

Greetings

This note is intended to provide parents and all members of the community with some basic information about a project that will be completed during the fall and winter of next year.

This past summer, the Board of Selectmen in Granville expressed an interest in studying the possibility of joining the Southwick Tolland Regional School District. This past fall, there were a series of meetings to discuss how to proceed. The Granville town officials and the Granville School Committee, as well as the Southwick-Tolland School Committee agreed to work toward securing funding for an outside, objective feasibility study. We received favorable response from the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission to complete the study, with the help of an educational consultant. A planning committee will be formed over the next few weeks with representatives from the Region and from Granville, and then the study will begin.

It is important to keep in mind that this study will focus on programs, finance, facilities and governance. The Regional District and the Town of Granville have no interest in jumping to conclusions about changing day to day practices. Children who currently attend the schools in the Regional District will continue to do so, and children who attend the Granville Village School will continue to attend school there.

We anticipate that the study will be completed by December of 2010 and at that time, the respective parties will analyze the report and determine if additional action is mutually beneficial. One key part of the study will be how the addition of another town in the region will impact school funding, state aid and whether there are long or short term cost savings for all stakeholders. The second key part of the study will be whether enlarging the regional district helps us provide a quality education for all of our children.

We will post progress notes on this web site as the project unfolds. If you have questions or comments feel free to email me at the address on our home page. Also, the meetings of the planning committee will be posted and are open to the public.