

# **White River Valley Supervisory Union**

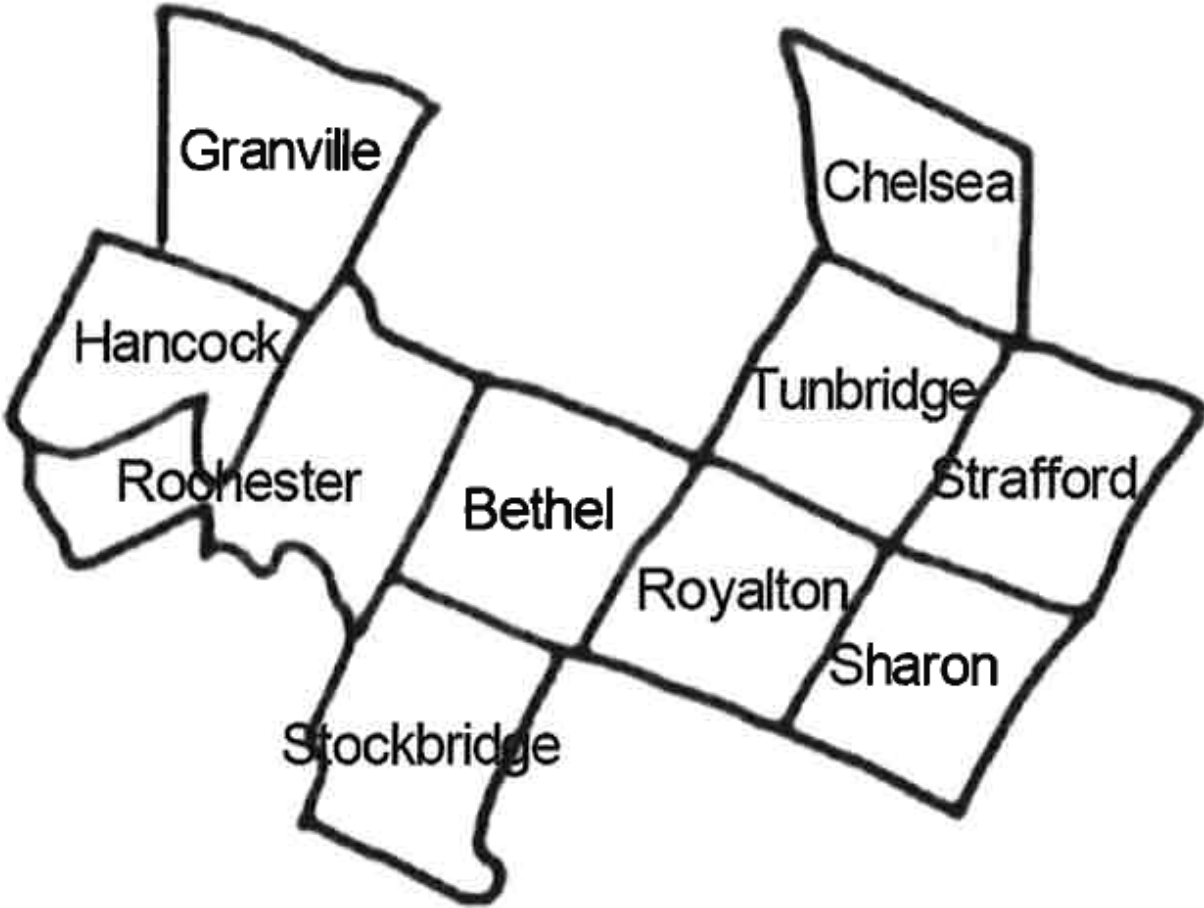
**WRVSU PK-12 OPERATING STUDY COMMITTEE**

