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MINUTES OF THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON
INSTITUTIONS
January 19, 1983

This was a public hearing on the Governor's Council on Management's recommendation to consolidate Mountain View School for Girls in Helena with Pine Hills School for Boys in Miles City. This decision will not be made by this committee but will be decided should the Long Range Building Committee accept a proposal to construct two new cottages at Pine Hills. The Council on Management felt this consolidation would be more effective because both facilities do virtually the same thing and an enlarged facility could provide the same services as the two smaller facilities but at at cost savings of approximately \$750,000 per year.

Side 1 The meeting was called to order 8:05 a.m. in the Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services Auditorium.

Members present were Sen. Mark Etchart, Sen. Bill Thomas, Rep. Bob Thoft, Sen. Donald Ochsner, Rep. Steve Waldron, and Rep. Glenn Roush.

Also present were Peggy Williams of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst's Office, Bill Gosnell of the Governor's Office of Budget and Program Planning, Carroll South, director of the Department of Institutions, Dan Russell, administrator of the Corrections Division, Bill Unger, superintendent of Mountain View School and Al Davis, superintendent of Pine Hills School.

(006) Chairman Waldron made introductions and presented a letter of opposition to the consolidation from the Helena area legislators (Attachment 1). He explained that this committee will not be making the ultimate decision to consolidate these two institutions. Chairman Waldron noted that there were legislators in the audience who had other commitments and he would allow them to testify before the Department gave its presentation.

(062) Senator Stan Stephens, Senate District #4 in Havre, voiced his opposition to the consolidation. He realized this proposed consolidation dealt with cost savings but he felt there are some overriding social concerns that must be addressed. Sen. Stephens visited Mountain View and felt it stood as a shining example of how things ought to be done in the corrections area. The recidivism rate is less than 3% at Mountain View. He felt Mountain View was not so much an institution as a treatment center and he was concerned that, if the two facilities were merged, Mountain View would lose its identity and the philosophy of the program. He thought this committee should not only look at the budgetary issue but also the value of the programming and the merit of disturbing a successful program. In summary, he felt the committee should consider social benefits first and economics second.

(139) Representative Bob Marks, House District #80, stated his prime concern in his time as a legislator has been the institutions. Rep. Marks has visited Mountain View and was impressed with the programming. He thought the programs at Mountain View were unique and if this institution was moved, those programs may be destroyed or postponed. He felt the facility would be more efficient if there were more girls housed there and he thought the court system underutilizes Mountain View. Rep. Marks remarked that the staff could evaluate young men as a possible option.

Rep. Marks would hesitate to sent the girls to Pine Hills because there may be a sex problem. He noted that many of the girls at Mountain View have experienced sexual abuse and need time away from males. He related conversations with some of the residents who expressed their need to have this time to build their self esteem. He did not mean to be critical of the Council on Management's recommendation but felt further research should be conducted on this issue.

(210) Representative Carl Zabrocki, House District #51, was raised just 6 blocks away from Pine Hills School and has seen the operation of that facility for some time. He felt the staff at Pine Hills School were well qualified to take care of the needs of girls. He recalled that at one time Pine Hills was co-educational. He felt the only problem with the proposed consolidation would be to "keep the bulls in the bull pen." He was sure that the personnel of Pine Hills could overcome that problem. He noted that this consolidation would allow \$60 million to be saved over a 40 year period. In summary, he would support moving the Mountain View School to Pine Hills.

(238) Representative Michael Devlin, House District #52, said he would like to see the consolidation but he felt this issue should be approached with caution and adequate study because the end result is the rehabilitation of these juveniles. He noted the far-reaching ramifications if this consolidation did not work. In summary, he felt this concept would work but it would take some doing.

(265) Carroll South stated that his department has looked at every possible aspect of the present costs and how they can reduce those costs. He has been concerned about the cost per day at Mountain View long before the Council on Mangement made their recommendation. The cost per day at Mountain View is \$117 per student as opposed to \$81.50 per day per student at Pine Hills. With those statistics in mind, he felt his department must do something to decrease those costs. In 1982, Pine Hills operated at 80% of its capacity and Mountain View at 40%.

would be used for 45-day evaluations and incoming students, both male and female. This would be the only co-ed cottage and the reason for making this one co-ed is the short period of time residents would be kept in this cottage. There would be adequate separation of students. Chairman Waldron presented a letter of opposition from Gary Loshesky and Rep. Thoft presented a letter of opposition to the consolidation from Gabriel Brennan (Attachments 3 and 4).

(080) Chairman Waldron asked Mr. South to explain the programmatic changes that would take place and to address the concerns raised regarding pregnancy resulting from a co-ed institution.

(093) Mr. South said the question of sex between the boys and girls is blown out of proportion. He noted that the girls and boys are currently allowed off campus to work and to participate in community activities. If these students were interested in having sexual relationships, they have that opportunity right now. He noted that there are co-ed group homes in the state right now that don't have a problem with this issue. Also, through the department's research of other state's co-ed correctional institutions, this has not been a major problem. Mr. South felt supervision was the key and the cottages at Pine Hills now have, and would have, full time supervisors.

(111) Al Davis responded to the programmatic changes that would take place at Pine Hills. Mr. Davis reiterated Mr. South's remarks that there would be increased supervision if this facility went co-ed. He said many of the existing programs at Pine Hills would continue at the same level and would not need changed because of the different sexes.

(141) Chairman Waldron told of a trip in which he and members of the Department of Institutions visited a co-ed correctional institution in St. Anthony, Idaho. Chairman Waldron was very impressed with the superintendent of the facility, Mr. Friedenauer, and with the programs at that center. Mr. Friedenauer said co-ed was not the issue, treatment of residents was. The students said they liked having the opportunity to be around the opposite sex without having the peer pressure to participate in sexual relationships like they would experience if they were in a regular high school.

Chairman Waldron handed out a research paper compiled by Carol Diminich in which she called other state's correctional co-ed facilities (Exhibit 5). In summary, the real issue for each institution was not co-ed as much as it was treatment, quality of administration, and environment.

The average cost per day per student at St. Anthony's is \$45 but that figure may not include overhead and the salaries are lower than in Montana. The average daily population was 165 and there were 139 FTE staff. One criticism Chairman Waldron had for St. Anthony's was that they appeared overly strict and the punishment were more severe than Montana institutions. The students also did not have enough free time but the superintendent said he was working on that problem.

(305) Senator Joseph Mazurek, Senate District #16 in Helena, said Mountain View is not in his district but a number of the employees are. Sen. Mazurek has visited the facility, both with the Institutions Subcommittee and with Leadership Helena, and he found the program to be successful. His concern is that this issue has been raised too quickly and he felt there was not enough research done before the recommendation. He thought cost should not be the only factor. Sen. Mazurek thought there were some good programs at Mountain View that need to be preserved and he had a real concern with changing those successful programs.

(385) Representative Gene Donaldson, House District #29 in Helena, complimented the committee for examining the costs and possible cost savings. He felt Mountain View was underutilized but he felt there was a turnaround in age of population and there may be an increase in the near future. He raised concern about having a co-ed institution, not from a sexual aspect, but because it would compound the pressure having the boys and girls together.

