

AMHERST - PELHAM *Regional* SCHOOL DISTRICT  
AMHERST, MASSACHUSETTS

Amherst-Pelham Regional School Committee  
170 Chestnut Street  
Amherst, MA 01002

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January 9, 2009

Dear Select Board, Finance Committee and School Committee Chairs:

At the Four-Towns meeting in December, representatives from each of the towns expressed an interest in organizing a committee to consider the question of regionalizing the Amherst, Pelham, Leverett and Shutesbury elementary schools. At the December 16<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Amherst-Pelham Regional School Committee, we voted unanimously to try to organize such a committee. The Regional School Committee, along with members of the Leverett and Shutesbury School Committees who were in attendance at the Regional meeting, felt it makes the most sense to ask each town to appoint three representatives: one school committee member and two members from other town departments or boards (i.e., one from the Finance Committee and one from the Select Board).

The purpose of this committee will be to look at the pros and cons of regionalization, as well as to consider other organizational options that might benefit all of the towns and schools, both educationally and economically. We have been informed that the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education may have grant funding available to help districts defray the cost of hiring a consultant or conducting other research regarding regionalization.

We need to know as soon as possible if your town is interested in participating and, if so, the names and positions of your town's representatives. Debbie Westmoreland, Assistant to the Superintendent, provides clerical support for the Regional School Committee and she will be compiling the list of participants. You may forward the information to her at [westmorelandd@arps.org](mailto:westmorelandd@arps.org) or she can be reached at 413-362-1823. If you have any questions or concerns about the work of the committee, please contact me at [hussinm@arps.org](mailto:hussinm@arps.org).

Thank You,

Michael Hussin  
Regional School Committee Chair

cc: Helen Vivian and Al Sprague, Co-Superintendents