STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
23 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0023

JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI
GOVERNOR

SUSAN A. GENDRON
COMMISSIONER

May 6, 2008

Gehrig Johnson, Superintendent
Bridgewater School Department
PO Box 1118
Presque Isle, ME 04769

Dear Superintendent Johnson:

Thank you for your letter dated March 27, 2008 in which you provided an update on the status of Bridgewater School Department's efforts toward school administrative reorganization.

As you know, the 123rd Legislature ended its session on April 18, 2008. Although the legislation enacted regarding school administrative reorganization does not go into effect until July 18, 2008, Sec. 31. of PL 2007, chapter 240, Part XXXX, Section 36, subsection 6, A-1, permits me to authorize a unit to serve 1,200 or fewer students but not less than 1,000 in an isolated rural community. Therefore, I am approving the Notice of Intent filed by Bridgewater, Easton, MSAD 42 and MSAD 45 so that you may immediately begin your work toward filing a reorganization plan.

I encourage you to request a facilitator, paid for by the Department, to assist in your work as you proceed. Please submit your Reorganization Plan Submittal Sheet, Reorganization Plan Cover Sheet (checklist), and Reorganization Plan by Friday, June 13, 2008.

In the meantime, if you have questions or concerns, I encourage you to contact Ray Poulin or Norm Higgins of our Reorganization Team. They may be reached by phone at 624-6802.

Sincerely,

Susan A. Gendron
Commissioner of Education