Side 3

Rep. Donaldson wondered if Helena would not be a better choice to locate the consolidated facility because Helena is larger and can enable the facility to draw staff from a larger population.

(020) Senator Dave "Spike" Fuller, Senate District #15 in Helena, said in his 15 years of state government, he has not seen a program based on consolidation work. He has done some study on this issue and found it to be quite complex and confusing because everyone he has contacted has a different point of view. He did not feel the legislature is prepared to make a hard decision on this issue. He noted that the number of residents in Mountain View is growing and should be taken into consideration.

Sen. Fuller said the nature of the crimes should be looked at. Two-thirds of the boys at Pine Hills are there because of violent or serious crimes whereas two-thirds of the girls in

Mountain View are not in for violent or serious crimes. He noted that the Helena community is supportive of Mountain View.

(088) Chairman Waldron entered into the record two letters opposing the consolidation (Attachments 6 and 7).

(094) Jim Spring of the Governor's Council on Management gave some background of the council's recommendations. The council was formed to look at management concepts and were a non-profit organization. They examined management of state agencies to find more efficient and effective ways to provide services. Cost was a secondary, not a primary, concern. The team researched previous studies done on the Department of Institutions and Mountain View School.

In response to previous testimony stating that the council did not spend much time at Mountain View, Mr. Spring said the team researched all available reports on the facility before their visit which reduced the time necessary to view the institution. He said the overall operation of Mountain View was commendable in terms of care and programs offered for the rehabilitation of its residents.

The physical plant at Mountain View is not ideal for a secure setting and is not being used to its capacity. The buildings are old but well kept. The council felt the consolidation would save approximately \$750,000 annually and, because the two institutions do the same thing, they saw no drawbacks for consolidation. The council did research other states' correctional facilities and found a general trend toward co-educational facilities.

Mr. Spring said the buildings at Mountain View can be used for minimum security programming in the Corrections Division. There is a need for some capital improvements but the facility is not suitable for its present use.

(236) Nancy Walter, Montana Education Association, voiced her opposition for the consolidation and provided written testimony (Attachment 8). One of the concerns raised by Ms. Walter was the distance to Miles City and she felt this would deter parents from visiting their children.

Mr. Unger told the committee that Mountain View has an apartment set up for visiting parents so they can become involved in the counselling programs. He said this program is very popular and many of the parents participate. Mr. Davis said parent participation in Pine Hills is fairly low and he attributes that in part to the geographical location.

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Side 4

Mr. Davis said the average length of stay at Pine Hills is six months and students generally go home on vacation at least once during that six months.

(007) Betty Baier of Bozeman voiced her opposition to the consolidation as a mother of a 17 year old daughter who was a resident of Mountain View. She disagrees that having boys and girls together is necessary. She felt there was a real problem with the judicial system in not heeding the recommendations of probation officers and Mountain View counselors. She felt the judicial system does not use Mountain View as much as they should and Ms. Baier felt they should close group homes instead of Mountain View. She felt Mountain View should stay where it is and she would urge this committee to look at the human element over the dollar savings. She provided the committee with written testimony (Attachment 9).

(071) Kathy VanHook of the Women's Lobbyist Fund voiced her opposition to the proposed consolidation and presented written testimony (Attachment 10). She felt there should be an advisory committee to be established to monitor any consolidation and to present evaluations. She felt supervision would divert attention from programming.

(142) Wayne Hirsch, president of the Miles City Chamber of Commerce, voiced his support for the consolidation and presented written testimony (Attachment 11). He also provided a letter from the mayor of Miles City (Attachment 12) and a letter from the Custer County Commissioners (Attachment 13), both supporting this proposed consolidation.

(174) Jeremia Johnson, president of the Montana Probation Officers' Association, voiced his opposition to the consolidation. His major concern was that not enough time has been spent dealing with the programs. Mr. Johnson based much of his testimony on outdated American Correctional Association Standards that there not be more than 100 students for a new correctional program. He noted problems with some Missoula co-ed group homes and related that it costs \$200 to transport a juvenile to Miles City. In summary, he felt the students should be segregated.

(248) Olivane Baier, a former resident of Mountain View, voiced her opposition to the consolidation and provided written testimony (Attachment 14). In an emotional testimony, Ms. Baier told the committee that she was not ready to leave Mountain View when the judge who sentenced her removed her from the institution, against the wishes of her probation officer and the counselors at Mountain View. She ended up in jail three times after leaving Mountain

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Institutions Subcommittee
January 19, 1983
Page 8

View. She said if she had been left in Mountain View, she could have been rehabilitated. She said Mountain View is a good place and she felt it should be left alone.

(306) Vicki Henderson, a former resident of Mountain View, voiced her opposition to the consolidation. She was subjected to male dominance and abuse which contributed to her ending up at Mountain View. Ms. Henderson said she did not want to be around men/boys and she felt intermingling would set the girls back. She also felt it was better when there weren't many people in the institution because the residents get more attention and time to work out their problems.

(377) Dick Meeker, executive member of the Montana Corrections Association, read a prepared statement from the association in opposition to the consolidation (Attachment 15).

(427) Julie Groepper, a teacher at Mountain View School, voiced her opposition to the consolidation. She had a real concern with having more than 100 students in one institution and went on to say the smaller classes are better. She felt it was easier to have a more personal relationship with the girls.

Side 5

Ms. Groepper wholeheartedly endorsed a comprehensive study to determine the needs of the girls at Mountain View.

Mr. Davis told the committee that he was on staff at Mountain View for 12 years before going to Pine Hills and he took some of the programming with him to Pine Hills so the programs in both facilities are quite similar.

(041) Dr. Anne Pincus, clinical director at Mountain View, voiced her opposition to this consolidation (Attachment 16). Dr. Pincus has worked with juvenile offenders both in segregated facilities and co-ed facilities. She did not want this committee to model a consolidated facility after the mistakes she felt were made by other states. She noted some of the problems faced by families in times of recession like the current times: family instability, people go to prison, child abuse, marriages dissolve, alcoholism, mother has to work and cannot care for the children, etc. Children feel the stress of their parents, especially their mothers. She felt there weren't enough treatment centers for girls in Montana. She noted that the programs at the consolidated institution would not address the specific needs of the girls. She felt these girls' needs must be met because these are the mothers of tomorrow.

(216) Laura Hartz, retired teacher of Mountain View, voiced her opposition to the consolidation with respect to the needs of the girls and the expense of travel to Miles City.

(320) Bill Shepler, a business man in Miles City, voiced his support for the consolidation because he felt Miles City has a lot to offer the children. He told the committee that the Miles City community supports Pine Hills School and the sports teams of the school compete with local teams. He felt this is important because the "problem" children have an opportunity to mingle with "normal" children which he felt would be beneficial.

The downtown merchants in Miles City give discounts to the students and give an additional discount around Christmas so the children who cannot go home can at least buy gifts. He noted that the business community employs kids from the school and they have the verbal support from the Miles City Community College Board of Trustees that the college is available to assist in any job training and can provide programs to assist in the special needs of the girls. Mr. Shepler said the supportive and friendly nature of the community is positive and an asset to the rehabilitation of the children.

(359) Tom Schneider, executive director of the Montana Public Employees' Association, voiced his opposition to the consolidation because the employees of both institutions do not feel this is a workable solution to the problem. He noted that a mistake was made with the new Prison and he did not want to make that mistake again. He felt we may spend more money because we made a hasty decision.