**AMENDED PROPOSAL**

**State Board Meeting**

**5 16 17**

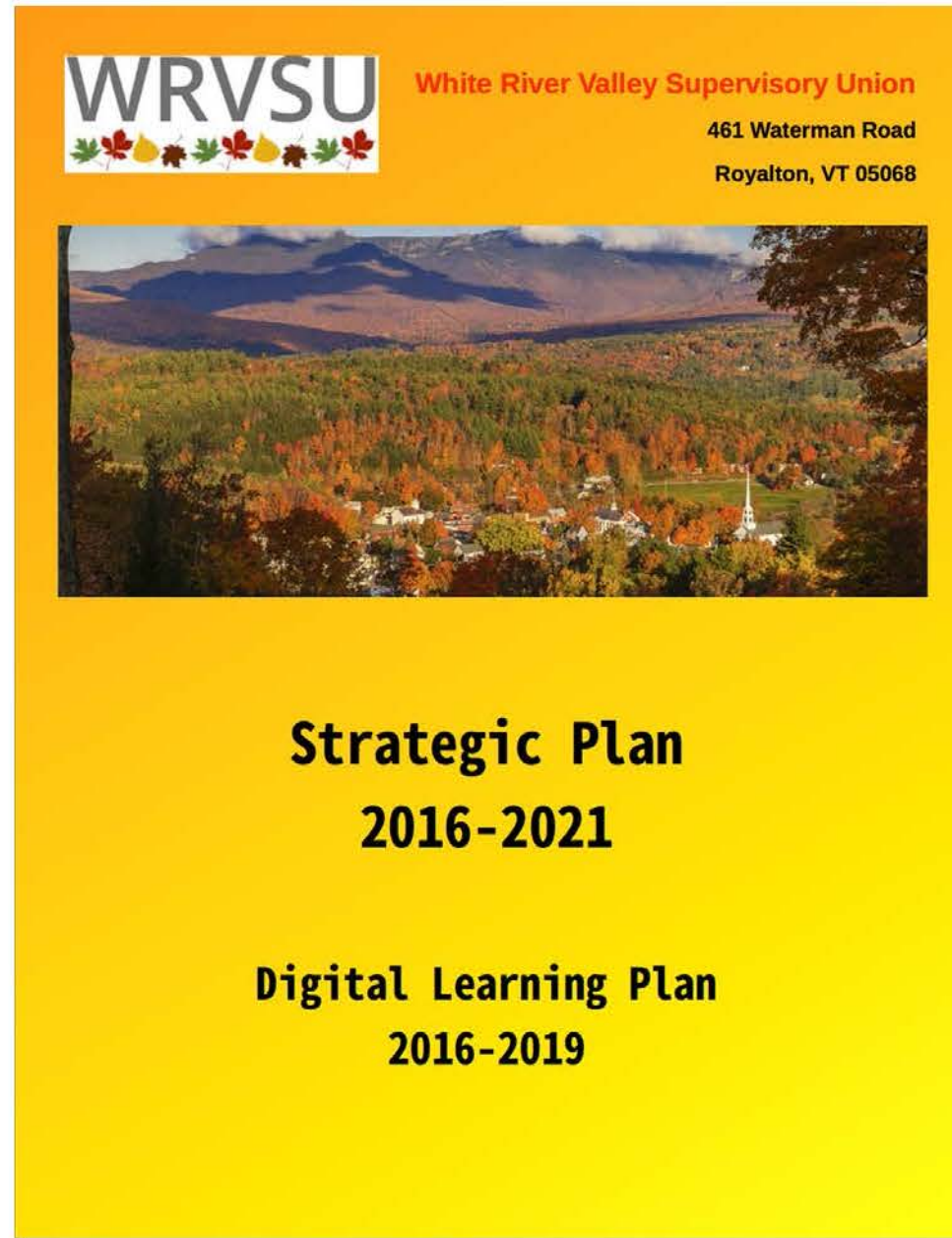
# White River Valley Region Central Part of the State



← 40 miles →

Developed  
Strategic Plan and  
Digital Learning  
Plan

Approved by the  
WRVSU Board of  
Education July 25,  
2016



# What Did HS & MS Students Want?

- Be with more peers
- Have better opportunities with multiple sections of classes being offered
- Have better quality offerings
- Have a wider variety of classes with strong teacher-student relationships
- Have richer discussions with a wider cross section of students within classes
- Greater variety of extracurricular activities
- More pathways to pursue personalized learning

