



WOODBIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT

40 Beecher Road – South
Woodbridge, Connecticut 06525

Robert F. Gilbert – Superintendent
Cheryl Mammen – Special Services Director | Alfred Pullo, Jr. – Director of Business Services/Operations

November 25, 2019

Dr. Christopher Pittenger, Chair
Bethany Board of Education
Bethany Public Schools
44 Peck Road
Bethany, CT 06524

Dear Dr. Pittenger:

The school year has begun and we are most fortunate to be in communities that are interested in and committed to education! As you know, we are facing hard financial times given the current economy both locally as well as state-wide. School districts of all configurations are responding to shifting student enrollment trends, constrained municipal budgets, aging and overcrowded school facilities, and the need for capacity to serve the 21st century students' academic needs. More and more communities are turning to collaboration and shared services as a way to offer better, more cost-effective programs and to join together to collectively collaborate and/or purchase all types of goods and services.

As part of the regionalization discussion, at the November 18, 2019 regular Board of Education meeting, the Woodbridge Board of Education directed me to formally request an opportunity to explore cost-sharing measures with the Bethany Board of Education and school district. They would like to meet to exchange information and develop ideas relative to the sharing of services in areas of fiscal responsibilities, purchasing cooperatives, professional development, staffing, information technology, facilities, special education as well as resources to optimize efficiencies. It is anticipated that through our dialogue, our school districts will begin to identify an innovative and proactive approach for possible solutions to effectively economize the sharing of services.

I look forward to hearing from you and working with you on this important endeavor

Sincerely,

Steven J. Fleischman
WBOE Chair

Robert F. Gilbert
Superintendent

SJF/RFG/med

cc: C. Murray