(430) Wayne Phillips, a teacher at Mountain View School currently taking a leave of absence for the Legislature, voiced his opposition to the consolidation. He felt treatment was the main issue but costs are the issue at hand. He felt some thought should be given to closing other centers, like the Ritz in Great Falls, and bringing out-of-state placements back to Montana to house these juveniles in Mountain View. He felt this would deal with duplication of effort which is currently taking place throughout the state.

Side 6

He reiterated previous testimony that judicial placement is the real problem. Finally, he felt the buildings at Mountain View should be used in any case because they have been well maintained and are very attractive.

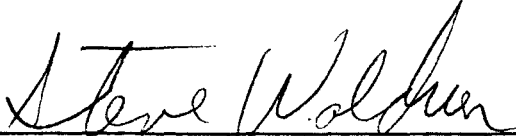
(073) Arthur Taft, resident of Miles City, voiced his support for the consolidation because he felt Miles City was a good

place to raise kids. He did not feel moving the girls correctional institution to Miles City would lose the quality of the program because Pine Hills has a very good program already in place. He reiterated previous testimony that the Miles City community interacts with Pine Hills in many aspects and supports the institution. He did not feel we should treat these children as "abnormal" and he felt this situation is being dealt with effectively in the Miles City community by providing employment, activities, and interaction with their peers in the local school system.

(132) Becky Schneckloth, a teacher at Mountain View, voiced her opposition to the consolidation mainly because she, as a teacher, liked the smaller ratio of teacher to student. She thinks these girls are special because they have not had the home life that many other children do and she felt the smaller ratio helps in that are.

The hearing was closed to further testimony at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Steve Waldron, Chairman
Approved

SW/lt

VISITORS' REGISTER

HOUSE INSTITUTIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

MOUNTAIN VIEW/PINE HILLS
CONSOLIDATION

Date January 19, 1983

PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME

NAME	RESIDENCE	REPRESENTING	SUP- PORT	OP- POSE
Kerry Harris	Helena	OBPP		
JENNIFER METCALF	HELENA	HD 31		<i>omit on myn reco</i> X
Hal Harper	Helena	HD 30		✓
Dave Cullen	Helena	S.D. 15		X
Donna Madden	Helena	HD 29		X
Joe Mazurek	Helena	S.D. 16		X
LORA HARTT	Helena	myself & concern for		X
Thomas Schuck	Helena	youth MBCE		X
VICKI VINCENT HENDERSON	Helena	myself & concern for youth		X
Betty Chris Cair	Bozeman	(SELF) mother of Mountainview student		X
Olivia Maie Bain	Bozeman	former resident of M.H.V.		X
Kathy Arvan	Helena	Board, Women's Lobbyist Fund		X
Celinda Lake	Helena	Women's Lobbyist Fund		X
Anne M. Pincus	Helena	self and professional concern		X
Carol Dimich	Billings	Senate aide - Pat Regan		✓
Dan Tulge	Helena	Senate aide - H. Hillman		
Ann Vondrak	Helena	House aide - G. Donaldson		
Tom Drooger	Helena	Mont. Residential Child Care Association		X
Bill Riley	Helena	Board of Cuni Control		
Steve P. Nelson	Helena	MBCE		

IF YOU CARE TO WRITE COMMENTS, ASK SECRETARY FOR LONGER FORM.

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

VISITORS' REGISTER

HOUSE INSTITUTIONS

SUBCOMMITTEE

MOUNTAIN VIEW/PINE HILLS
CONSOLIDATION

Date January 19, 1983

PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME

NAME	RESIDENCE	REPRESENTING	SUP- PORT	OP- POSE
Med Swain	Helena	Mt. View School		
Jim Hawbacin	Helena	Do I		
Bill Gosnell	Helena	DBP		
PAUL JONAS	MILES CITY	M.C. STAR		
ART TART	MILES City	M.C. Chamber of Commerce		
Bill Schepeler	Miles City	MC Businessman		
Wayne Hirsch	Miles City	M.C. Chamber of Commerce		
DAVE EYENSON	Helena	Conrad on myel. Self		
JAMES B. SPENCE	Billings	Gov. Council on Mont MCYF, Inc.		
MAXINE HOMER	Helena	League of Women Voters MONTANA PROBATION OFFICERS ASSOCIATION		✓
Jeremiah Johnson	MISSOULA			
Charlie McCarthy	Helena			
Diol Mueh	Helena	mont Corrections Assoc.		✓
Nancy C. Walter	Helena	Montana Education Assn.		✓
Julie Grepper	Helena	myself		✓
Daily Schrockel	Helena	myself		✓
EW Phillips	"	"		✓
Ginda Hief	Helena	Myself		
Polina Bartsch	Helena	myself		
Pat Murdo	Helena	Independent Record		

IF YOU CARE TO WRITE COMMENTS, ASK SECRETARY FOR LONGER FORM.

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

VISITORS' REGISTER

HOUSE INSTITUTIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

MOUNTAIN VIEW/PINE HILLS
CONSOLIDATION

Date January 19, 1983

PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME

NAME	RESIDENCE	REPRESENTING	SUP- PORT	OP- POSE
Leslie Vining	303 N. Rodney	myself		X
John J. Deery	554 BRECKINRIDGE	KTVB TV 12		
Bob Auer		A.P.		
Jim Sprague	3108 Rasmussen Dr.	Blw.		
V. Henderson	Nelson	Self		X
Gene M. Brown	"	"		X
Lora M. Stark	"	Self & you the		
EW Phillips	"	Self		
ARTHUR R. TAFT	780 S. JORDAN	SELF	X	
Betty Chris Baier	3131 Sandough Rd	self (mother		✓
Olivia Baier	" Bozeman, Mt.			
Julie Neipper	501 Adam	myself		✓
Neuman				

IF YOU CARE TO WRITE COMMENTS, ASK SECRETARY FOR LONGER FORM.

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.



The Big Sky Country

MONTANA STATE SENATE

January 18, 1983

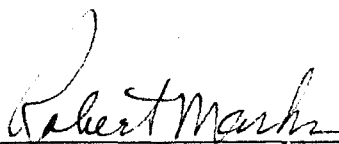
Representative Steve Waldron, Chairman
 Appropriation Subcommittee on Institutions
 Room 108
 Capitol Building
 Helena, MT. 59620

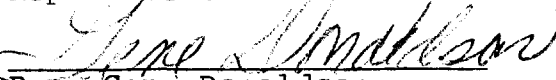
Dear Chairman Waldron:

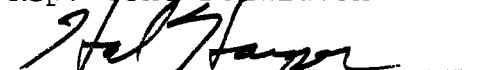
The purpose of this letter is to inform you and the members of your subcommittee about the feelings of the Helena area legislators regarding the proposed closure of Mountain View School.

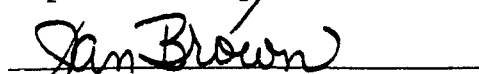
We, the undersigned legislators, strongly oppose the proposal to consolidate the Mountain View School with the Pine Hills School at Miles City. At a minimum, we feel there are a great many issues that should be debated before the proposal is considered in this session of the State Legislature. We ask that the members of your subcommittee take into account the feelings of the Helena area legislators when you debate this issue.

