

Bruno not cause of problems on Branford RTM

While several points in the editorial "Remove Bruno as RTM moderator" seem to be based loosely on events, they hardly form the basis for an informed opinion.

No teacher's name was mentioned in the letter regarding alleged inappropriate behavior in the schools. Still, this matter is a school issue, as Superintendent Kathleen Halligan most belligerently pointed out in her letter to James Bruno, moderator of the Representative Town Meeting.

What went unstated was the fact that similar allegations already had been brought to the attention of the Board of Education, with results unsatisfactory to several parents. In addition, the Board of Education has an extensive history of sometimes being grossly inattentive to the desires of the people of the town. As a parent of a Branford High School student, I take offense at Halligan's blatant attempt to pit the schools against the town.

Regarding the issue involving the state Election Enforcement Commission, there were concerns expressed regarding two RTM members and their seats. One involved election-related issues. At no time did Bruno claim authority to unseat members. To the contrary, he expressed his belief it was the responsibility of the state election commission to investigate. He did acknowledge, after several RTM members' complaints, that his cover letter may have been subject to misinterpretation. Bruno immediately wrote another letter to the commission disavowing any endorsement of complaints.

While one can hypothesize that "Bruno's actions may be wrapped up in the maneuvering within various factions of the local Democratic Party," it is at least as reasonable to surmise that the reaction to Bruno's actions may be wrapped up in such maneuvering.

While your opinion that political bickering is draining the strength and effectiveness of the RTM is accurate, I question the conclusion that the problems are the responsibility of Bruno. Any embarrassment the RTM is suffering has very little to do with Bruno, and you do the public a serious disservice in implying that all would be set to rights within the RTM were Bruno to vacate his position.

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