

Dear Parents and Community Members,

The Board of Education's Future Needs Committee (FNC) has developed a second survey to solicit community input about the future of the Columbia School District as we plan to deal with issues of declining enrollment and cuts to education and municipal funding. The results of the first survey were used to develop topics for a follow up focus group session that took place on June 7, 2017. As a result of feedback from the survey and the focus groups, the FNC identified two key areas for follow up:

- *Should the BOE consider tuitioning out our middle school students to another district as we do our high school students?*
- *Should the BOE consider a **single designated high school** when our contracts expire with Bolton and Region 19 in **2022**?*

The second survey can be accessed by clicking on the following link:

<https://www.research.net/r/ColumbiaCT2017>

The FNC is actively seeking your input on these and several other areas that its members are exploring. We ask that you take a few minutes to complete the survey. Your feedback is extremely important. I would also ask that you encourage friends and neighbors who may not have students in PK-12 to complete the survey.

The survey will stay open until Friday, January 26th 2018.

Once the results are tabulated, the FNC will meet to discuss the findings and to plan the next steps including scheduling additional focus group meetings. All meetings of the FNC are posted and are open to the public.

I would refer you to our District Website: <http://www.hwporter.org>. **Click on Board of Education and then click on Board Vision and Mission** for additional information about the long-range plan including the notes from the first focus group session.

Thank you,

Lol Fearon, Superintendent