Sincerely,

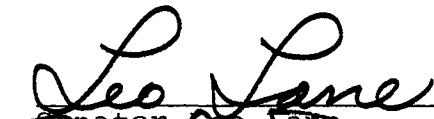

 Rep. Robert L. Marks

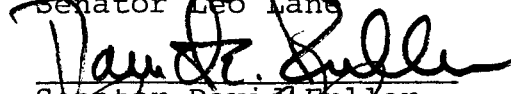

 Rep. Gene Donaldson

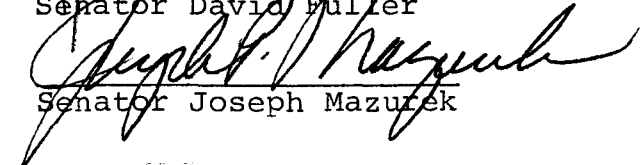

 Rep. Hal Harper


 Rep. Jan Brown


 Rep. Jerry Metcalf


 Senator Leo Lane


 Senator David Fuller


 Senator Joseph Mazurek

cc: Rep. Roush, Rep. Thoft, Sen. Etchart, Sen. Ochsner
 Sen. Thomas

DF/lb

MOUNTAIN VIEW CLOSURE INFORMATION
PREPARED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF INSTITUTIONS

DURING FY 1982 IT COST \$117 PER DAY TO CARE FOR AND TREAT GIRLS AT MOUNTAIN VIEW SCHOOL. BY CONTRAST, THE COST PER DAY FOR THE CARE AND TREATMENT OF BOYS AT PINE HILLS SCHOOL WAS \$81.50 PER DAY. AVERAGE DAILY POPULATION DURING FY 1982 WAS 33.9 AT MOUNTAIN VIEW SCHOOL AND 91.4 AT PINE HILLS.

THE FACT THAT MOUNTAIN VIEW OPERATED AT 40% OF CAPACITY AND PINE HILLS OPERATED AT 80% OF CAPACITY DURING FY 1982 CONTRIBUTES TO THE COST PER RESIDENT DAY DIFFERENCE. THE OVERHEAD AND SUPPORT COSTS THAT ARE A PART OF AN INSTITUTION'S OPERATION ARE SHARED BY FEWER RESIDENTS AT MOUNTAIN VIEW THAN AT PINE HILLS. THE REQUIREMENT THAT EACH INSTITUTION MAINTAIN AN ACCREDITED HIGH SCHOOL, DESPITE THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS PARTICIPATING, ALSO CONTRIBUTES TO THE COST DISPARITY BETWEEN THE TWO INSTITUTIONS.

THE HIGH PER DAY COST OF TREATING GIRLS AT MOUNTAIN VIEW REQUIRES THAT THE ADMINISTRATION EXPLORE WAYS TO REDUCE THE COST OF PROVIDING THOSE SERVICES, WHILE ASSURING AN APPROPRIATE LEVEL OF TREATMENT AND THAT PROGRAM INTEGRITY BE MAINTAINED. THE WARREN KING REPORT EMPHASIZED THE HIGH PER DAY COST WITHOUT ADDRESSING THE PROGRAM. WE ARE CONSIDERING BOTH COST AND PROGRAM.

OUR RESEARCH HAS FOUND THAT COEDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS FOR JUVENILES ARE SUCCESSFULLY OPERATED IN OTHER STATES.

IN ANY EVENT, WHETHER THE STATE WISHES TO SPEND \$117 PER DAY TO TREAT DELINQUENT GIRLS IS A MATTER OF PUBLIC POLICY AND SHOULD BE ADDRESSED BY THE LEGISLATURE. THE ADMINISTRATION'S REQUEST TO CONSTRUCT TWO COTTAGES AT PINE HILLS FOR THE TREATMENT OF DELINQUENT GIRLS WILL ASSURE LEGISLATIVE DEBATE ON THE COST OF OPERATING AT MOUNTAIN VIEW.

IF MOUNTAIN VIEW SCHOOL IS TO CONTINUE ITS OPERATION, THE ADMINISTRATION BELIEVES THAT COTTAGE CONSTRUCTION WILL BE REQUIRED ON THE CAMPUS TO ADEQUATELY PROTECT AND TREAT THE RESIDENTS. WHILE MOUNTAIN VIEW HAS A CAPACITY OF 83, 90% OF THAT CAPACITY IS IN TWO STORY FRAME COTTAGES BUILT IN THE EARLY PART OF THIS CENTURY.

THE EXECUTIVE BUDGET PRESENTED TO THE 1981 LEGISLATURE REQUESTED A NEW COTTAGE ON THE MOUNTAIN VIEW CAMPUS, BUT THAT REQUEST WAS DENIED.

OUR PRELIMINARY ESTIMATE SHOWS A FY 1983 ANNUALIZED COST REDUCTION OF \$852,000 AND A TOTAL FTE REDUCTION OF 33.13, IF THE INSTITUTIONS WERE TO BE COMBINED AT PINE HILLS SCHOOLS.

ATTACHED IS A FY 1983 COST ANALYSIS OF THE CONSOLIDATION OF PINE HILLS AND MOUNTAIN VIEW AT MILES CITY.

	Pine Hills Current Level 1983 FY	Costs for Additional Population	Pine Hills Expanded Total	Mtn View & Pine Hills 1983 FY	Difference
Personal Services	\$ 2,427,930	\$ 601,075	\$ 3,029,005	\$ 3,778,689	\$ 749,684
Contracted Services	62,009	26,261	88,270	128,097	39,827
Supplies	261,502	83,560	345,062	358,001	12,939
Communications	26,874	4,484	31,358	41,634	10,276
Travel	14,128	3,375	17,503	18,440	937
Rent	5,542	269	5,811	7,192	1,381
Utilities	126,422	30,739	157,161	180,082	22,921
Repairs	27,076	8,172	35,248	41,956	6,708
Other	13,983	4,205	18,188	18,841	653
Equipment	9,270		9,270	16,245	6,975
TOTALS	\$ 2,974,736	\$ 762,140	\$ 3,736,876	\$ 4,589,177	\$ 852,301

DEER LODGE COUNTY
PROBATION OFFICER
ANACONDA, MONTANA 59711

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
R. J. BOYD, JUDGE
GARY LOSHESKY, CHIEF

PHONE
(406) 563-8421

January 17, 1983

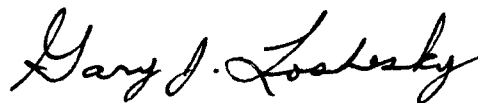
Representative Waldron
Capitol Station
Helena, MT 59620

Dear Representative Waldron;

Enclosed is a letter written to Carrol South regarding Mountain View School. We are very concerned about the possibility of this facility being combined with Pine Hills School. I ask you to read the enclosed letter and consider our concerns and needs as you deliberate on this matter.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gary J. Loshesky".

