# Head of Schools/RA Principal’s Report for October 2, 2018 Board Meeting

Keri Gelenian

## To attract to Rivendell students, parents and faculty who value a strong academic focus

1. Kathy Hooke and Emily Cousens have been working on Hulbert trip (2 nights, 3 days) for the 8th grade with one day for the 7th grade.
2. Waits River hosts their Choice Night on October 24th.
3. We had our Advisory Open House on September 13th. It was fairly well attended.
4. Emily Cousens has put together a lunch group for middle school kids who are new to the district.

## To cultivate the most supportive school culture possible

1. The attached document gives an update on final grades Tri 3 last year.
2. The new grade level team structure now allows 3-4 teachers approximately 85 minutes a week to write up and share notes on students, contact parents about concerns and successes, and complete an EST document for students that might need more targeted support.
3. The new EST process developed by Julie is a huge improvement for the district.
4. 4th block is providing three levels of support to students as well as targeted literacy support. It’s too early to evaluate the change.
5. The donated ping-pong table won the small change project voting.
6. Students have started to develop their portfolios. Juniors and seniors are building LinkedIn pages.
7. The Committee on Learning has mapped out professional development through December.
8. The Makers Space is getting good use from the conceptual physics class and the engineering class being co-taught by Kerry Bowne and Laszlo Bardos.
9. Rachel Sanders is taking students to work with forester, Marcus Bradley, to measure the chestnut trees in the Fairlee Forest.
10. The no cell phone policy in 7th and 8th has worked without hardly any resistance from students.
11. WeRHope meets with several students 4 days a week.
12. The assembly by musician/motivational speaker Jared Campbell was well received by student and staff. The assembly was followed by advisory discussions about his message.

13. We have been very busy responding to a wide variety of student needs, but the extra support in special education, 7/8 counseling, Title I reading, and WeR Hope has helped.

14. Emily Cousens and Ann O’Hearn are collaborating on 5/6 counseling class twice a week.

15. Carrie Lang is putting together a reading testing for all students 7-10 and is working with elementary to find a new reading test that will be used next year elementary though 9th.

16. We have eight 8th graders taking 9th grade algebra.

17. There are three students taking Dartmouth class, two are taking classes at CCV, one student is full-time early college at VTC, and one student is taking classes at Southern New Hampshire.

18. The Homecoming Bonfire is October 5th. Our announcement asks middle school student to be accompanied by a parent.

19. Advisories and staff will be working on a process of developing a common set of core values and behaviors that we will adopt school-wide and link to our discipline/ student support strategy.

20. The 9th grade developed a “survival day” to engage students in making connections to Lord of the Flies, their work on the early Colonies and to a compass, measuring project in physical science.

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**To identify and effectively communicate a clear cohesive narrative of who we are as a school community**

1. We are putting a student and the Academic Leadership Council in charge of the FaceBook page.

2. Sing’s advisory did a great job developing a new Rivendell slide-show to showcase the school. We will take this on the road with us.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. We have ordered 70 new chairs for the Academy, but furniture/shades/shelving are still issues across the district.</td>
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<td>2. We are very short on subs. Teachers and I are all subbing. Elementary is facing the same problem.</td>
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<td>3. Busses for field trips are also in short supply.</td>
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