

Kathleen Purdy, Teacher, Newburgh Free Academy

"If you REALLY wanted testimony from those of us in the trenches, then your "public hearings" wouldn't be set for 4pm. Most intelligent people know that many teachers are still in school - by contract - until that time of day, making it extremely hard to get to the hearing without violating a contract. It also seems - at least in the case of the Hudson Valley meeting, that the venue (SUNY Purchase) is almost as far south as you can go in the Hudson Valley region, making it again, very difficult for those from Orange, Sullivan etc, to travel an hour or more to get there by 4pm. It's quite obvious that we are not wanted. If you truly wanted our opinion, you would schedule these meetings later in the day and at a central location."