Going It On Their Own

Three Towns Consider Special-Purpose School District



Mar 15



Bridgewater-Hebron Village School

Three of the seven towns in the Newfound Area School District, believing that "Smaller, more agile districts can respond better to the needs of modern education," are looking to form a special-purpose school district that would serve as its own school administrative unit.

House Bill 349 would allow the towns of Bridgewater, Groton, and Hebron to withdraw from SAU 4 in a continuation of their move toward independence. They are looking at expanding the Bridgewater-Hebron Village School to serve kindergarten through Grade 8, although the legislation allows them to serve K-12 if that is what voters in the three towns prefer. Otherwise, they would tuition the older students to another school district.

If the measures pass at a future town meeting in each of the towns, there would be a special meeting of voters in the withdrawing district to elect one school board member from each town. The new board then would organize and develop plans and policies for the newly formed cooperative school district, and propose an initial operating budget.