Gary J. Loshesky

Chief Probation Officer

GJL/jm

DEER LODGE COUNTY
PROBATION OFFICER
ANACONDA, MONTANA 59711

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT
R. J. BOYD, JUDGE

PHONE
(406) 563-8421

GARY LOSHESKY, CHIEF

November 29, 1982

Carroll V. South, Director
Dept. of Institutions
1539 11th Avenue
Helena, MT 59620

Dear Mr. South;

It is the opinion of this office and the 3rd Judicial District Youth Court that the closure of Mountain View would be a grave mistake. It appears that the Governor's Council recommendation is aimed at cost effective institutional management; yet, it is ironic that this council has directed its energy at an institution that acts to prevent the over-utilization of secure adult facilities. In other words juvenile offenders who are not dealt with responsively as juveniles often become adult offenders who eventually populate our jails and prisons. Clearly effective intervention as juveniles results in less expense and congestion at the adult level of corrections.

Our experience with Mountain View has been a very positive and gratifying one. For the most part our interaction has centered on 45 Day Evaluations and follow up, and it is obvious to us that the superlative work done in this area has assisted us in preventing the ultimate institutional commitment of some of our girls and the resulting family dislocation. We have found the 45 day evaluations to be thoroughly professional, indepth and revealing; they are an essential aspect of our Court files on the youths referred there. Mountain View caseworkers are in contact with us during the evaluation process and also in follow up activity. There is no substitute for the comprehensive quality of work done by the Mountain View staff. To close this facility is to choke off Montana's success/growth in the area of juvenile welfare, rights and corrections.

The recommendation that Pine Hills and Mountain View be combined for the resulting "cost savings" is reprehensible on many levels. What the "cost savings" really means is: 1--you will be warehousing juveniles in a facility that currently is at capacity and has been beyond capacity in the recent past; 2--due to the resulting case overload, 45 day evaluations and case work will be less thorough and consistent (you speak to cutting the "duplication of facilities and services and the related expenses" in your letter; therefore, it is safe to assume that you would not increase those services once your consolidation is complete); 3--you will be centralizing all juvenile care and intervention (Children's Unit, Pine Hills and Mountain View) in the eastern portion of the state, and just imagine for a moment what that will do to the travel budgets for those of us in the central and western portions of the state.

Would it not be more appropriate to create a co-ed facility at Mountain View where there already exists surplus cottages? Where the staff exhibits such professional expertise? Regardless of what your paper budgets and projections tell you, those of us "in the field" are well aware of the often overloaded conditions faced by the staff at Pine Hills. Utilizing Mountain View as an Evaluation Center for both boys and girls would be by far the most effective management move. It might not result in a substantial reduction in current budgets, but it could affect future adult correction/institutional trends by dealing with juvenile crime and misbehavior before those issues become adult careers.

Sincerely,

Gary J. Loshesky
Chief Probation Officer

GJL/jm

January 18, 1983

House Appropriations Committee
Sub Committee on Institutions

RE: Hearing on Consolidating Mountain View School with Pine Hills

Gabriel P. Brennan
Director of Pastoral Care
Shodair Adolescent Chemical Dependency Treatment Center
Helena, Montana

Greetings,

I would like to express some of my concerns regarding the consolidation of Mountain View School with Pine Hills.

I have worked at Mountain View school as a houseparent, evening caseworker, and Day Social Worker for 3½ years. Presently I am the Director of Pastoral Care for the Adolescent Chemically Dependent treatment center at Shodair Hospital. I am very familiar with the philosophy and treatment orientation of Mountain View School. The primary focus of the school is the treatment of the youth with a view towards successful rehabilitation in the community. I believe the big question is whether we want a treatment facility which is geared towards helping youth get well or whether we want a custodial institution to keep our problem youth locked up?

I feel strongly that consolidating Mountain View School with Pine Hills will just provide a big custodial institution with little regard for individual treatment because of large numbers. Our focus needs to be on de-institutionalization not on making bigger institutions. I feel that Mountain View School has been effective in treatment because it provides individualized academic programs, therapeutic programs, and counseling. This is well documented in treatment plans and progress reports included in each youth's file.

The bottom line for all of us working with youth is to serve their needs. I feel Mountain View School provides a needed and necessary service for problem children in the Western part of the State. The sad outcome of the whole shuffle is that it is the youth who are hurt, the youth who will be the pawns shifted around because it is more convenient or because it may save a few dollars.

Sincerely,

Gabriel P. Brennan
Gabriel P. Brennan

RESEARCH ON INSTITUTIONS
INFORMATION SUPPLIED BY SUPERINTENDENT OR ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

(1) South Dakota Training School, Plankinton, S. D. Coed at least 25 years. Have had up to 50-60 girls, presently 10 girls and 75 boys. The youths are in peer groups of 5 to 10 boys and 5 girls. They eat meals and go to school together. Also do chores together.

"Never had any major problems, such as pregnancies." Strong supervision required.

Girls status offenders, boys up to grand larceny. Four to five months average stay.

(2) Echo Glen Children's School - Snoqualmie, WA. Coed for 16 years. Some cottages coed and some separate sex cottages. Coed has separate wings for boys and girls.

Problems - Youths having intercourse, but no pregnancies. "Supervise as well as possible."

Presently 40 girls; 102 boys. Two Washington laws limit type of juvenile sent to Echo Glen:

1. Status offenders not dealt with by juvenile court system. No longer "all dependent/incorrigible juveniles sent to institutions."

2. Recent Juvenile Justice Act requires those committed to institutions have sufficient delinquent history.

[As a result, boys and girls sent to Echo Glen have committed some type of crime--burglary, assault, robbery.]

(3) Hillcrest School in Oregon, Salem, OR. Coed for five years. Youths don't live in same cottages--2 separate dorms. Attend class and social activities together. Dining facility coed, but kids eat with their own cottage. Presently 80 girls and 68 boys.

RESEARCH ON INSTITUTIONS (continued)

NOTE: In 1973 girls were moved from Hillcrest to boy's school (MacLaren) due to low number of boys in custody at MacLaren. But shortly thereafter, criminal count reversed itself and there was an overcrowding problem at MacLaren. The girls moved back to Hillcrest.

Superintendent Hill says there "was a lot of wasted money for the physical changes" made twice: once for girls and once again for boys when girls left.

Hill says there were security problems at MacLaren when a girl was detained (running away, violating rules, etc.) because of all male security staff. A female guard had to be brought in or girl taken to Hillcrest.

Girls sent to Hillcrest are the most serious offenders--theft to homicide. Boys sent to Hillcrest selected from MacLaren. "Usually not as delinquent as girls," says Hill. He says the boys at Hillcrest have not usually committed sex-related crimes.

No pregnancies. Heavy supervision of youths when together. Hill says sexual environment "more normal" at Hillcrest than single sex institution. He feels homosexuality is less at Hillcrest and more heterosexual relationships.

(4) Ventura Correctional School, Camarillo, CA. Coed since 1970.

Presently 222 females and 342 males. Age for girls ranges from 11 to 21 years; males 16-18 years.

Crimes committed range from burglary to murder. Because of Juvenile Justice Act, 601 (status offenders) no longer sent to Ventura.

[Five pregnancies have occurred.] Superintendent Wolfgram says the "staff really has to stay on top of things." Youths are allowed to hold hands, but no more. Males shipped out if caught in the act of intercourse;

GALLATIN COUNTY
DEMOCRATIC WOMEN'S CLUB
3131 Sourdough Road
Bozeman, Mt. 59715
January 18, 1983

Montana Legislators
STATE CAPITOL
Helena, Montana 59620

Dear

It is the unanimous agreement of our group, The Gallatin County Democratic Women, to express concern about the proposed closure of Mountainview School in Helena.

