May 14, 2018

Ms. Kelley Monahan
37 Grimes Hill Road
Orford, NH 03777

Sent via email: Kelley.Monahan@gmail.com

Dear Kelley,

This letter is in response to your various Right To Know requests dated April 19 through May 1, 2018, all of which pertained to the Orford Academy Task Force. All documents noted below are available for your inspection at the District Office. There are 461 pages, so the document is too large to be emailed.

1. April 19, 2018: All documents, no matter what form, including but not limited to, printed documents, electronic documents, e-mails, or any other form of documents regarding Orford Academy Building Task Force membership including contact information on membership, structure of committee, votes taken, minutes, decisions, contract discussions, reports, and expenditures over the 19-year period of operation 2000 - 2018. If you deny any portion of this request, please cite the specific exemption used to justify the denial to make each record, or part thereof, available for inspection.

I have provided all documents that the Rivendell Interstate School District possesses regarding the Orford Academy Task Force relating to the topics listed above. This includes School Board minutes and Memoranda of Understanding, Annual School District Meeting minutes, Orford Academy Task Force minutes and documents.

It is important to note that, although some Orford Academy Task Force documents indicate that this is a School Board appointed subcommittee, the School Board did not ever vote to approve it as a School Board subcommittee. A School Board vote is a requirement to authorize a body to act on its behalf. As such, the Task Force is a group of public volunteers acting in an advisory capacity, not a subcommittee under the governance or authority of the School District.

There are some documents that are unclear as to their origin or date, but I have included them because they have information relevant to your request. I have included a record of the School District providing funds for the renovation of Orford Academy, but we have no record of School District funds used directly by the Task Force.

2. May 1, 2018 (12:12 PM): Please include the name and contact information for every Superintendent since the formation of Rivendell and the names and contact information for every school board member going back to 2000.

A list of all School Board members is provided in the packet of information, and the list of Superintendents is provided below. With the exception of my current RISD contact information I am not providing personal contact information, as these individuals’ personal data are not subject to 91-A (91-A:5,IV).
Superintendents:
Noelle Vitt, Brenda Needham, Gail Keiling, Michael Harris, and Elaine Arbour (earbour@rivendellschool.org or 603-353-2170 ext. 2136).

3. May 1, 2018 (1:46 PM): Please add the structure of the "Orford Academy Building Task Force" from 2000-2018. Who was the Chairman?
I don’t have specific information about how the Task Force structured itself beyond what is in the enclosed documents they shared with the School District. As far as I can tell, Ann Green and Anne Duncan Cooley were the Chairs over time.

4. May 1, 2018 (2:19 PM): Please include the date that the Orford Academy Building Task Force was dissolved.
I do not have any information on a date of dissolution for the Orford Academy Task Force as a volunteer group. There was never a School Board vote to dissolve the Task Force, as it was never voted on as a School Board subcommittee.

Brenda Gray will have the documents for your inspection. You may review the documents during business hours (8:30 – 4:00) Monday through Friday. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Elaine M. Arbour, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools