

**From:** [Chet Janik](#)  
**To:** [Alison Middleton](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Thank you!  
**Date:** Monday, September 20, 2021 10:12:53 AM

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**From:** Ginger Newman <gmnewman84@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 9:29 AM  
**To:** Board of Commissioners <boc@leelanau.gov>  
**Subject:** Thank you!

Leelanau County BOC-

Thank you for holding the Early Childhood Education program accountable! We have been concerned from the very beginning, about the lack of oversight of the spending of these funds; especially because most of these tax dollars seem to have gone into the hiring and paying salaries of staff! Our family includes three young children, two of whom are in the eligible age group for services; however, we were opposed to the ECE millage from the start. Most of the "services" touted as reasons for the millage, are already freely available from other sources. And, while we would never partake in any of the services offered, we do find it curious that since the millage passed, despite having two children of eligible age, we have not received even one newsletter, pamphlet or email detailing what might be available to us. If this was such an urgent need for our county, wouldn't all eligible families be contacted? We did fill out a survey earlier this year, that asked what kind of help people in the county would like to see ECE funds spent on; these included vehicle maintenance and housing costs! How exactly does that relate to a child's early education? Those two things were certainly never listed as reasons for needing this millage in the first place! Our family urges you to fund the ECE program at the lowest level possible. It's clear this program has too much money, too much staff, and not nearly enough accountability.

-George & Ginger Newman