

From: [Tom & Jean Petersen](#)
To: [Clerk](#)
Subject: letter to the BOC
Date: Sunday, September 19, 2021 4:30:33 PM

Please send this to all commissioners and place in public comment.

To Leelanau BOC

So there are 123 young children in Leelanau County that don't matter because they are so few in number? When the next millage vote comes around will you be willing to support it to refill the coffers of the early childhood program?

All young children in our time need all the help they can get to prepare them for what they have to learn that you didn't.

Consider when you were a senior in high school:

- 1) When did your history lessons stop? Did you study the Viet Nam War, The Bay of Pigs? Desert Storm? Sadam Hussian? The fall of the Berlin Wall, the breakup of the Soviet Union, the Civil Rights Era of the 60's, the race to the moon, the two towers in New York City?
- 2) Compare the periodic table to the table today. Are they the same?
- 3) What technology did you use to research and write a term paper? Think 3x5 cards, a typewriter, and hours in the library.
- 4) What do we now know about disease and the human body? I don't know about you, but we still had Iodine and methylate in the medicine cabinet.
- 5) How has the world map changed? Had you even heard of Iraq or Rawanda?
- 6) How many dinosaurs can you name, much less pronounce?
- 7) What more do we know and understand about our solar system? Is Pluto a planet or isn't it? What is a black hole?

My point is that children have so much to learn now that we teach them to read in kindergarten (and they eagerly soak it up), get basic algebra language and functions in 3rd or 4th grade and some chemistry in 5th. We do them and our nation a huge disservice when we don't help them learn social skills, and other learning skills such as sitting still for a story, how to turn pages in a book, fine motor skills like holding a

crayon or pencil, lining up, raising a hand, etc. The list is long. The better prepared a child is to learn, the easier it is to learn, therefore, the more they will learn.

I sincerely hope you will not zero out the millage for this most important part of the population of Leelanau County that you were elected to protect and serve.

Jean Petersen

Maple City