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From: Amber Vendetti [mailto:avendetti@thomastonschools.org]

Sent: Friday, April 30, 2010 1:53 PM

To: PPPGeneral; PPPGeneral; PPPGeneral

Subject: Proposed Certification Changes for Special Education Teachers

To Whom It May Concern:

The proposed changes for all special education teachers to hold a masters degree in special education in order to attain a professional certificate will cause me to make a very difficult decision. My explanation as to why oppose this is based on my specific situation, but I am sure that there are other special educators with valuable experience that would leave the profession if this is put in place. I currently love my job. I have been teaching special education for 7 years and have my 6th year degree in general psychology, not special education. The cost to go back to school may force me to make the decision to leave teaching to further pursue a profession with a higher salary to pay off my student loans rather than the alternative. I feel it is unfair to say that I need a masters in special education when I planned to be able to teach with getting a masters. How can I become a dynamic teacher if I have an undergraduate degree in elementary and special education and then I pursue another degree in special education? Please think about the impact of this proposal as it may hurt those teachers with experience and special education experience is more valuable than much that can be taught within the confines of a classroom.

Thank you for your time and I plead that you hear the resistance to the proposed changes.

Amber Vendetti

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