

# Cranston Public Schools

*Building Cranston's Future One Child at a Time*

845 Park Avenue  
Cranston, Rhode Island 02910-2790

JEANNINE NOTA-MASSE  
SUPERINTENDENT

May 16, 2024

Representative Thomas E. Noret  
State of Rhode Island  
82 Smith Street  
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Representative Noret,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to express my support for House Bill 7303 currently under consideration in the RI General Assembly. As the Superintendent for Cranston Public Schools and a 30 year educator in RI public schools, I strongly believe that this proposed legislation is a crucial step forward in addressing the threats and hostility that school personnel handle when dealing with the general public in their capacity as municipal employees.

While I fully understand that part of my role is to make difficult and sometimes unpopular decisions. These decisions may upset parents or community members. However, respectful dialogue and respectful disagreements have become angry, hostile and often threatening situations that put school officials and sometimes their families in jeopardy.

As you know, many of us have had personal experiences that lead us to feel very strongly about passage of this legislation. Like other superintendents, I was forced to deactivate my social media account to avoid the negativity and disturbing posts directed towards me. The good news and positive messages about my students and staff that I shared were pushed aside as misinformation, and outright lies pervaded my account.

H7303 demonstrates a commitment to supporting school employees who are often the face of the community and interact more frequently and intimately with the general public than some elected public officials. The potential to bring about positive change in our state and community will provide peace of mind to many educators.

TELEPHONE: (401) 270-8170

•FAX: (401) 270-8703 •TDD: (401) 270-8115

EMAIL: [jnota@cpsed.net](mailto:jnota@cpsed.net)

Equal Opportunity Employer  
Cranston Public Schools is committed to maintaining a work and learning environment free from discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, pregnancy, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital/civil union status, ancestry, place of birth, age, citizenship status, veteran status, political affiliation, genetic information or disability, as defined and required by state and federal laws. Additionally, we prohibit retaliation against individuals who oppose such discrimination and harassment or who participate in an equal opportunity investigation.

Title II & Title IX Coordinator of Employment  
Michael F. Crudale  
Chief Human Resources Officer

504 Coordinator  
Norma Cole  
Assistant Superintendent

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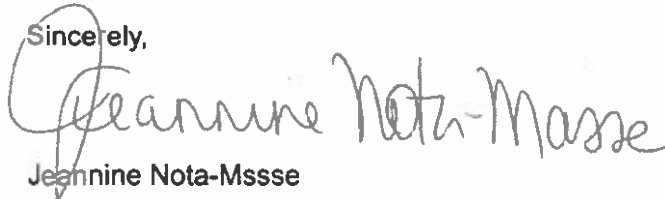
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Furthermore, I commend the effort of your sponsorship of H7303 and for your dedication to advancing this important initiative. Your leadership and advocacy reflect a genuine concern for the well-being of our school communities and a commitment to making RI a better place to live and work.

Sincerely,



Jeannine Nota-Masse

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