

Reconfiguration Solves Nothing

To the Editor:

Having read Pam Peck's recent letter to the editor, I was touched by her disappointments for her four children in Region 14.

Apparently the wounds run deep in Region 14 and perhaps younger parents like myself are less cognizant of these wounds, having less experience with the ills that have plagued this district in the past.

Child number one of this young family entered Region 14 to a class size of 19. Child number one's experience is reflective of most right now at Mitchell where the average class size is a little over 18.

Not so for children two and three slated to attend the newly reconfigured schools, which will, by Dr. Cronin's recommendation, have larger class sizes on average.

But child number two and three will be attending their larger classes in a larger grade in the next town more than ten miles from their home on the southeast end of Woodbury.

And child number two and three will be rising at approximately 6:30 a.m. and rubbing their sleepy five-year-old eyes to catch their hour long bus ride at 7:30 a.m. to attend school in the next town.

Pam Peck contends that Dr. Cronin has big plans, but big plans don't always constitute success. Sometimes they're just big.

In all the dialogue, nobody, including Mrs. Peck, has ever demonstrated how the problems in Region 14 are solved by reconfiguration.

Reconfiguration will not fix the fields; reconfiguration will not fix the cafeteria and reconfiguration, by this administration's own admission, does not solve the space problem.

Only money will do that. Money this administration intends to ask for in February, money that has been totaled at around almost \$30 million.

The children will still be waiting, only mine will be waiting in Bethlehem instead of Woodbury.

Erica Barber

Woodbury