# What Did Parents and Taxpayers Want?

- Have better quality offerings within our own schools
- Have a wider variety of classes to meet the needs of all students
- Have richer discussions with a wider cross section of students within classes
- Opportunities for internships with area businesses
- Greater variety of extracurricular activities
- Efficiencies to provide cost savings
- Students better prepared for college and career

# Original Proposal

**Approved February 21, 2017**

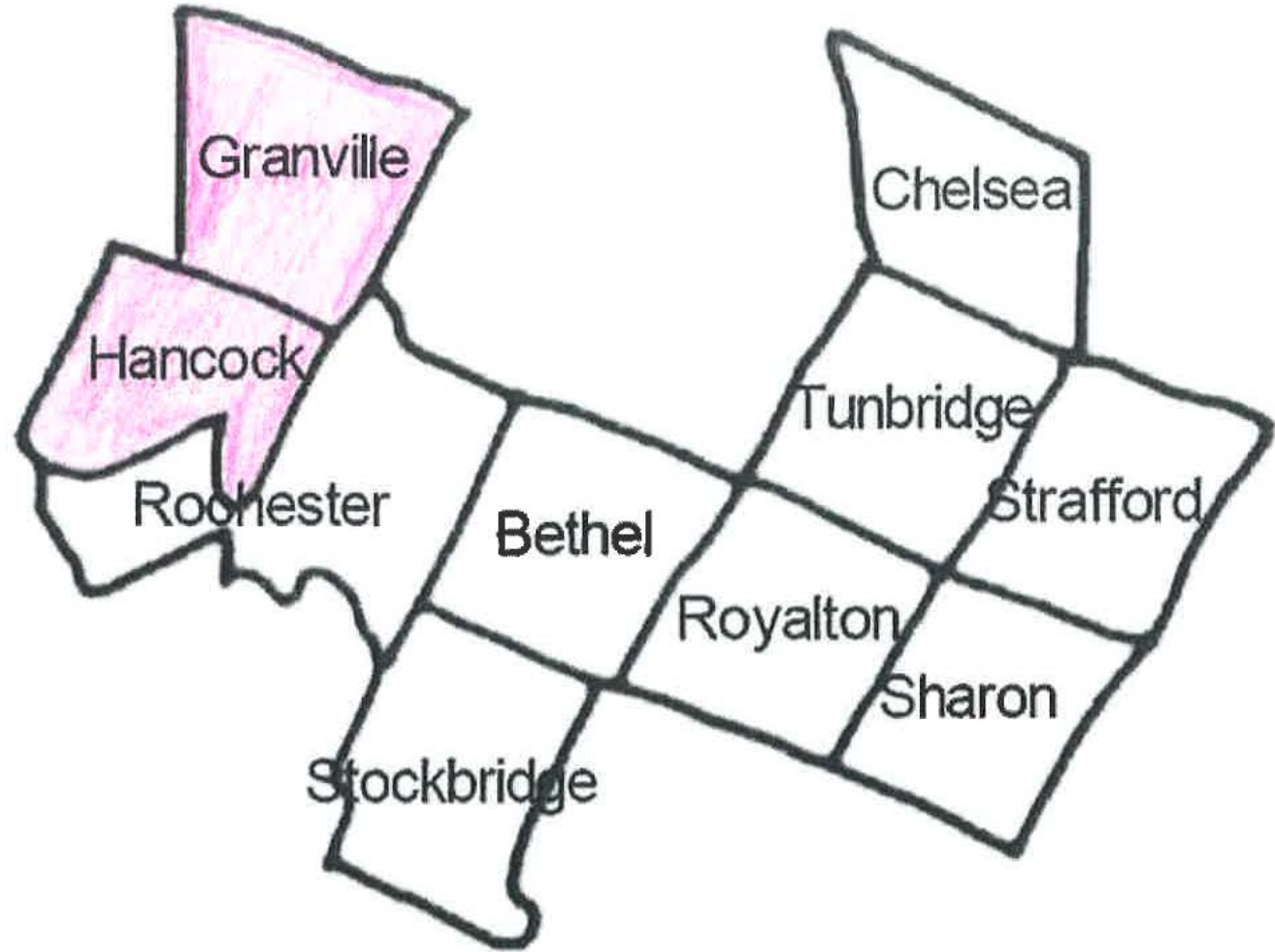
**Voted on: April 11, 2017**

Proposals:

