

Janice Rockwood

From: BARCLAY, JAANI E Capt USAF AFGSC 54 HS/DOX <jaani.barclay.1@us.af.mil>
Sent: Friday, April 14, 2023 4:36 PM
To: rangeli@killinglyschools.org; Idombkowski@killinglyschools.org; Normand Ferron; jhegedus@killinglyschools.org; slannon@killinglyschools.org; Jason Muscara; knapierata@killinglyschools.org; Irivera@killinglyschools.org; Chris Viens; Mary Calorio; Andy Whitehead; twakefield@killinglyct.gov; Janice Rockwood; Jason Anderson; Kevin Kerttula; Ed Grandelski; Ulla Tiik-Barclay; Patti Larrow George; Michele Murphy; Raymond Wood II; Budget Comment
Subject: Killingly School District's Latin Program

To Whom It May Concern,

The Killingly Latin program is necessary for so many reasons. Of all the languages in the world, none have the reach or the impact that Latin does. To get rid of Latin is to destroy the foundation of a multitude of studies and a severe mistake. On the most basic level, Latin is the root of many languages, such as Italian, French, and Spanish. By learning Latin, one learns not only the foundation of these languages, but how to learn these languages without the instruction of a teacher. While the direct connection to Romance languages is obvious, the connection between learning Latin and other languages is not. The specific approach utilized by the KHS Latin program is applicable to all languages. Learning Latin is not learning a "dead language," it is becoming connected to the world on another level. Proceeding from the obvious, Latin is fundamental to many studies, such as medicine and law. The language and vernacular used in these areas of study is heavily rooted in Latin. By studying Latin, there is the inadvertent study of the languages of law and medicine. Understanding every facet of your subject matter, including the etymology, leads to a higher retention of that knowledge, and the ability to use it. Latin is a fundamental part of our history. So much of our history as a people is written in Latin. The only way for the world to progress is with a firm and unbreakable knowledge of our history. This is unattainable without Latin. It is hard, perhaps impossible, to imagine at this time that one of the KHS Latin students could use the knowledge to change the future. The basics of knowledge have always, and will always, lead to masters in their area of study. Latin is the basic foundation, if not the gateway to, many areas of study. The next great doctors, lawyers, writers, and even strategists could be created by the Latin program. While high school is not considered the pinnacle of education, it is fundamental in an individual's education. There are many who will graduate high school and, whether they desire to or not, not attend college. This is a fact. Therefore, it is the duty of Killingly High School to continue the Latin program, because it offers a fundamental background to

numerous studies and it develops a pattern of education that enables students to pursue their own endeavors without the guidance of a teacher, because they have been taught how to teach themselves. The Latin program is a priceless program, and to remove it as an opportunity for students is a great disservice.

Very Respectfully,

JAANI E. BARCLAY, CAPT, USAF
54 HS/Pilot/DOX
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6480 County Road 19 S, Minot, ND 58701.

From: Jamie Carver <carver.kent@gmail.com>

Sent: Saturday, April 15, 2023 9:33 AM

To: angeli@killinglyschools.org; Budget Comment <budgetcomment@killinglyct.gov>;

ldombkowski@killinglyschools.org; Normand Ferron <nferron@killinglyschools.org>; jhegedus@killinglyschools.org;

slannon@killinglyschools.org; Jason Muscara <jmuscara@killinglyschools.org>; knapierata@killinglyschools.org;

lriviera@killinglyschools.org; Chris Viens <cviens@killinglyschools.org>; Mary Calorio <mcalorio@killinglyct.gov>; Andy

Whitehead <awhitehead@killinglyct.gov>; Tammy Wakefield <twakefield@killinglyct.gov>; Janice Rockwood

<jrockwood@killinglyct.gov>; Jason Anderson <janderson@killinglyct.gov>; Kevin Kerttula <kkerttula@killinglyct.gov>;

Ed Grandelski <egrandelski@killinglyct.gov>; Ulla Tiik-Barclay <utiikbarclay@killinglyct.gov>; Patti Larrow George

<plarrowgeorge@killinglyct.gov>; Michele Murphy <mmurphy@killinglyct.gov>; Raymond Wood II

<rwood_ii@killinglyct.gov>

Subject:

To whom it may concern,

I am a former student of Ernie Dodge and currently a coworker. I am writing this email because the idea of canceling Killingly High Schools Latin program and losing such an exceptional teacher particularly during a time where finding teachers, never mind exceptional ones, is challenging is a terrible mistake. Our Latin program is one of our accelerated student opportunities. we should be looking to add to these opportunities not remove them. I also think promoting and letting sending schools and students know about this program and where it has helped to lead past students would benefit both incoming students as well as the school. Please do not take away something that we are fortunate to have and cannot replace.

Thank you,

Jamie Carver

140 Stetson Rd

Brooklyn, CT 06234

Janice Rockwood

From: Alexis Costa <alexisa.costa@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, April 14, 2023 7:43 PM
To: Budget Comment
Cc: rangeli@killinglyschools.org; ldombkowski@killinglyschools.org ; Normand Ferron; jhegedus@killinglyschools.org; slannon@killinglyschools.org; Jason Muscara; knapierata@killinglyschools.org; Irivera@killinglyschools.org ; Chris Viens; Mary Calorio; Andy Whitehead; Tammy Wakefield; Janice Rockwood; Jason Anderson; Kevin Kerttula; Ed Grandelski; Ulla Tiik-Barclay; Patti Larrow George; Michele Murphy; Raymond Wood II
Subject: Latin Course Budget Conversation

Dear BOE, Superintendent of Schools and Town Council,

I am a previous Killingly High School student, graduated in 2018, who took the Latin program for two years with Ernest Dodge as my teacher. I am writing you all to reconsider your stance on the removal of the Latin language from KHS' curriculum. Even though I only took Latin for two years, Mr. Dodge gave me valuable life skills that guided me throughout my high school and college career. He taught me what hard work and dedication really was and without having taken those two years I would not be where I am today.

I cannot think of a single justifiable reason behind supporting the decision to remove Latin as a course at KHS. It is one of the many qualities that makes KHS unique and as far as I have been informed it costs very little to run. With a surplus of 1 million dollars at KHS, money should not be a topic of interest against the support of the Latin program. Not only this, but I have also been informed that all of the student who were enrolled in the previous year, have reenrolled for next semester. Money and attendance are not the issues here. Ernest Dodge is an amazing teacher at Killingly High School, if the decision is made to remove this program, KHS will lose one of its most valuable assets.

It should also be considered that many, if not most, of the top performing students at KHS have been enrolled in the Latin program. This is not a coincidence. Latin has such a significant influence on our culture that by learning Latin you also learn deep routes of the English language, medical and law terminology, and world history. This is why you see many students going on to study pre law and pre med after taking Latin classes, I myself graduated with a degree in Biomedical sciences that I can credit my success to this class. Not to mention that Latin is not an easy language to learn, it takes dedication, hard work, and intellect to take Mr. Dodge's class; all of which are grown within a person after taking this class.

Those who have not taken this course will not truly understand its importance. It is not just a language credit, the community around the Latin course is a family. You will not find a more supportive group of people in any other language class like you will in Mr. Dodge's classes. All of the students want to see the success of their peers and this is fortified by the values Mr. Dodge presents in his classes. It would be extremely foolish to jeopardize the lives of the current and future Latin students by shutting down the program.

I hope my words have provided some insight on the significance of the program. Please consider the voices of the students when making this decision, they are what matters, not the budget.

Thank you

- Alexis Costa
220 Gleason circle, East Rochester, NY, 14445.