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I'd like you to support an increase in the funding of the Maine School of Science and Mathematics. MSSM is a rare home-grown success story, both increasing the quality and lowering the total cost of addressing the special needs of gifted students by moving them to the resources they need, versus trying to replicate those resources in hundreds of local school districts, each with a fraction of the demand.

However, as an alumnus (1998) I've seen a depressing history of out-of-sight-out-of-mind flat funding.

It is REASONABLE, considering the school's results to date, to take a conservative line and not "mess with success." The legislature has expressed overwhelming support for keeping the school in Limestone. MSSM is a 246 mile drive from the state's population center in Augusta, meaning most sending families must choose between academics OR family ties. While the school will remain "out-of-sight," those that attend at least have agency in this matter.

It is UNREASONABLE, now that it will remain out-of-sight, for it to remain out-of-mind. The local community won't send their own high schoolers to this building, sending them to Caribou or Fort Fairfield instead. The school-owned dormitories are now 25 years old and are in a deteriorated condition, not at all inline with the margin of excellence the school produces.

As a body, you have said "yes" to Limestone, now I ask that you follow through and fund that choice.