

**From:** Holcombe, Rebecca [Rebecca.Holcombe@vermont.gov]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 02, 2016 2:27 PM  
**To:** Coriell, Scott; Pepper, James  
**Subject:** Fwd: BBF Morning News Digest

I take it Building bright futures is now an anti- act 46 organization? Seriously? See below.

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From: "**Building Bright Futures**" <[gcarrigan@buildingbrightfutures.org](mailto:gcarrigan@buildingbrightfutures.org)>  
Date: Thu, Jun 2, 2016 at 7:00 AM -0700  
Subject: BBF Morning News Digest  
To: "Holcombe, Rebecca" <[Rebecca.Holcombe@vermont.gov](mailto:Rebecca.Holcombe@vermont.gov)>

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## HEADLINES

**ACT 46: JAMAICA TO VOTE ON LEAVING LELAND & GRAY UNION**  
<http://vtdigger.org/category/education/>

JAMAICA - School Board members are preparing for a vote after surveying residents about potential steps forward with regard to Act 46, the education law mandating district consolidation statewide. "They want to determine a date they can hold [...]" Editor's note: This story by Chris Mays first appeared in the Brattleboro Reformer on May 31, 2016.

#### **VERMONT RECEIVES \$3 MILLION FOR HOUSING REHAB**

<http://www.burlingtonfreepress.com/story/news/2016/05/06/vermont-receives-3-million-housing-rehab/84016096/>

Vermont will receive \$3 million in federal money to upgrade the stock of affordable rental housing, according to the office of Sen. Bernie ... Editor's note: Accessing this article requires a subscription to the Burlington Free Press.

### **OPINION**

#### **POOR ELIJAH'S ALMANACK: TRUSTEES AND TYRANTS**

<http://vtdigger.org/2016/06/01/poor-elijahs-almanack-trustees-and-tyrants/>

Under the banner of "consolidation," wrapped in fallacious appeals to "equity," and promising economies that almost never materialize, local school boards and communities are financially induced and outright compelled by statute to surrender control over this most local aspect of government. Yes, it's ordinarily better if board members leave the day-to-day operation of their community's schools to the teachers and administrators they've hired to run them. But when teachers and administrators forget that they're trustees accountable to citizens and parents, when district officials begin to presume that their authority exceeds the power of the citizen board for whom they work, we've crossed the line from self-government to tyrannical government.

#### **BARBARA CRIPPEN: STEAMROLLING SCHOOL CHOICE**

<http://vtdigger.org/2016/05/26/barbara-crippen-steamrolling-school-choice/>

As the June deadline for Act 46 school district merger votes approaches, voters in choice towns should be extremely wary of the tactics being used to promote mergers. One common tactic is the use of Articles of Agreement to bribe voters in choice towns.

Still, what really goes bump in the night is that the Articles of Agreement developed for mergers do not necessarily prevent a newly formed centralized board with proportional membership from eliminating choice any time they want by a simple majority vote of its members. To prevent this there must be a separate warned article that requires an electorate vote on that particular issue. This is the law on Articles of Agreement.

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**If you have questions or comments, please contact: Karen Conner**, Communications Manager, Building Bright Futures, 802-876-5010.

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