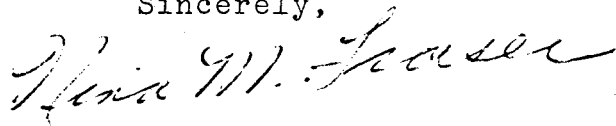
We are opposed to any consolidation of a girls and boys institution at the Pine Hills School in Miles City. We feel strongly about maintaining separate institutions for troubled teenagers, and we consider Mountainview School and its staff has given exceptional counselling and guidance in a well maintained facility.

We also feel the Governor's Council on Management, composed of business representatives, should consider the human life element in this recommendation.

Helena is a central location for accomodating girls from the state.

We urge you to support and vote for maintaining Mountainview School in its present location.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Nina M. Fraser".

MRS. NINA MAE FRASER
Secretary

117 SOURDOUGH RIDGE ROAD
BOZEMAN, MONTANA 59715

Statement in support of Keeping Mountain Home For
Girls Open.

I speak , not as a professional in the field of child rehabilitation, but as a mother of five children ranging in age from 35 to 21 years. I feel that when adolescents, especially girls, find themselves in trouble, or are finding themselves having trouble with school and/or family, the basic remedy is an attempt to promote self-worth and an understanding of their own value.

I think that girls, especially, need enormous support during their adolescent years in their attempts to find their own values, to determine how useful they are and to discover their own value to themselves. Most girls are under terrible social pressure to conform, to be attractive and popular, and just about the last thing they should have is additional pressure to learn socialization with males. They should, especially if they are troubled, learn their own identity, their own value, and their own worth as women. They should be allowed this structured environment without social pressure, away from boys equally disturbed and troubled, to develop their own personalities without the pressure of trying to be sexually attractive and popular. This time at Mountain View is removing from their lives one of the most demanding social problems, how to be cute and popular, and gives them time to develop as women and strong individuals.

I believe throwing these troubled young girls into a mixed social setting would be harmful, counterproductive, and worthless in this therapeutic time. Time to learn how to socialize with males, later, first let them have a socially supportive environment in which to develop their own identity as women, ~~first~~. Let them learn to

be proud to be women first, strong in their own worth
and identity before they have to cope with the
pressures of social encounters with men.
These are troubled young women, let them have a
chance to learn to be women, first.

Helen M. Kerr

(Mrs. Richard Kerr

**Montana Education Association**

1232 East Sixth Avenue, Helena, Montana 59601

Telephone 406-442-4250

January 19, 1983

TO: Joint Subcommittee on Institutions

FROM: Montana Education Association

RE: Proposal to Close Mountain View School and Consolidate with Pine Hills School

The MEA strongly opposes this measure.

On behalf of the 25 teachers currently employed at those institutions--almost 100% of whom are MEA members--we cite the following objections to the consolidation proposal before you:

1. Overcrowding is already a problem at Pine Hills. This measure would intensify rather than alleviate those stresses. Such stresses are a known, inhibiting factor to the learning progress and rehabilitation of juveniles.
2. Personalized attention available through individualized instructional programs now in effect at both schools would suffer greatly under this proposal. Such programs by no means are "frills" in institutional settings; on the contrary, they are essential-- an ingredient most necessary to the restoration of youthful offenders.
3. Learning motivation in juveniles is at best a fragile commodity. One of the most easily predictable features of consolidating the two schools would be declined learning motivations and rates of individual progress in each student.
4. Under consolidation, guidance programs so vital to the personal growth and rehabilitation of individual students would be strained to accommodate the larger enrollment.
5. Lower enrollments allow larger flexibilities at each school to tailor-make programs for students who need them. Those opportunities would diminish under the proposal before you.
6. Co-education in reform school settings is a "mixed" issue, to be sure. Professionals in psychology and counseling tell us that girls typically internalize major stresses, while boys externalize their tensions--often in aggressive, sometimes in violent behaviors. Neither girls nor boys in the present instance under this proposal could expect to retain current levels of faculty attention to those specified behavioral needs and differences.
7. Girls, in particular, would realize disadvantages under this proposal. Location of Mountain View School currently affords significantly higher access to transportation, home visits and times with families than would relocation to "the edge of the state," as one of our Pine Hills teachers

8. Courses would have to be added to the Pine Hills curriculum to accommodate instructional needs of Mountain View students. Such additions cost money, e.g., the hiring of more teachers, the purchasing of additional supplies and equipment, etc.

Finally, we would highlight for the members of this Subcommittee five (5) recommended standards that our teachers tell us would be exceeded or unmet were this proposal to go through. The document, which you have before you, is entitled Manual of STANDARDS for Juvenile Training Schools and Services. It is a series from the Commission on Accreditation for Corrections, sponsored by the American Correctional Association. While we understand that the State of Montana is under no constraints to impose these standards, we believe that persons of wisdom will listen when the ACA speaks to them. To wit:

(Juvenile Training School, xxi)

1. "The typical training school may provide supervision, programs and services for over 100 residents; however, programs of over 100 residents are not encouraged....
2. "Youth development centers, youth treatment center, secure training schools and other facilities in this category may serve relatively smaller populations ranging from 40 to 100 juveniles...."

* * *

(9399, P. 81)

3. "Formal educational and vocational programs have a ratio of one teacher for every 15 students. (Essential)" We would call to the committee's attention the "essential" nature of this standard and its probable violation in a majority of classrooms were consolidation to go through.

* * *

(9408, P. 82)

4. "The institution uses community resources in the vocational training programs. (Essential)." Again, this is an "essential" standard likely subject to strain under consolidation provisions.

* * *

(9437, P. 87)

5. "Case management personnel are available in a ratio of a minimum of one for every 20 residents to provide counseling and social services to residents. (Essential)." Again--"essential." And in this instance, the necessity would be to undertake all the measures and financing to provide those additional staff workers and services.

WITNESS STATEMENT

NAME BAIER, MRS BETTY CHRIS BILL No. _____
ADDRESS 2131 Soudan Road - Soudan DATE January 19-1985
WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT Self
SUPPORT _____ OPPOSE PLEASE AMEND _____

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments:

I oppose closing Mountainview School.
I oppose merging or consolidating Mountainview
and Pine Hills.

SEE ATTACHED STATEMENT

3131 Sourdough Road
Bozeman, Mt. 59715
January 16, 1983

Montana Legislature
STATE CAPITOL
Helena, Montana 59620

Dear *Chairman Madson,*

I am the mother of a 17 year-old daughter who has been a troubled teen for 4 years. Our family has experienced the complete gambit of processes of the county youth court and state department of Institutions, evaluations for a 'child in need of supervision'. We have enlisted the help, counselling and guidance of school counselors, probation officers, and a private psychologist.

We are concerned parents and we were willing to seek all of this help because we love our daughter. We got involved.

We visited the placements of our daughter, we questioned and we evaluated and we learned a great deal.