# Act 46 Plans

## Granville-Hancock Unified School District

- 2 Non-Operating Districts will join as one (Granville & Hancock)
- 101 Students
- PK-12 Choice

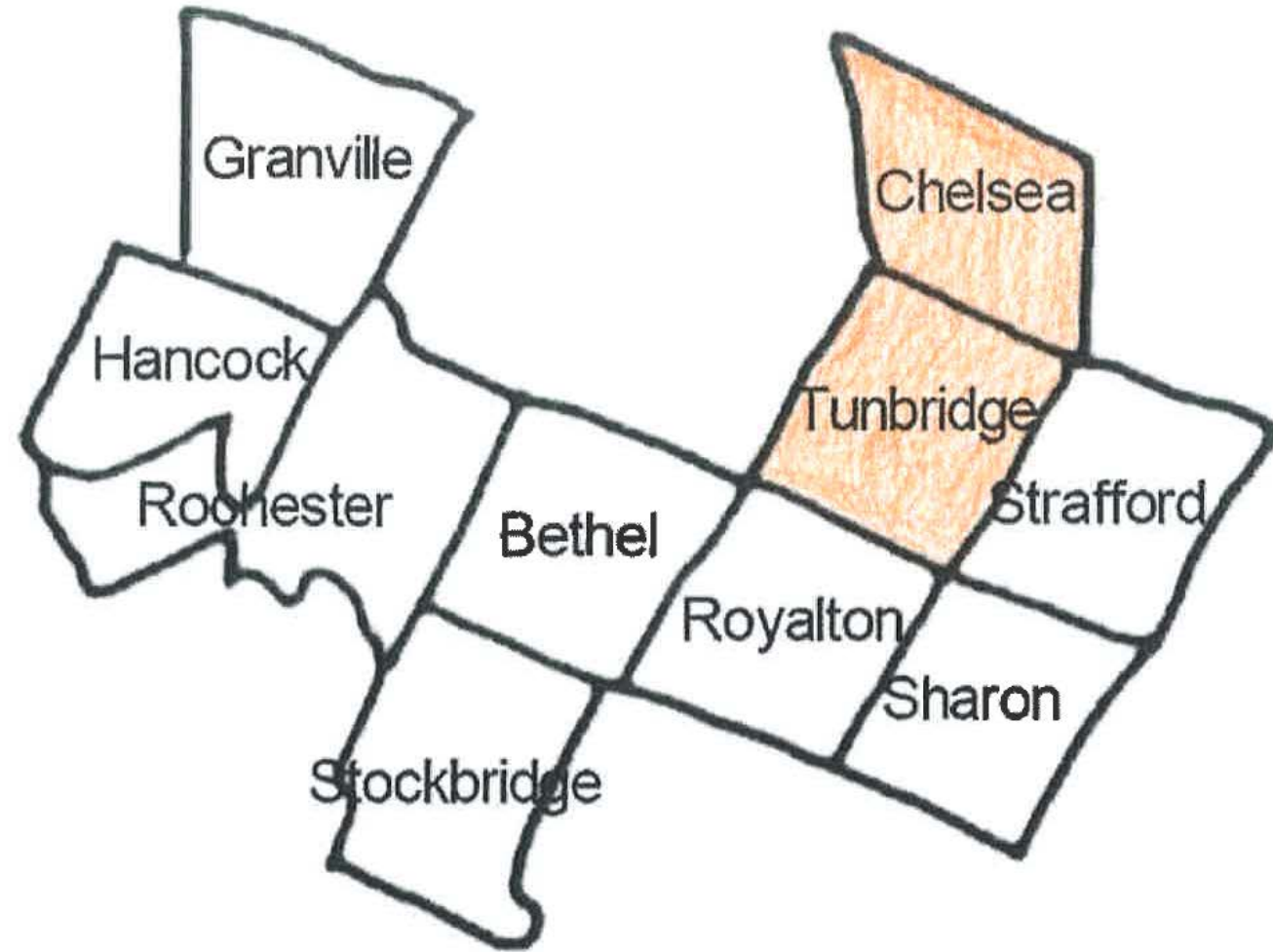


Proposals:

# Act 46 Plans

## First Branch Unified School District

- 2 PK-8 Districts will join as one (Chelsea & Tunbridge)
- 315 Students
- Grades 9-12 will have Choice



