

Darnall, Tamara

From: service@foxyform.com
Sent: Saturday, June 13, 2015 8:19 PM
To: Darnall, Tamara
Subject: A message from your contact form

Name: Kay C.
Subject: School District Boundary Task Force

Message: Please consider removing the Black Hawk schools from the Rapid City School District and including them in the Meade County School District. Black Hawk is in Meade County, so this change would be logical.
The Rapid City School District is facing some difficulties maintaining a budget. Moving the district lines would help ease some of that hardship. Plus Meade County School district is financially healthy, with great leadership which would greatly benefit the Black Hawk students and staff.
Thank you for your consideration of this matter.
Kay C.

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Darnall, Tamara

From: service@foxyform.com
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2015 1:50 PM
To: Darnall, Tamara
Subject: A message from your contact form

Name: Terry Gerber
E-Mail: [REDACTED]
Subject: School District Boundary

Message: Dear School Boundary Task Force:

I am questioning if there is an actual problem here or if these issues have been resolved with recent legislation? We currently have statutes in place that allow land to be transferred from one district to another. I recognize there are lawsuits in court, but those cases occurred prior to the new law that limits the amount of land transfer based on the \"developed potential\" and not merely on the current appraised value of the land. Won't that help eliminate lawsuits?

I see at the July 9th meeting that there will be discussion concerning non-contiguous property. That concerns my board because non-contiguous property accounts for well over 17% of the Canton School District's total valuation. To transfer non-contiguous land out of our district would be catastrophic to our Capital Outlay Fund, Pension Fund, SpEd Fund and our ability to bond. Our district has already received a 37% loss to these funds when the state shifted Agriculture valuations to the Production model for tax assessments. I encourage the task force to consider how any legislation will not only impact Minnehaha/Turner/Lincoln County, but also the numerous other districts in the state that have non-contiguous boundaries.

I don't believe the state legislature, the DOE or any other political group should determine which land should be in which school district. I also realize it may be unreasonable to not afford property owners the right to attempt to transfer their land. However, there should be valid reasons to allow land transfer other than those seeking a tax haven or a developer who wants the land in a \"more desirable district\" because it will be easier to sell lots. We shouldn't have to cater to those who simply want to make more money. Decisions needs to be made at the local level and should involve local school boards.

Thank you,

Terry Gerber, Superintendent
Canton School District

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Darnall, Tamara

From: service@foxyform.com
Sent: Wednesday, July 08, 2015 10:15 AM
To: Darnall, Tamara
Subject: A message from your contact form

Name: Matt Williams
E-Mail: [REDACTED]
Subject: School District Boundry Changes

Message:

In May of 2013 we began searching for homes that would be more suitable for our growing family of 4. When we started our family in the Green Hills development we knew it was in the Tri-Valley school district and we were excited about the thought of our kids attending a school with moderate enrollment numbers. Our search landed us in the Hazeltine development just over Marion Road to the West.

A little less than a year later as we were preparing for our son Jackson to start kindergarten we started getting phone calls from Ryan Jansa with VanBuskirk Properties. At the time I believe he was gauging our interest in getting the development changed to the SF school district. I told him that we moved to the neighborhood knowing it was the TV school district and were preparing for Jackson to start that fall. He said something to the effect of not wanting to mess up our plans for that and I thought that was the end of it.

Right around the beginning of April of 2014 that we received a letter from Mr. Jansa asking us to sign a petition to get the development moved to the SF school district. We threw the petition in the garbage. That is when the phone calls from Mr. Jansa started rolling in trying to persuade us to sign the petition. We said we would not be signing it and thought we had made our decision clear.

On February of 2015 calls and e-mails from Mr. Jansa started rolling in again. He would always reach out to my wife, Katie but never to me. He was asking for her to call him and she told me she didn't want to. I told her that I would return his call and called him back on February 17th, 2015. We had a very long conversation. The majority of it was him trying to change my mind about signing the petition. He said if the development wasn't changed to SF school district:

- Our home value would go down.
- Other kids in the neighborhood would be forced to go to Tri-Valley.
- It is easier to open enroll into TV than SF.
- The neighborhood isn't growing because of the current school district it is in.

At one point I had to tell him to stop. I said he was being pushy and I didn't appreciate it. I ended the call with letting him know we would not be signing the petition. The comments from him made us feel uncomfortable to the point we were worried about our neighbors being upset with us because we didn't want to sign the petition. We began to wonder if the neighborhood we chose to raise our kids was a bad choice.

On May 28th, 2015 an article was released in the Argus leader saying families in a NW SF neighborhood have lost a battle to join the SF school district. I was very irritated by this article because it made it sound like it was everyone in our neighborhood trying to get it moved and we were the lone family opposed to it. They even posted our address in the article calling us out. I knew this wasn't the case because I have talked to several of the other families in the neighborhood. Their experience with Jansa was similar to ours with several attempts to contact them over the phone to sign the petition. One of them mentioned Jansa tracked him down at a job site he was working at to get him to sign it.

We have since decided to build a new house in a Tri-Valley school district community that is not in jeopardy of a school boundary change. We still have feelings that we let the Hazeltine neighborhood down by not signing the petition evening knowing that is not the case. To me it is a case of the developer thinking they will be able to sell more properties if the land is in the SF school district. After all, nobody that I know of reached out to the developer to get it moved. It was the developer harassing us to get the petition signed.

Thank you for taking the time to read our story.

Sincerely,

Matt Williams

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