The one place our daughter truly received help was at her last placement, MOUNTAINVIEW SCHOOL. The Youth Evaluation Center (YEP) in Great Falls, a 45-day excellent well staffed center, recommended a structured controlled environment. Mountainview is that environment, however, before our daughter was ever placed there the youth court ignored the recommendations of the professionals and allowed her to be bounced in and out of youth group homes. Within 5 months she was in and out of 5 high schools. If we as parents had moved our child in and out of high schools in this manner we would have been criticized severely.

The group homes our daughter was placed in left a great deal to be desired, and they are extremely costly to the state. Before considering the closure of a facility like Mountainview I suggest you consider closing group homes. The personnel we encountered in group homes were not competent or caring. Our daughter was told she did not have to go to school, she enrolled herself. I think education should be encouraged. Mountainview is an accredited school. In the group home no one was aware if the young people were going to school, or helped with school work, meals were not prepared on time, there was no routine, but an abundance of fast foods and junk food was available. Our daughter walked the streets at night on the South Side in Billings. There must be some credible group homes but I suggest they be scrutinized carefully and often and on a drop-in basis.

In a newspaper article I read a criticism about Mountainview not being used to capacity. This is an unjust criticism because there are troubled youth in need of help, the facility is there, an excellent staff is in place, and the space is available, but Mountainview has no control over its own use. It is up to the judicial services to utilize Mountainview. Why haven't they? Mountainview could be full if the youth court people and judges would utilize it rather than

bouncing teenagers here and there. When our daughter finally was placed in Mountainview she picked up on her high school curriculum and it was monitored properly. She was in a controlled environment, but there was constant healthy activity, also properly monitored. The girls earned privileges of going to movies, bowling, pizza parties, etc. At Mountainview they are allowed weekend passes. They are not deprived of social life. The old adage of state reform school, cruel and tough and dark and dreary no longer applies to a facility like Mountainview. I suggest and encourage legislators, county attorneys and judges in particular, but also parents to visit Mountainview. It should be required. How many have? Regrettably, very very few.

Mountainview provides each girl with an education which can be received at her own pace. Each girl receives counselling, they are confronted immediately whenever they commit a wrongdoing. There is someone available whenever a girl has the need to talk to someone, 24 hours a day. A qualified person, a caring person is there.

Many of the girls are having problems in a society of too much boy-girl relationship. They need 'space', they need an environment where they can review their problems so that they can eventually be brought back into our general society. I am opposed to the recommendation to consolidate Mountainview at Pine Hills School in Miles City.

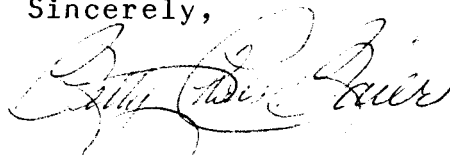
The Bozeman school counsellors, the school psychology team of Bozeman, the private psychologist, the personnel from the Youth Evaluation Center all offered their endorsement for the placement of our daughter in a controlled facility. None of them were allowed to speak for this child, but there was space available at Mountainview.

Many dollars would have been saved (tax payer dollars) if this child had been placed in Mountainview immediately. I am speaking as a concerned mother and also as a concerned tax payer. I realize the suggestion to close Mountainview is for economic reasons. The Governors Council on Management is composed of business representatives. If you care about the youth of Montana, (they are the future of Montana) consider that human lives cannot be measured by dollars saved but by dollars spent. Listen to the needs of our troubled youth.

I strongly urge you to consider utilization of Mountainview. I urge you to consider the already available, extremely competent and caring staff at Mountainview as opposed to having to staff a new department and construct new buildings at Miles City. Juvenile delinquency is on the increase, therefore present facilities should be maintained and used to capacity. I support the statement from a newspaper article of December 8, 1982, the BILLINGS GAZETTE, by Pine Hills Director, "Things are working well now", he said, "If it isn't broke, don't fix it".

Please vote to maintain Mountainview School for Girls in Helena.

Sincerely,



MRS. HAROLD L. BAIER

TESTIMONY OF KATHY A. VAN HOOK, WOMEN'S LOBBYIST FUND, ON CONSOLIDATION OF MOUNTAIN VIEW AND PINE HILLS JANUARY 18, 1983, BEFORE INSTITUTIONS COMMITTEE

Mr. Chairman, my name is Kathy A. van Hook and I represent the Women's Lobbyist Fund, a broad coalition of women's groups across Montana. We believe that the consolidation of Mountain View and Pine Hills is an extremely complex issue and that such consolidation should not be taken on without further study. If consolidation does occur, we recommend that an advisory committee be appointed to monitor this consolidation. This committee should include experts on girls health, counseling, and vocational needs.

One of the strongest arguments for consolidation is that it would provide a more natural environment for both the girls and boys and would better reflect the real world into which both groups will emerge -- a world in which they may have already had difficulty adjusting. There are, however, several other considerations which need to be weighed with that advantage. One is size. The population of Pine Hills traditionally runs 3-4 times the population of Mountain View which means that the girls would hardly be thrown into a "natural" environment. Secondly, the distribution of the crimes in the two institutions is quite different. According to the Final Report of the Task Force on Montana's Violent Crime (Montana's Youth Council) 70% of Pine Hills' population has been convicted of violent and serious crime, while only 36% of Mountain View's population has been convicted of such crimes.

Because one of the primary motivations for consolidation is economic, we are particularly concerned that staff experienced in girls' health needs and in counseling girls would not be hired nor incorporated in the consolidation. We are also concerned that vocational programs geared to the interests and opportunities of these girls would not be developed. For example there is an excellent nurses' aide program at Mountain View. To make sure that girls' needs were not overlooked in consolidation, we have recommended the advisory committee to monitor any consolidation. At this time we further request that additional study be done before any consolidation occurs.

MILES CITY AREA

Chamber of Commerce

P.O. Box 720

Miles City, Montana 59701

Phone (406) 339-4000, Code 400



January 19, 1983

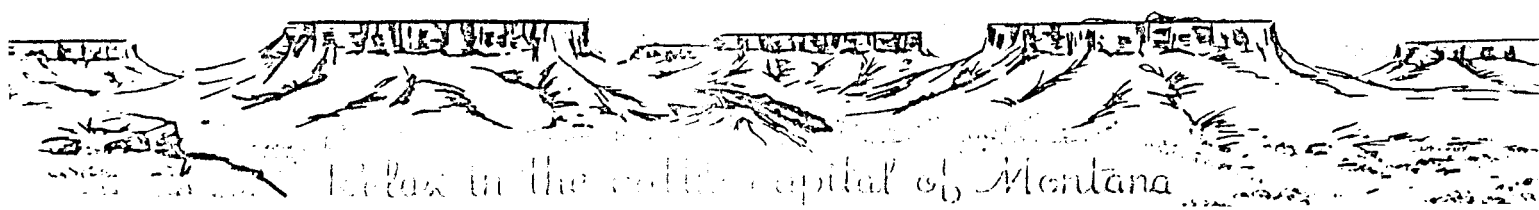
Thank you Mr. Chairman, distinguished members of this committee, and guests.

I am Wayne Hirsch, President of the Miles City Area Chamber of Commerce, and with me today are Arthur Taft, Executive Director, and Bill Schepeler, Vice President in charge of Economic Development for the Miles City Chamber of Commerce. We are here for the expressed purpose of lending support to the proposal that the Mountain View State School for Girls be relocated in Miles City and operated in conjunction with the Pine Hills School For Boys. We offer this support from the business community of Miles City, as it appears that from an economical and efficiency point of view, this would be a positive move to be made within State Government.

