage to do the right thing.

If you have any questions or need further information please contact me via e-mail at jcollins@pobox.com or by phone at 845-238-3060 (or at my office at 845-938-8697). Thank you.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John C. Collins".

John C Collins