



Franklin West Supervisory Union

8/31/2011

Dear Commissioner Villeseca,

On behalf of the Georgia Town School Board I am writing this letter to express our desire to remain part of the Franklin West Supervisory Union (FWSU).

The Georgia School Board fully supports the R.E.D. merger between Fairfax School District and Fletcher School District. As a board, we made the decision not to participate in the merger because of the loss of school choice. The community of Georgia values very highly our ability to send our students to the high school that best matches their need as a learner. We also believe more students should be availed this opportunity, it should not be limited.

Over the past four years Georgia, and the other member districts of FWSU, have worked hard to become more aligned in many facets of school administration. This includes aligned curriculum and assessments (attained through the work of district wide vertical teams of teachers), sharing resources and staff at the SU level, common evaluation procedures and soon a common teacher contract.

It is my belief that our students, families, staff and administration benefit from our association with the Fairfax and Fletcher School Districts and FWSU. I do not think this is the time to move the Georgia School District away from FWSU. There is simply too much at stake in education right now. It would make little sense to throw away all of the work completed by all three school districts to make FWSU a stronger entity for students. The hard work by the Georgia School District, as well as the financial investment, should not be discarded.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Doug Bergstrom', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Doug Bergstrom
Chair
Georgia School District