October 18, 2019

Dear RISD Parents and Community Members:

The Rivendell Interstate School District is approaching the end of its current strategic plan that was developed in 2015. With a new administrative team in place I am excited for the opportunity to build upon the current foundation to create positive school climates and enriching academic experiences for our children in the future.

As a new superintendent to the district my vision is to develop a comprehensive plan based on my knowledge and experience in conjunction with the input I receive from teachers, parents and community members. This plan will address the ever-growing social emotional needs of our students, the implementation of research based academic and instructional practices and a focus on improved climate and culture based on trust, communication, high expectations and transparency. This plan will serve as our guiding document over the next five years allowing us to make decisions in the future driven by our mission, vision and what we value as a district.

Education in Vermont and New Hampshire have undergone some major changes in the last couple years. This ranges from how they fund education in New Hampshire to statewide consolidation of supervisory unions in Vermont. We as a district consolidated 20 years before the rest of Vermont but we still face the same challenges. How do we attract students and families to our four towns to sustain enrollment and contain the cost of education for our tax base? Creating this plan will be the foundation of how we do this, and I believe it is one of our most important tasks as a district that we can focus on as a collective whole.

I would like to thank you in advance for taking the time to fill out our survey. We will send the survey to parents electronically, post a link on our web page, share on town listservs and provide paper copies at each town office. I look forward to sharing a finished product in the spring. If you have questions or would like to meet to discuss the development of this plan, please contact me either through e-mail or phone that is listed below.

Sincerely,

Barrett Williams
Superintendent
Rivendell Interstate School District
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Strategic Plan Format Example

**Goal 1:** Value Statement about the social emotional well-being of all children. This is a statement that identifies what we want for our kids.

Example: We will provide a world class education for every student.

**Objective 1:** Object Statement that identifies how to achieve the goal.

Example: We will provide relevant, engaging, collaborative, hands-on and real-world learning experiences to every student.

**Action:** Action statement that identifies who will take the action, when and where the action will occur and how we will measure the success of our action items.

Example: Our professional development planning team will plan activities 1x per month that focus on experiential learning opportunities for all students across our curriculum. We will measure our success based on the number of discipline referrals during this type of instruction. (Project Based, Farm to School, Outdoor Education)

**Survey Questions**

1. How do we become a district that families want to be a part of as a result of what we are doing?

2. What are the things that you think are essential in a school that contribute to the health and happiness of our community, parents, teachers and students?

3. Our graduates should leave our schools knowing and prepared to do what?

4. What do you value about the Rivendell Interstate School District and what are some things you would like us to consider approaching differently?
5. Beliefs are the deeply held values or principles that underly and guide the work of our schools. Is there any important belief that should be added to the next Strategic Plan in your opinion? If so, please share your thoughts here.

6. In the next five years, what do you see as a top priority for the Rivendell School District?