



WESTBOROUGH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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September 30, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

We have served on the Westborough School Committee with Ilyse Levine-Kanji at various times. The Westborough School Committee is comprised of 5 members who serve staggered 3-year terms. Ilyse was first elected in 2008 and is currently serving her 6th year on the Committee. The five School Committee members annually select one of our members to serve as our Chair. We have selected Ilyse to serve as the Chair of the Westborough School Committee for 3 of the 6 years that she has served on the Committee.

Throughout her tenure on the Westborough School Committee, Ilyse has always comported herself with dignity and professionalism. She always acts respectfully towards her fellow Committee members, members of the school administration, and members of the general public – even when issues become heated and emotional, as they often do. Frequently, we receive complaints from parents about issues related to their children's education. Ilyse always handles these complaints professionally and respectfully, and is most often able to diffuse the difficult situations.

Given the current economy, there is often contention between people who want lower taxes and people who want more educational services for their children. Ilyse has been willing to stand up in front of hundreds of people at Town Meeting to explain and advocate for the school budget. While people in the room may not agree with the School Committee about the level of expenditures, Ilyse always presents our arguments in a professional and respectful manner – and has earned the respect of a large percentage of the community as a result.

On a personal note, Ilyse is a pleasure to work with. She is friendly, personable and a truly caring human being. She takes her volunteer role on the School Committee seriously, devoting a huge amount of time and energy to the work of the Committee. Although she serves as the Chair, Ilyse works in a collaborate manner, ensuring that each person on the Committee has a chance to express his/her opinions and work on issues of particular interest to him or herself.

Thank you for allowing us this opportunity to speak in support of our colleague and friend, Ilyse Levine-Kanji.

Sincerely,

Stephen Doret

Craig Harris

Karen Henderson

Nicole Sullivan

Jody Hensley