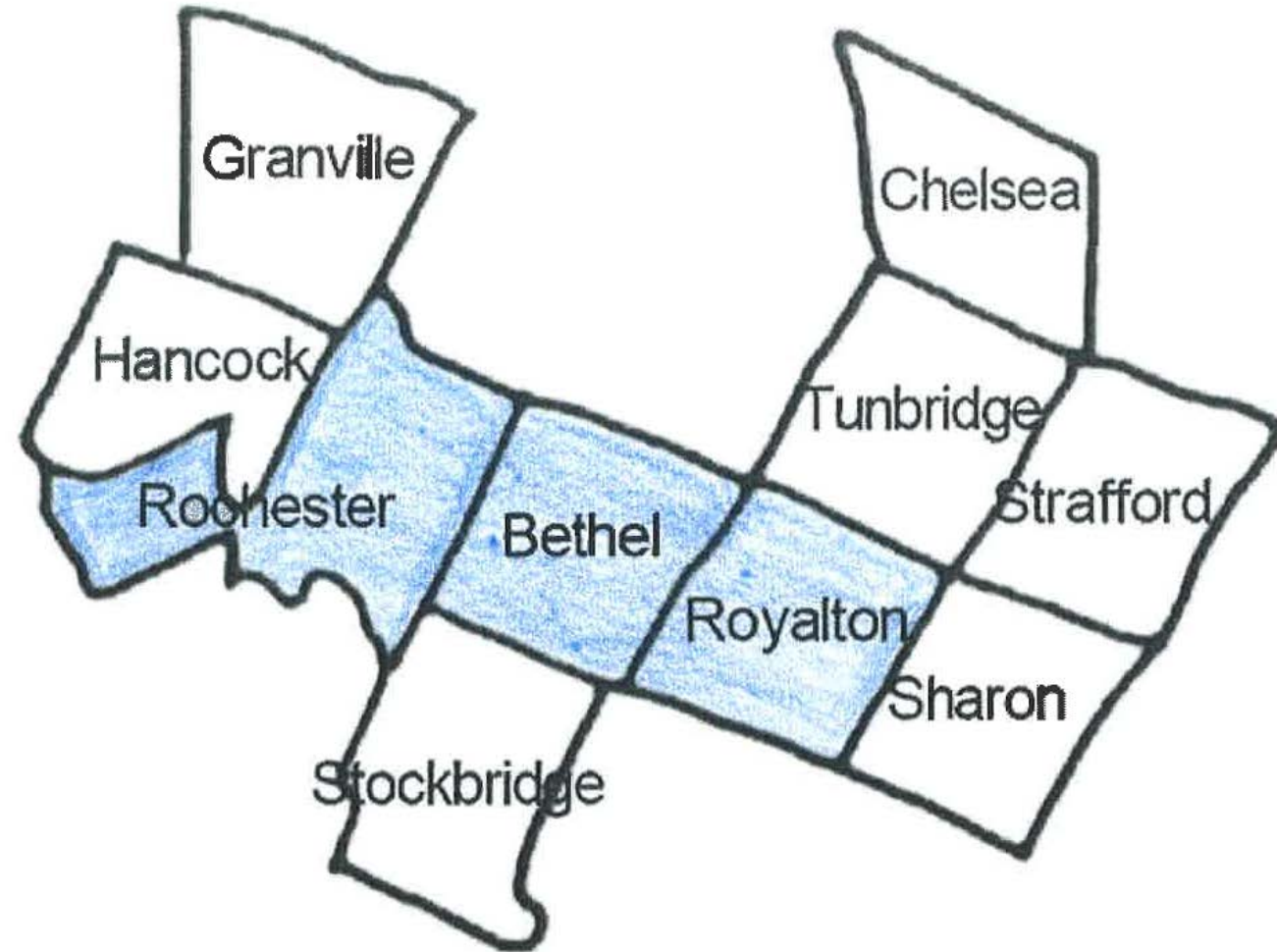


Proposals:

# Act 46 Plans

## White River Unified School District

- 3 PK-5 Elementary Schools (Bethel, Rochester, South Royalton)
- Unified Middle School 6-8 (Bethel)
- Unified High School 9-12 (South Royalton)
- Experiential Program available at Rochester
- Total Enrollment = 841

