

Hello,

My name is Keturah Schrock. My family lives in International Falls. We have been homeschooling our two sons for 5 years. I would like to share our reasons for homeschooling and why it would be very detrimental for our boys to have to return to public school.

My older son attended public school in Kindergarten and first grades. While his teachers were wonderful, he was falling behind. He suffers from migraines and has hearing and visual deficits. These issues combined with contracting strep throat 4 times during first grade caused him to be absent over 30 days.

Since he has been homeschooled, he is at or above grade level in all subjects. Stress and the lighting in the school building are thought to be contributing factors to his migraines. Since being educated at home, his migraines occur at most once a month. He also has not had strep throat since he left public school.

My younger son's chronological grade is third. In Science and History he is working on grade four and in math Grade five. I do not believe he would be working on advanced subjects if he were still in public school.

We are asking you to please reconsider this bill. A public education can be a wonderful thing. However, the decision of how and where to educate a child is first and foremost a parent's right and privilege. The State of Minnesota should not have the final word on education. Taking away a parent's right to choose the method for educating their children can and will have devastating effects on these children.

Thank for allowing me to speak on this matter.

Keturah Schrock