RIVENDELL ACADEMY SCHOOL PROFILE
2016–2017

MISSION – The mission of the Rivendell Interstate School District is to foster the intellectual, social, and personal development of our students. Our goal is that they will become lifelong learners, positive contributors to their communities, and productive, healthy adults.

THE SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY

Rivendell Academy was established in 2000 as part of a public, interstate school district serving the communities of West Fairlee, Fairlee, and Vershire, Vermont and Orford, New Hampshire. The students come from a wide range of socioeconomic and educational backgrounds. The Upper Connecticut River Valley is a rural community with access to nearby Dartmouth College and Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, a state-of-the-art teaching and research medical facility.

The Academy houses grades 7–12 and includes a wide range of courses. Rivendell is committed to an educational program that develops essential skills in literacy, numeracy, inquiry, and problem solving. One of our most important goals is to cultivate an inclination in our students to question and think critically. Our curricula is designed to prepare students to identify, analyze and solve complex situations that they may encounter in their adult lives.

Rivendell completed the NEASC accreditation process in 2009.

Enrollment: 209 Academy (7–12)
Faculty: 24 teaching, 7 para-professionals
Teacher/Student Ratio: 1:11
CEEB: 300480

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

Our courses are taught on a trimester system with students earning up to 7.75 credits per year. The credits required to graduate are 27 and the course distribution requirements are as follows:

- 5.0 credits in Language Arts
- 4.5 credits in Science
- 4.0 credits in Social Studies
- 4.0 credits in Math
- Level II in World Languages
- 1.0 credit in Health Concepts

Graduation requirements include sixty (60) hours of community service.

*Upper House Project: The project is designed to allow students to explore a topic and independently research, design and present that topic to an authentic audience. The project is meant to reflect Rivendell Academy’s Learning Expectations which include interdisciplinary thinking, creative problem solving and clear communication using a variety of media.

**Career Internship: Students learn and develop pre-employment skills and participate in a 40 hour unpaid internship for high school credit at a job site of their interest.

Honors Challenge and AP Options: Students may go beyond course requirements through the Honors Challenge Program. The honors challenge will be reflected on transcripts by an “H” next to the grade and/or by “Hon” in the course name. While Rivendell Academy offers many challenging, advanced level courses, none are designed solely to prepare students for the Advanced Placement (AP) Examinations. Classes at Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire, Dual Enrollment and Early College through the State College System in Vermont, Running Start courses through River Valley Community College, and E*Start courses through Community College system of New Hampshire and Southern New Hampshire University are available to those Rivendell Academy students who seek advanced courses and meet the appropriate criteria.

CURRICULUM FEATURES

Schedule: Our sixty-two (62) minute block schedule allows students to take five classes each trimester. Classes meet every day and are either one, two or three trimesters long with each trimester worth .5 credit.

Advisory, Flex, Assembly, and Summer Reading: Students are assigned to an academic advisor in two year cycles. Advisory meets for thirty (30) minutes twice a week and fifteen minutes at the start of each day. The Advisory program provides students and staff with an opportunity to work together to develop community, character and scholarship. The goal is to develop individuals who take responsibility for their own learning.

Two times a week students have Flex time during which they can receive academic support. Twice a month students participate in an all-school assembly. The summer reading books and theme are selected by Student Government. The first student work of the school year is a written assignment based on the summer reading book/theme.

River Bend Career and Technical Center, Bradford, VT: Open to juniors and seniors who meet eligibility criteria. The following fields of study are offered: Construction Academy and Residential Energy, Heavy Equipment, Automotive Technology, Emergency Services,
Health Sciences, Small Engine and Power Equipment, Diversified Agriculture & Natural Resources, Culinary Arts, Cosmetology, and Gaming, Animation and Web Design.

Hartford Area Career and Technical Center, Hartford, VT: Programs are open to juniors and seniors who meet eligibility criteria that are not offered at River Bend Career and Technical Center. The following fields of study are available to Rivendell Academy students: Collision Repair & Refinishing, Industrial Mechanics & Welding, Engineering Architectural Design, Design Illustration & Media Arts, Business Administration, and Computer Technology Applications.

COURSES
Classes are each worth .5 credit (60 credit hours).

Core Courses — (9th and 10th grade):
Humanities 9 & 10, Mathematics and Science (Algebra and Geometry & Conceptual Physics and Biology). Other required courses include: Art Skills, Performing Arts, French or Spanish I & II, Physical Education, and Health Concepts.

