

Bridgewater-Hebron Village District  
2012 Annual Report

The Bridgewater-Hebron Village District Board oversees the building and grounds for the Bridgewater-Hebron Village School, which is owned by the towns of Hebron and Bridgewater and operated by the Newfound Area School District. The school continues to thrive with about 175 students, pre-k to grade 5, and the community at large enjoys use of the facilities.

In the fall of 2012 the B-HVD accepted with regret the resignation of Commissioner Kathleen Connor. Having school-age children, Kathleen needed more time for her family. She has been a wonderful asset for the Village District and will be missed. In the future, once her family obligations lessen, and her time becomes more flexible, she might consider a position on the board again. Bill White was appointed in the interim and has graciously stepped in to fill her position until the next election. He had previously served as commissioner from the inception of the District until Kathleen took office. The Commission thanks both of them for their service to the District.

In October the Village District was pleased to announce a very generous gift of \$424,000 from an anonymous donor for the construction of an environmental center. The addition will include a 20'x40' greenhouse, classroom, utility room, lavatory and hallway, situated at the southern side of the building. Conditions of the grant dictated that construction begin quickly. Bonnette, Page & Stone Corp. of Laconia, who built the school, was hired as construction manager for the project, working with Brackley Shaw of Bridgewater, the original architect of the building. The foundation was poured in late fall and construction of the classroom area is underway, with erection of the greenhouse slated for April 2013.

The environmental center will involve the community and provide a great opportunity to actively combine interdisciplinary, experiential and interactive learning. Students learn better "hands-on." This direct engagement will encourage the appreciation of our natural ecosystems. It will facilitate not only horticulture, but a learning center for other topics as well. We hope this endeavor captures enthusiasm for the multitude of benefits it will generate, which can be experienced by the students as well as our greater community. We are extremely grateful to the benefactor for this wonderful contribution.

In addition to general maintenance and minor repairs to the facility during the year, the parking lot was sealed.

Given recent tragic events at schools in our nation, further security upgrades are being considered for 2013, in addition to improvements already made. B-HVD thanks our local police departments for coordinating increased surveillance at the school. We are all working together to ensure a safe environment at B-HVS.

The Village District's Annual Meeting will be held at the Bridgewater Town Hall on Tuesday, April 9, at 7 p.m., with polls opening for the election of officers at 5 p.m. All constituents are encouraged to attend. We thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terence Murphy, Derry Riddle, Bill White, Commissioners; Henry Woolner, Treasurer