RIVENDELL INTERSTATE SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
District Office – Orford, NH
March 26, 2019 – 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Jon Lester, Bruce Lyndes, David Gagner (Fairlee); Marc DeBois, Vanessa DeSimone, David Ricker (Orford); Kevin Dexter (West Fairlee); Maria Koehler (Vershire); Kathy Blanchard (at-large)

Members Absent: Cory Austin, (West Fairlee); Kathy Hooke (Vershire)

Administration and Staff Present: Jan Cole (Special Education Director), Tammy MacQueen (Elementary Assistant Principal), Eric Reichert (Teacher), Rachael Weber (Teacher), Tracy Martel (Teacher), Cally McCrave (Teacher), Amy Kosakowski (Paraprofessional – Special Education Assistant), Gabi Martino (Website Maintenance/Technology Integration Specialist)Annette from Vershire, Sheila Bedi, Brittany O’Donnell (Paraprofessional – Classroom Assistant Early Childhood Program), Jean Daley (Paraprofessional – Special Education Individual Student Assistant – IN)

Public Present: Cappy Nunlist (District Attorney), Mark Burger, Chris Bills, Meg McCormack, Jeff MacQueen, Cathy Eastburn, Bonnie McCouch (Orford); Michelle Davenport, Lisa Hinsley, Georgette Wolf Ludwig, Mary Davenport (Fairlee); Dustin Hill, Rebecca Wurdak, Scott O’Hearn, Jen Shatney (West Fairlee); Sheila Bedi (Vershire), Cicely Richardson (Journal Opinion)

I. Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 7:01 p.m.

II. Acceptance of Resignation: Action: A motion was made by Kathy Blanchard to accept the resignation dated March 7th of Tammy MacQueen, as Assistant Principal (Blanchard/Ricker) Approved by show of hands: 8; Abstained: 1.

III. Swearing in of New Board Members: Georgette Ludwig swore in the following individuals: Mark Burger for auditor 3-year term, Jason Knowles for Fairlee board member 3-year term, Rebecca Wurdak for West Fairlee board member 3-year term, Marc DeBois for Orford board member 3-year term and Kathy Blanchard for 1-year at-large board member.

IV. Board Reorganization: Action: A motion was made by Kathy Blanchard to nominate Marc DeBois as Chair and Kathy Hooke as Vice-Chair (Dexter/Ricker) Approved.

V. Transact any other business that needs to be considered: DeBois invited general public comments, but not to include discussion about personnel or individual employees. There was discussion about the hiring of two new principals at the elementary schools. DeBois commented that a consultant had been hired to provide the board with feedback and it was advised to return to the two principal model. There was additional discussion about appropriate dialogue under the public comment section, at this meeting and the March regular board meeting, order of the agenda and process for sharing information (positive or negative) and/or complaints about employees. DeBois admitted that the letter reading at the March meeting should not have happened, but had no bearing on the decision to accept Tammy MacQueen’s resignation. He apologized to MacQueen for allowing it to happen. DeBois explained that the existing school board were the only members who could vote on the resignation agenda item. There was general discussion regarding the state of the elementary schools and how it’s going to come back together. There was also discussion about the evaluation survey for educational administrators.

VI. Executive Session – (Discussion), 1 VSA § 313 Action: Motion made to move into Executive Session at 7:35 p.m. (Koehler/Lyndes) Approved by roll call: 8; Abstained: 1.
Action: Motion was made to come out of Executive Session at 8:45 p.m. (Koehler/Lyndes) Approved.

VII. Action: Motion was made to adjourn (Lyndes/Lester) Approved.
Meeting adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

Recorded by:
Brenda Gray
Executive Assistant/HR Manager

Note: All Board votes were unanimous unless noted otherwise.