



## **GRANDPARENT SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS AT AES**

–Article by Robin Gregg, School Counselor, AES and Pierce School [rgregg@conval.edu](mailto:rgregg@conval.edu)

Some years ago, the Grapevine Family and Community Resource Center organized a meeting for a small group of Bennington and Antrim grandparents who were the primary caretakers for their grandchildren. More recently, in March of 2015, a more formal Grandparent Support Group was created to address the needs of grandparents in our area (Antrim, Bennington, and surrounding towns and communities) who are parenting their grandchildren. These individuals and couples have made the enormous commitment of raising their young grandchildren. The Grandparent Support Group continues to meet regularly, and serves as a welcome source of information-sharing and mutual support.

The Grandparent Support Group generally meets once a month at Antrim Elementary School on a Saturday morning, with child care available. There is no fee for the meetings.

The group is a joint effort of the Grapevine in Antrim and The River Center in Peterborough, family and community resource centers that run a variety of programs to address the needs of people in our communities. Wendy Hill from The River Center and Carol Lunan from the Grapevine facilitate the group meetings.

During the first part of the 2017-2018 school year, the group will meet at Antrim Elementary School to discuss a variety of topics. Relevant resource people will attend the meetings to provide information and support:

Saturday, September 23

9 a.m. - 12 noon at Antrim Elementary School

Legal issues related to parenting grandchildren. A lawyer with expertise in this area will attend the meeting.

Saturday, October 14 and Saturday, October 28

9 a.m. – 12 noon at Antrim Elementary School

Trauma

A therapist (or therapists) with expertise in this topic will attend these two meetings.

All area grandparents who are parenting their grandchildren are welcome to attend!

For more information, contact Carol Lunan at the Grapevine (588-2620) or Wendy Hill (313-8660).