Core Courses and Electives — (11th and 12th grade):
Language Arts: Writer's Café, Classic Literature, British Literature, Feminist Literature, Dramatic Literature, Media & Self, Lyrical Poetry, Shakespeare, Film Studies, Sports Literature, Junior Writing Seminar (required), Short Stories.

World Languages: Spanish III, IV, V and French III, IV, V.

Social Sciences: Intro to Psychology, Holocaust and Human Behavior, National Issues, India, Germany, Latin American Studies, African Studies, Canadian Studies, Middle East Cultures, Introduction to Philosophy, Economics.

Mathematics: Algebra II (required), Pre-calculus, RVCC Calculus*, Personal Finance, Statistics I & II.


Physical Education: Lifetime Activities, Group Fitness.

Visual Arts: Painting, Drawing, Ceramics, Studio Art, Posters & Social Change.

Performing Arts: Communications, Rock Band, Chorus, Theater Techniques, Theater – Fall Play, Theater – Spring Musical, Styles Band, Performance Skills.

*RVCC = River Valley Community College curriculum.

GRADING SYSTEM

A:  90–100  (A+ = 4.33, A = 4.0, A- = 3.67)
B:  80–89  (B+ = 3.33, B = 3.0, B- = 2.67)
C:  70–79  (C+ = 2.33, C = 2.0, C- = 1.67)
F:  <69  (< 1.5)

GPA is based on a scale from 0–100 and is unweighted.

Class rank is unweighted.

SPORTS AND ACTIVITIES
The Rivendell Raptors Varsity Teams consist of Baseball, Basketball, Cross Country, Golf, Soccer, Softball, Skiing and Snowboarding. Students also have the opportunity to participate in: Football at Oxbow High School in Bradford, VT; Women's Ice Hockey at Hartford High School in Hartford, VT; Lacrosse at Chelsea High School in Chelsea, VT; and Track & Field at either Thetford Academy in Thetford, VT or Oxbow High School in Bradford, VT. Other athletics include a Fencing Club and a Special Olympics team.

Co-curricular opportunities include Asterisk Literary Magazine, Athletic Leadership Council (ALC), Band, Chorus, Full Theater, Leos Club (youth club of the Lions Club), National Honor Society, National Technical Honor Society, Queer Straight Alliance (QSA), Raptor Connection (school newspaper), Rivendell Trails Association, Robotics Club, Spring Musical, Student Government, Debate Club, Tech Club, Yearbook.

SAT SCORES

| Class of 2013 | CR504 | M512 | W505 |
| Class of 2014 | CR484 | M510 | W474 |
| Class of 2015 | CR488 | M514 | W482 |
| Class of 2016 | CR531 | M519 | W532 |

ACT SCORES

| Class of 2015 | Composite | 23 |
| Class of 2016 | Composite | 29 |

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES FOR THE CLASS OF 2016:

Arcadia University, Assumption College, Becker College, Belmont University, Beloit College, Brandeis University, Brigham Young University – Provo, Brigham Young University – Idaho, Campbell University, Castleton University, Cazenovia College, Champlain College, Clarkson University, Coastal Carolina University (PGA mgmt.), Colby-Sawyer College, College of St. Joseph (VT), Community College of Vermont, Denison University, Drew University, Drexel University, Duquesne University, Eckerd College, Fairfield University, Franklin Pierce University, Green Mountain College, Hampshire College, Johnson State College, Kenyon College, Lasell College, Lyndon State College, Marist College, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, Middlebury College, Montana State College, Mount Ida College, New England College, New Hampshire Institute of Technology, Oberlin College, Old Dominion University, Paul Smith's College, Plymouth State University, Pomona College, Reed College, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, River Valley Community College, Quinnipiac University, Saint Michael's College, Saint Joseph's College (Maine), Salve Regina University, Sierra Nevada College, Skidmore College, Southern Maine Community, Southern New Hampshire University, St. Lawrence University, Stonehill College, Thomas College, University of Maine @ Augusta, University of Maine @ Fort Kent, University of Maine @ Orono, University of Maine @ Presque Isle, University of New England, University of New Hampshire, University of New Haven, University of Oregon, University of the Redlands, University of Southern Maine, University of Tennessee (Knoxville), University of Vermont, University of Washington, Ursinus College, Utah State University, West Virginia University, Western New England College, White Mountains Community College,

GRADUATE PLANS FOR THE CLASS OF 2016

| Four year college: | 73% |
| Two and one year: | 9% |
| Employment: | 15% |
| Military: | 3% |