



City of Cambridge

24.

IN CITY COUNCIL
March 28, 1994

COUNCILLOR RUSSELL

ORDERED: That the Mayor be and hereby is requested to forward the attached letter to the Boston Globe regarding cat dissection in Cambridge schools to the School Committee and request that the School Committee provide a report to the City Council on the issue.

In City Council March 28, 1994.
Adopted by the affirmative vote of eight members.
Attest:- D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk.

A true copy;

ATTEST:- *D. Margaret Drury*

D. Margaret Drury
City Clerk

Cambridge Ma 02138
FROM THE DESK OF
Maryellen V. Fitzgerald

Why expose children to cat dissection?

I was horrified by an article on Cambridge schools on March 11 ("Cambridge parents await word on schools") that mentions cat dissection at the Graham and Parks School.

What possible lasting educational value is gained by exposing grammar school children to a cat being cut up? Dissection at the high school level is questionable, but at the elementary school level it's downright absurd. It's very unlikely that any practical information or skills would be retained should students eventually choose a career in surgery.

Cats used in classroom dissections are often lost or stolen pets who are strapped to racks after being gassed, then injected with formaldehyde, often while still alive. In an era of environmental awareness and growing compassion for all earth's creatures, what lessons does classroom dissection of pet animals teach?

I urge the Cambridge School Department, teachers and parents to consider the many humane alternatives to dissection.

JANE WAMBACK
Somerville

The Internet address:
letter@globe.com

13 Granville Rd
Cambridge, Ma
02138

Sheila -
I cannot believe this
is true. This does
not belong in any school -
grammar or high school -
And especially not in
Cambridge.
Maryellen V. Fitzgerald

Globe 03/18/94

24

Lake Orders

C. Russell
Order

Referred letter on Emerald Lake
to School Dept for report
back

VV / 8-0-1



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D. Margaret Drury
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Non-Consent Order #24

S-129

Vice Mayor Russell re: Cat dissection
in Cambridge Schools.

Order Adopted

In City Council,

March 28, 1994