

From: **Jen Darman** <jddarman@gmail.com>

Date: Wed, Apr 26, 2023 at 10:15 AM

Subject: Please Reconsider Reducing Sections

To: Cindy Sharkey <csharkey@hbschools.org>, Emma Alparone <alparonee@hbschools.org>, Greg Hobaugh <hobaughg@hbschools.org>, bbolger@hbschools.org <bbolger@hbschools.org>, cpoles@hbschools.org <cpoles@hbschools.org>, edelgado@hbschools.org <edelgado@hbschools.org>, kgove@hbschools.org <kgove@hbschools.org>, mmccasland@hbschools.org <mmccasland@hbschools.org>, rimhoff@hbschools.org <rimhoff@hbschools.org>

Dear Board of Education and Community,

I am writing to express my concern and disappointment regarding the recent decision made by the board to implement one first and fifth grade section. This will affect the quality of education in our community.

I am respectfully requesting that you reconsider this decision and take into account the potential negative impact it may have on our students and teachers.

Our teachers are incredible and hard working where sometimes they know our children better than we do. They are the backbone. They are everything. There is no doubt that our teachers can handle 24+ children, however, that does not make it fair or right to them. And not what High Bridge is known for- High Bridge is known for the small town feel which includes small classrooms.

As a concerned citizen and parent, I believe that education is one of the most important investments we can make for our future generations. However, I fear that the new decision will have a detrimental effect on the quality of education in our community. The decision to increase class sizes will inevitably lead to overcrowded classrooms, teacher burnout, and less individualized attention for students. This will create an environment that is not conducive to learning and may result in a decrease in academic achievement.

Please reconsider this decision and take into account the long-term effects it will have on our community. Investing in education is an investment in our future, and I believe that it is essential that we provide our students with the resources they need to succeed.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Darman

Mom of 2 in HB