

Dear Selectboard Members,

Imagine seeing a bell that hasn't been seen in over 40 years! Picture how it would bring a smile to everyone's face to see and hear such an important part of our town's history. During our Cambridge History unit our class learned that the building where our town offices are, used to be called Town hall. This building has a bell that is over 150 years old! But, there is ABSOLUTELY NO way to get up to the bell! In our opinion, we should help get the bell back in action!

One reason we need to bring the bell back is because it is an important part of our community! We learned that this bell used to ring to signal important events. For example, it was rung when John F. Kennedy was assassinated and when our town offices moved into the town hall building. Before we learned about the bell we had no idea there was anything up there. We were **so** amazed to learn that a 900 pound bell was hidden in the top of the building! Most people don't know that the bell even exists. When you walk by it just looks like a decorative tower. Also, new generations would become interested in our town's history by seeing this great bell, just like we did! Don't *you* want to see this important part of our town's history and the whole town jumping with excitement. We know people would love to have something new and exciting in our town that is also historical! Please help us bring the bell back, you are the only people who can help our community do this!

Another important reason we should bring the town hall bell back is because it would bring our community closer together. Having a strong community is important because that means we are always there to help each other. Bringing this bell back will help make our community stronger because it can be used to celebrate special events. For example, the bell could be the beginning or ending point of town parades or it could ring when the Wildcats or Lamoille North Middle and High School teams win a sporting event. Players and families can celebrate together around the bell. Imagine hearing the sound of victory and seeing the joy it brings to everyone's face! It could even build a team's confidence to know their town is rooting for them! As you can see we need to bring the bell back to help our community connect.

You might be wondering what makes this bell different from other bells in town. Well, no one has seen it in 40 years, it is over 150 years old and the first owners actually signed their names into the bell! We know that this might cost a lot of money but, we have a couple ideas to help! One idea is using our schools Maker's Space to create pins, stickers, and other things to sell. We would sell the pins and stickers to people in our school and community to help make a difference. Or we could put jars out, like we do for the Big Change RoundUp, to help raise money. Restaurants and stores in town might be willing to help this cause too! Bringing the bell back will make a positive change and a stronger community!

In conclusion, you learned about the bell in the town hall building and its important history. But, the problem is that we can't see or hear the bell. Opening it up to the community will help to bring the community together, promote kindness, and can be used to build team confidence. We know this will make a great change and we hope you will help us bring the bell back!

Sincerely,

Ms. Spillane's Third Grade Class

We are including photographs our Town Hall historians shared with us from 1981 when the Bell was last restored. It was even included in a parade!

