

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 13 EXPLANATORY TEXT

The following question will be voted on by the electors of the Towns of Durham and Middlefield, Connecticut on November 2, 2021 between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. This explanatory text was authorized to be prepared by the Regional School District 13 Board of Education and is prepared in accordance with Section 9-369b of the Connecticut General Statutes.

The amendment to the Regional School District 13 Plan of Regionalization described in the question below shall be approved only if the majority vote in each of the Towns of Durham and Middlefield is in favor of the amendment.

QUESTION:

“Shall the Regional School District 13 Plan of Regionalization be amended to authorize the Region 13 Board of Education to close John Lyman Elementary School in the Town of Middlefield?

YES

NO”

Since the establishment of the District, the Regional School District 13 Board of Education (the “Board”) has authorized the closure of two schools: Center School in Middlefield and the Francis E. Korn Elementary School in Durham. In addition, the Board has authorized the establishment of the Integrated Day Program at the John Lyman Elementary School and the Contemporary Program at Frederick F. Brewster Elementary School. The Board has also taken actions to have all middle school students attend Frank Ward Strong Middle School in Durham. These actions were taken by the Board to meet various program and student enrollment factors and were approved by corresponding budget approvals.

Recently, the Board proposed closing John Lyman Elementary School as a result of a reduction in student enrollment and to develop a grade/building configuration of: primary/grades Pre-K-2 at Frederick F. Brewster Elementary School; intermediate/grades 3-5 at Memorial School; middle/grades 6-8 at Frank Ward Strong Middle School; and high school/grades 9-12 at Coginchaug Regional High School.

On August 25, 2021, the Board adopted a resolution which provides that John Lyman Elementary School shall not be closed prior to June 30, 2023.