

Bryan Companion
6 Duval Street
South Burlington, VT 05403
September 11, 2023

Kate Bailey
Chairperson
South Burlington School District
575 Dorset Street
South Burlington, VT 05403

Subject: School Board Resignation

Dear Kate:

This letter will serve as notification of my resignation from the South Burlington School Board effective September 11, 2023.

I ran for the school board believing I could contribute to a community and school district that has been very good to our family. I also believed the work would be rewarding and enjoyable. I now realize that school board work is not for me. I just do not find it productive or enjoyable.

School board work is primarily monitoring and oversight. This is in direct contrast to the active role I played throughout my business career. I enjoy working with others on specific issues, developing solutions, implementing those solutions and monitoring progress. You could say I am a hands-on person rather than one who works at an arms-length away.

An additional reason for this resignation is the lack of respect and civility displayed at recent board meetings. This type of conduct continued at the September 6 meeting with a comment directed at me. This was the first time that I was made aware of the issue despite attending meetings and exchanging emails, throughout the summer, with the individual that made the remark. I will not participate in public criticism of others, nor do I wish to work in this type of environment I try to treat people in a respectful manner and believe my meeting conduct confirms this.

This decision has been given much consideration. I am hopeful that someone will come forward who is a better fit for this work. Someone who can provide the community and all district employees the level of performance they greatly deserve. The most enjoyable part of this experience has been the people I have been fortunate to meet. The teachers, staff, administrators who work with the children, the people at the district office, parents who want the best educational outcomes for their children and community members who care about the education our schools provide.

If I can be of any assistance during the transition, please contact me. I will try to help in any way.

Sincerely,


Bryan Companion

CC: School Board Members

✓ Violet Nichols