Miles City would be able to support the influx of people generated from this type of move and accomodate them with the types of services that they may require. The community would certainly be able to provide any back-up personnel that might be required by the school and I believe, a positive environment for the professional people involved in rehabilitating these young people of Montana.

Respectively submitted,

Wayne Hirsch
President
Miles City Area Chamber of Commerce



Relax in the valley capital of Montana



MAYOR
GEORGE T. KURKOWSKI

CITY OF MILES CITY

"Cow Capital of the World"
MILES CITY, MONTANA 59301

CITY CLERK
HARVEY L. WATTS

COUNCILMEN:
LEOTA HENRICHS
DAVID THOMPSON
LAURENCE TORSTENBO
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RICHARD G. MITCHELL, JR.
ROBERT "BOB" SWANSON
JAMES BISHOP
ERNEST "MIKE" METZENBERG

January 17, 1983

House Appropriation and
Senate Sub-Committee
Capital Station
Helena, Montana 59624

Dear Chairman, Representative Steve Waldron:

As the Mayor of Miles City and on behalf of the City Council of Miles City, I wish to inform your sub-committee that we endorse the recently publicized proposal to merge Mountain View School into a co-educational facility to be located at Pine Hills School in Miles City.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "G. Kurkowski", is written over the typed name and title.

George T. Kurkowski
Mayor

GTK:ph

cc: Vice Chairman, Senator Mark Etchart



County of Custer

Custer County Courthouse
1010 Main
MILES CITY, MONTANA 59301

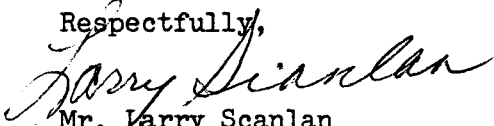
January 17, 1983

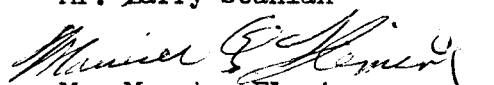
House Appropriations
Senate Finance Sub-Committee
For Institutions
Capitol Station
Helena, Montana 59624


Dear Chairman, Representative Waldron
Vice Chairman, Senator Etchart
and Members of the Sub-Committee for Institutions Financing:

We, the undersigned Commissioners of Custer County, wish to go on record as supporting the consolidation of the Mt. View School for Girls and the Pine Hill School for Boys. It is our consensus that Miles City would be an ideal location for the Mt. View School. The consolidation would provide an improved, modernized facility for the Girls, as well as benefit both the State of Montana and Custer County economically.

Respectfully,


Mr. Larry Scanlan


Mr. Maurice Fleming


Mr. Bruce Bergerson
Custer County Commissioners
Miles City, Montana

STATEMENT FOR COMMITTEE HEARING
Proposed closure of Mountainview School
January 19, 1983

I am Oliviane Marie Baier, a former student at Mountain View School. I have just recently returned to Montana and I am appalled to hear of the proposed closure of Mountainview.

I was only at Mountainview for 5 months and realize that if I had been placed there sooner I would have received the needed help and counseling earlier without much wasted time in my life.

I have had the experience of living in 2 group homes and can say there is much to be desired in them and if I had my choice I would go to Mountainview instead of a group home.

By being part of this system I developed friends or acquaintances and contacts which extended to Pine Hills. I can now say that the contacts at Pine Hills were not helpful to my personal well-being and I do not believe they could be beneficial to any of the girls at Mountainview. Therefore, moving the school from Mountainview to Pine Hills would be chaos and cause more unnecessary problems among the girls at Mountainview.

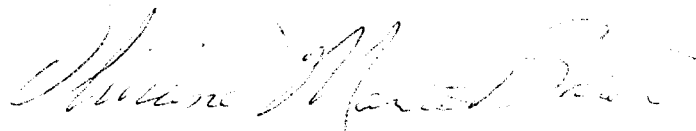
From my personal experience if money has to be saved in helping troubled kids the money could be saved thru the group home system, not by closing Mountainview.

True, Mountainview at present is not at full capacity but this is not due to any fault of Mountainview or the fact that there is not a need in Montana to help troubled girls. The problem is that people do not understand the work accomplished at Mountainview.

Cutting a line item in a budget is easy, showing the worth in hundreds of troubled teenager's lives is hard. Mountainview as it stands does a good job in helping make good citizens out of problem or troubled girls.

If you could have a view from the inside of Mountainview as I have had instead of \$'s (dollars) in a budget I don't think you would close Mountainview or consider moving Mountainview.

If you would like to ask me questions about Mountainview I will try to answer them.



OLIVIANE MARIE BAIER
Bozeman Senior High School
or
3131 Sourdough Road
Bozeman, Mt. 59715

Testimony to Legislative Subcommittee on Institutions
from Montana Corrections Association

Mary Faye, President
Montana Corrections Association

The Montana Corrections Association includes professionals from Montana's juvenile and adult corrections system, juvenile and adult probation and parole officials, involved professionals in the higher education system, and the executive branch of state government.

While the Montana Corrections Association understands that the fiscal analysis of the Governor's Council on Management found Mountain View School to be a relatively expensive program, we feel that there is more to be examined at the Mountain View School than just fiscal concerns.

Mountain View has been providing a fine service for girls who have not been able to be treated in Montana's other residential programs. These are not youth who have been able to sustain a placement in a community group home or foster home. Any effort to close the present campus near Helena should include a plan to preserve the excellent program for girls that is being implemented there. We oppose the proposal to transfer the Mountain View population to Pine Hills School, for the following reasons:

1. The present program has made good progress toward exposing girls to the communities in which they must return while they still live at the school. Pine Hills is too far from those communities from which the girls were referred to be able to maintain work with the girls' families; and,
2. As a specialized program for girls, Mountain View has worked well. A co-ed facility would remove this specialization.

The Montana Corrections Association encourages the State Legislature to do a comprehensive study of the issue before making decisions on the future of the Mountain View population. Any decisions will have long-lasting fiscal and program implications for Montana's youth.

WITNESS STATEMENTDept. of Institutions
Subcommittee

NAME Anne M. Pincus, Ph.D. Clinical Psychologist BILL No. Appropriations Committee
 ADDRESS 522 Hollins Ave; Helena DATE 1-19-83
 WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT Self - Professional Interests
 SUPPORT _____ OPPOSE X AMEND _____

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

Comments:

(Outline)

- I. Significant demographic & social changes occurring in USA today → effects on Need of Youth population
- A. #'s youth increasing
 - B. unemployment → family instability
- II. functions of Mountain View - currently served, & consequences of consolidation
- A. no similar facility serving such ~~as~~ socially disruptive girls in MT (w/ exception of small number slots at Deaconess home in Helena)
 - B. importance of continuum of care
 - C. differences betw. boys & girls problems & needs
 ∴ social development ; self-esteem emphasis
 - D. how we meet those needs ; individualized treatment
 inevitable cost of such tx (wherever conducted).
 - E. effects on girls' treatment of ^{their} being combined with boys in a consolidated facility.

Anne M. Pincus, Ph.D.