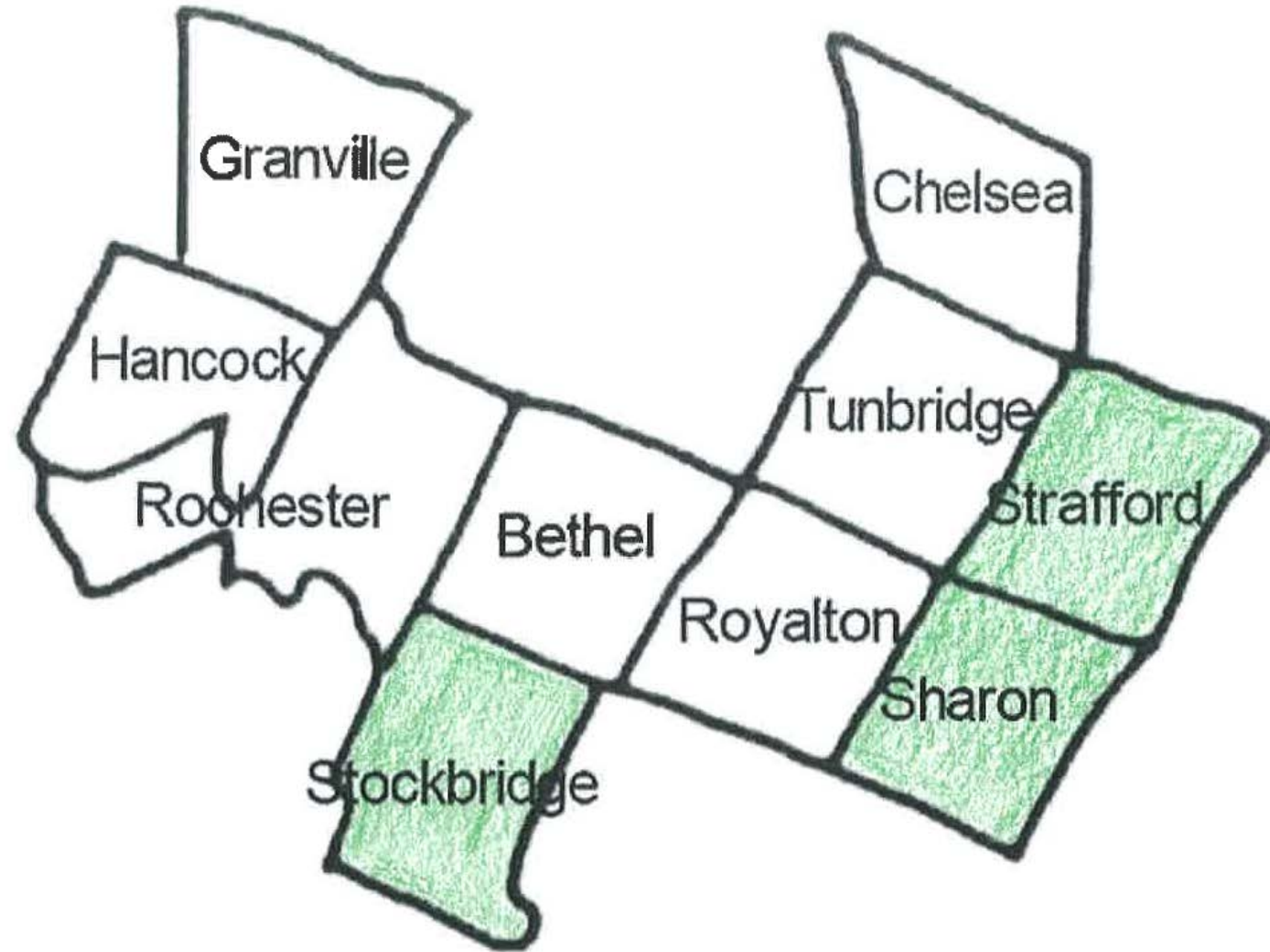


Proposals:

# Act 46 Plans

## Continuing as stand alone Districts

- PK-6
- Sharon (enrollment=163)
- Stockbridge (enrollment=47)
  
- PK-8
- Strafford (enrollment=128)
- Designation to Thetford Academy



**Proposal to Create Three  
Side-by-Side  
Unified Union School  
Districts within the White  
River Valley Supervisory  
Union**

# What Happened on April 11, 2017?

	Yes	No
First Branch Unified District:		
Chelsea	173	78
Tunbridge	151	109
Granville-Hancock Unified District:		
Granville	23	3
Hancock	35	4
White River Unified School District:		
Bethel	320	67
Rochester	213	178
Royalton	203	462

# Current Situation and Contingencies

- Currently, two smaller mergers are in limbo.
- If no reconsiderations of April 11 vote, **seeking approval to vote on a new Bethel/Rochester PK-12 Operating proposal on June 20, 2017.**
- If reconsiderations of April 11 vote will happen, complete those and certify results within the timeline.
- If the result is no creation of the White River Unified District, **seeking approval for a vote as soon thereafter as possible, no later than September 30, 2017.**
- Current PK-12 Study Committee continues to exist until all processes related to the new proposal are complete and certified.

**WRVSU Pre-K 12**

**Proposal to Create the  
Bethel-Rochester District**



**Both communities will maintain Pre-K -6 Elementary Schools**

# Unified Middle School Grades 7-8

- Unified Middle School Program under one administration with one faculty.
