RIVENDELL INTERSTATE SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING
Rivendell Academy, Orford, NH
March 1, 2011

Members Present: Carol Sobetzer (at-large); Cicely Richardson (Orford); Sandra Smith-Ordway, Bruce Lyndes, Mark Avery (Fairlee); Jennifer Shatney, Dawn Stever (W. Fairlee); Jennifer Ricker (Vershire)

Administrators and Staff Present: Brenda Needham (Superintendent), Gail Keiling (Head of Elementary Schools/SME Principal), Joan Holcombe (WES Principal), Richard Paulson (Chief Financial Officer), Michael Galli (Dean of Students)

Others Present: John Milnes (Student Representative)

I. Call Meeting: Meeting was opened at 6:30 p.m.

II. Agenda Revision/Time Allocation:
Action: Motion was made to move VII. A. Audit for FY 2010 (Paulson) to follow IV. Presentation/Guests. Approved.

III. General Public Comments: None at this time.

IV. Presentation/Guests: None at this time.

VII. A. Audit for FY 2010 (Paulson)
D. Paulson reported that he has copies of the audit for review. He stated that at the end of the audit there is a management letter that lists findings from the audit, three of these items will be retracted as Paulson was able to produce the necessary documents to the auditors. Paulson added that it was a clean audit and that the deficit was smaller than anticipated, $20,689.

V. Consent Agenda (Accept)
A. Minutes (February 8, 2011)
B. Superintendent’s Report (written): B. Needham stated that she had received a resignation from Jennifer Bottum and the new student enrollment shows five additional students since December. She also wanted to thank Penny Perryman and Sandra Smith-Ordway for their hard work on the annual report. B. Needham also reported that the kitchen health inspections were recently done with the RA and Westshire kitchens receiving 99 out of 100 and the Sam Morey kitchen receiving 90.
C. Head of Schools Report (written): K. Gelenian was unable to attend the meeting. There was a brief discussion on PSAT scores and ways to improve student scores.
   1) RA Students Representative: J. Milnes reported that winter carnival went well and continued planning and fund raising for the prom is underway.
D. Principal Reports (written): G. Keiling spoke about the 250th celebration and the amount of work going into the project. J. Holcombe distributed her report and spoke briefly about the NECAPS for Westshire.
Action: Motion was made to approve the consent agenda, with the minutes of February 8, 2011 as amended. Approved.

VI. Ongoing Business (Deliberation & Possible Action): None at this time.

VII. New Business (Receive Information & Possible Action)
B. Preparation for Annual District Meeting – March 26: The Board discussed anticipated questions and presentations for the Annual District Meeting.
   - Restructuring and what has been achieved with the restructuring.
- Finance Committee to give a presentation of materials.
- Compare deficits and budget increases of other area schools.
- Be sure to know the number of para-professionals, administrators and teachers for each school.

C. **Warrant for Annual District Meeting (Signing): Action:** Motion was made to accept the warrant as read. **Approved.**

D. **Strategic Plan – Next Step:** B. Needham distributed copies of the Strategic Plan and asked the Board to discuss what would be most helpful. The Board suggested updates on reaching and/or meeting goals and what needs to be done by the Board and administrators. This should also be placed on future agenda items.

E. **Sixth Grade Options (Keiling and Holcombe):** J. Holcombe spoke about school program options for the 2011-2012 school year. She distributed a handout that listed options, details, cost factors, pros and cons. The best case, she felt, was to have a sixth grade at Westshire, if the budget allowed.

F. **Correspondence:** B. Lyndes reported that Fairlee members of the RISD Board attended a Fairlee Selectboard meeting to discuss the possibility of opting out of Act 144. A special town meeting will be held on March 30, 2011 to vote on this.

VIII. **Future Agenda items (Discussion):** The Board discussed future agenda items and made the following decision for each.
- **TIPS Program:** should be taken off the list as it is no longer offered.
- **Elementary Principals:** They give a written report at each meeting, does not to be on the list.
- **SummerScapes:** To be on the agenda in the spring to report of past year and current year plans.
- **Voc Tech Student Numbers:** No longer needs to be on the list.
- **Food Service:** Follow-up with this issue in the spring with new regulations and cost of food.
- **NEASC:** Should be part of Head of Schools/RA Principal Report.
- **NECAP results:** Has been reported on and can be taken off the list.
- **Long Range Plans:** The Long Range Planning Committee should work on this and report with the Finance Committee.
- **Global Language:** To be discussed in May and explore options with Dartmouth Students.
- **Technology:** Meet with Hank and Gabi to report on the K-12 technology program and also ask about the possibility of offering a technology education class.
- **Math Curriculum in Elementary School:** Principals should report on this and the NECAP data should support their reports.
- **Teacher In-Service:** Is it achieving anything, how is it beneficial, should it continue. B. Needham suggested that this is a conversation the Board should have and decide on.

**Action:** Motion was made to go into executive session at 8:12 p.m. **Approved.**

IX. **Anticipated Executive Session (Discussion & Possible Action)**

A. **Contract Negotiations (Support Staff & Teachers)**

Board came out of Executive Session at 9:32 p.m.

**Action:** Motion made to ratify the Master Agreement between Rivendell Education Association and the Rivendell Board of School Directors per attached. **Approved.**

**Action:** Motion made to accept regrettably the resignations of Jennifer Bottum (RA Language Arts Teacher)and Aaron Barber (Elementary Physical Education Teacher). **Approved.**

X. **Adjournment (Action)** - **Action:** Motion made to adjourn at 9:35 p.m. **Approved.**

Respectfully submitted,

Sheri Clifford
District Clerk
Attachment to 03/01/11 Board Minutes

Agreement between Rivendell Education Association and Rivendell School Board for the 2011-2012 year.

The only items to change are in the salary portion of the agreement. All other parts of the contract remain the same.

The salary agreements are as follows:

Those teachers on the salary schedule will get a step increase.

Those teachers that are capped will get a 1.2% increase.

Those teachers that are off the salary schedule will get a 1.2% increase.

Those teachers that are making a horizontal move on the salary schedule will get the horizontal move and a step.

If a teacher is not covered by one of these options the Board and Association will meet to resolve the issue.

[Signatures and dates]