Roxanne Maher

From: Anita Merando <armerando@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 10, 2025 1:44 PM
To: boe@ledyard.net
Cc: jhartling@ledyard.net; Town Council Group

Dear Members of the School Board,

In light of the recent Trump administration directive to eliminate all diversity, equity, and inclusion programs in K-12 education at the risk of losing federal funding, I ask that you not comply in advance of opportunities for public hearing and input. The Ledyard community relies upon you to assure that education reaches all students in the fashion that is most likely to respond to individual learning needs. It seems to me that Ledyard Schools, as stated on the website, has committed itself to accountable and equitable education of all students. I include the following paragraph obtained from the Ledyard School website as a reminder of the educational goals that guide funding, and also assures that public education is for ALL students.

Ledyard Public Schools will hold itself accountable, at every level, to intentionally allocate resources and expand opportunities to achieve equitable student outcomes. We acknowledge that systemic injustices exist and must be eradicated. As a public school district, we recognize our collective power to make change and improve student experiences. That power includes validating injustices, recognizing the value of diversity, and embracing policies and practices that ensure ALL students, especially those who have been historically marginalized based on race/ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, gender, age, socio-economic status, immigrant status, educational status, or religion have equitable experiences that eliminate the opportunity gap.

I ask that you continue with this statement of purpose and stand for the learning rights and needs of all children. Do not allow fear of what might happen to interfere with what you already know is a tried and true way to educate our children.

Sincerely,
Anita Merando

67 Homestead Rd
Ledyard, Ct 06339
armerando@gmail.com
4/10/2025