- Education organized and scheduled to be delivered in both towns to optimally use the facilities of both communities.
- A true middle school model that will allow us to draw and build on best practices already in place in our schools
- Greater numbers = more curricular and extracurricular opportunities



# Center for Environmental and Experiential Learning in Rochester

- All students district wide will have an opportunity to reap the benefits of this program
- Students will be able to deeply study the environment and benefit from hands on opportunities
- Programming may range from Environmental Resource Management, to Travel and Tourism, Conservation and more.

# Grades 9-12 Together at Whitcomb High School

- Greater number of students = Increased educational opportunities
  - ✓ Strong advisory and personal learning opportunities - every student will be well known by at least 1 teacher
  - ✓ Class sizes still manageable - fewer than 20 students per class (60 per graduating class)
  - ✓ Increased teaming and collaborative planning for teachers
  - ✓ More options available for students.
- Planning for long-term quality, equity, and opportunity for high school students.

# Financial Benefits

- Efficiencies (Estimated savings--\$180,000)
- Stabilization of Homestead Tax Rates
- Maintenance of Rochester Small Schools Grant \$164,885.
- Direct Financial Benefits—Tax Incentives

# Estimated Tax Benefits in First Year of Operation

## Substantial Tax Benefits (2018-19)—\$200,000 House

- Bethel \$ 280
- Rochester \$ 814

# Board Composition

- 3 members from each town
- Voted at-large