

Date: October 2015

To: Commissioner Murray, DDS

From: Amy Greene, MA, BCBA

Behavior Analyst

Danbury Public Schools

Re: STS Recommendations

Thank you for hearing public suggestions regarding Southbury Training School. I have worked with people with disabilities for the last 6 years. I started my career working in group homes for adults as a Behavior Analyst for Ability Beyond, a DDS funded non-profit organization. When I became a Board Certified Behavior Analyst, I started working for the Danbury Public Schools. I am thoroughly invested in the well-being of those with disabilities, which is why I believe STS should continue to serve them, however in a different capacity.

Recommendation 1: STS to house classrooms dedicated to providing training to those wanting to work with people with disabilities. A new college could be formed, or a state university could provide funding, for programs on a doctoral, masters and certification level. The programs could be Social Work, School Psychology, Behavior Analysis, Occupational Therapy, etc. The buildings could also house day programs for adults, and classrooms for children, who may require a more individualized program. These programs could serve as learning opportunities for those going to classes and working towards degrees from the school.

Justification: Southbury Training School has been dedicated to serving those with disabilities for its entire history. Keep its integrity intact by educating people who will serve those with disabilities. These people need good classroom training as well as hands on training.

Thank you,

Amy Greene