RIVENDELL INTERSTATE SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING
Rivendell Academy, Orford, NH
May 3, 2011

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

Administration and Staff Present: Gail Keiling (Head of Elementary Schools/SME Principal), Keri Gelenian (Head of Schools/RA Principal), Brenda Needham (Superintendent), Michael Galli (Dean of Students), Tammy MacQueen (VISIONS Director), Sara Rose (SME Teacher)

Others Present: Morgan Movelle, Tori Hebb (Board Student Representatives); 6th grade students’ eCybermission Teams and parents

I. Call Meeting: Meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.

II. Agenda Revision/Time Allocation: Food Services presentation was tabled for the next Board meeting

III. General Public Comments: There were none at this time

IV. Presentation/Guests:
   A. Sara Rose introduced two of the teams that participated in the eCybermission program. The challenge was to identify a problem within the community then apply science, math and technology to come up with a solution and submit their project online. The two teams from Samuel Morey represented the winners for Vermont and NH. The NH team, Go Green, (Abigail Hinsley, Jessica Noyes and Amanda Otis) spoke about their project to recycle food from the SME cafeteria. The VT team, Ankle Breakers, (Phillip Dunn, Collin Gould, Dahlia Klarica and Wiatt Suich) spoke about their project on preventing injuries to athletes by using the proper support braces. Each member of the winning teams earned a $1,000 savings bond towards their college education. A third team from SME came in second and earned a $500 savings bond each toward their college education.
   B. Tammy MacQueen gave a presentation on SummerScapes, the 2011 summer program. She outlined the various programs that students can sign up for. A portion of the cost for this program is covered by Title I funds, but there are fees charged for some of the programs, i.e. Rocketry. DeSimone asked for an explanation about students making up work. MacQueen explained that students that have failed courses during the regular school year are required to attend this program to make up their work. Once the work is completed, students can then attend other workshops that are offered during the morning sessions. MacQueen also indicated that transportation is provided to the students.

V. Consent Agenda (Accept):
   A. Minutes (April 5, 2011)
   B. Superintendent Report (written): Needham read the resignation letters from Shannon Wilson and Clayton Simmers. Their resignations were later addressed in the Ongoing Business.
   C. Head of Schools Report (written): Gelenian spoke about the Senior Project and how the RA is working to make it more flexible around student choices. He would like it to be an opportunity for the students to do something that they want to do rather than something they have to do. He spoke of George Dyke’s senior project and how it’s an example of a student finding something that is of interest to him and how it naturally grew into his sen-
ior project. Gelenian also addressed the comments of low participation in the 3-Way Conferences. He stated that broadening the meeting time might be better for parents.

1. **RA Student Representatives:** No written report was received. Morgan Movelle and Tori Hebb reported that Haley Mace was elected as Vice President and Tori Hebb as the School Board Student Representative. They reported that they are still working on the cell phone policy. Upcoming events are the prom, play and pig roast. They left a copy of their Constitution and changes with Sobetzer.

D. **Principal Reports (written):** Keiling spoke briefly about CRREL and Montshire’s involvement with their science programs. She was asked about what the students are doing for the 250th Celebration. Keiling said the students are researching the Lovejoy family as one example. Hooke commented she wanted to make sure that the students are aware of Vershire’s Historical Society as well as the other towns.

**Action:** Motion was made to approve the Consent Agenda. **Approved.**

VI. **Ongoing Business (Deliberation and Possible Action):**

**Action:** A motion was made to accept the letters of resignation from Shannon Wilson and Clayton Simmers. The Board commented that they will be missed and that their work at Rivendell was greatly appreciated. **Approved.**

VII. **New Business (Receive Information & Possible Action):**

A. **Senior Class Overnight Trip:** There was discussion around the number of students going on the trip. DeSimone asked if students had to contribute to the cost. It was explained that the class fundraises so that students don’t have to contribute for their trip and the trip is not mandatory.

**Action:** Motion to approve the Senior Trip. **Approved.**

B. **Graduation Requirements:** Gelenian addressed the graduation requirements and updates made based on previous discussions at the Board meetings. He noted that the science total credits for Junior/Seniors should be 1.50

**Action:** Motion to approve the new Graduation Requirements. **Approved.**

C. **Correspondence:** Smith-Ordway noted that Fairlee will not participate in Act 144 for the future.

VIII. **Future Agenda Items (Discussion):**

Administrators’ Roles & Responsibilities, Long Range Plans to Address Flux in Population, Global Language for 6th Grade (June), Technology (equipment, policy, WiFi) Teacher In-Service, Kindergarten Enrollment for 2011-2012, Food Services (June)

**Action:** Motion made to go into executive session at 7:55 p.m. **Approved.**

IX. **Anticipated Executive Session (Discussion):**

A. **Student Issue**

B. **Contract Negotiations**

Board came out of executive session at 10:50 p.m.

X. **Adjournment:** **Action:** Motion made to adjourn at 10:51 p.m. **Approved.**

Respectfully submitted

Esther Dobbins-Marsh