

Ida Keir
Tel. 603.772-4112

10 Chestnut St., #1104, Exeter NH 03833
email.idakeir@gmail.com

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Exeter Region Cooperative School Board

Dear Board Members,

I would like to take issue with the way in which Exeter High School's Top 10 Seniors, and Valedictorian and Salutatorian are chosen. I first became aware of this 5 years ago when my son was a senior (and nowhere near those Top 10) and meant to address it then. All of my children have now graduated, and I no longer have any personal interest in it, but remain concerned.

I applaud your efforts to make school a positive and rewarding place for all students, and to recognize efforts by all. However, I believe there is also a place for recognizing those who simply achieve the most by their abilities and their efforts. I've asked many people what they think the Top 10 means; every single one believes they are the students who have done the best in the most challenging program.

But this is not the case - because you use the unweighted grades for these honors. Some years this seems to make little difference. Other years it makes a significant difference; this year was one of those years.

I hope you'll look into this and change to using weighted grades in awarding these honors.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Ida Keir