RIVENDELL INTERSTATE SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING
Rivendell Academy, Orford, NH
May 4, 2010

Members Present: Carol Sobetzer (at-large); Vanessa DeSimone, Cicely Richardson, (Orford); Sandra Smith-Ordway, Bruce Lyndes, Mark Avery (Fairlee); Jennifer Shatney (W. Fairlee); Jennifer Ricker, Kathy Hooke, (Vershire); Student Reps: Nicholas Ludwig & Will Ricker

Administrators and Staff Present: Gail Keiling (Head of Schools/Superintendent), Tammy MacQueen (Visions Coordinator)

Others Present: Kostas Amanatidis, Leda Amanatidis, Georgette Wolf-Ludwig, Kathy George, Matthew Doszkocs, Ashley Schwarz, Andrew Schwarz, Lora Schwarz, Alex Rand

I. Call Meeting: Meeting was opened at 6:33 p.m.

II. Agenda Revision/Time Allocation: None at this time.

III. General Public Comments: Matthew Doszkocs wanted to submit a grievance to the Board. Since this was a personnel issue the Board Chair requested that Doszkocs be present for the executive session scheduled at the end of this meeting. He agreed.

IV. Parent Request
L. Amanatidis asked the Board to consider transportation for three students that were accepted to Hartford Vocational Center for the 2010-2011 school year. Keiling stated that each school has a State designated vocational center, Rivendell’s is River Bend in Bradford and transportation is part of the agreement. However, if students are accepted elsewhere the sending school is obligated to pay tuition but not transportation. Keiling is waiting to hear from Thetford Academy as they have a bus that transports to Hartford VoTech and she hopes to work out something with them. The Board asked that the parents return to the next meeting when more information is available. After discussion on what is offered at River Bend versus Hartford, the Board asked Keiling to research how to change your designated tech center.

V. Student/Teacher Presentation & Recognition
A. Student Board Reps Report (N. Ludwig & W. Ricker) - N. Ludwig reported that the seniors are in a wind-down mode, they have one more fundraiser and the majority of senior projects are complete. Board asked if any seniors have discussed their experience at Rivendell. Ludwig said there has been no discussion and suggested a survey be done once they are done with school and either in college or working. He will speak with some students to report back at the next meeting.

B. Raptor Retail (T. MacQueen) - Students Alex Rand, Ashley Schwarz and Andrew Schwarz gave a presentation to the Board explaining how the Raptor Store was formed, how products were ordered, inventory system and how much it has improved the Visions Program in general.

VI. Consent Agenda (Accept)
A. Minutes (March 31, April 6, April 12, and April 27, 2010)
B. Head of Schools (Superintendent’s Report - written)
Action: Motion made to accept the minutes of March 31, April 6, April 12, and April 27, 2010 as amended. Approved.
VII. Ongoing Business (Deliberation & Possible Action)
   A. Westshire Principal Search - G. Keiling reported that three interviews will take place on May 12th at Westshire at 6:00 p.m.
   B. Administrator Roles and Responsibilities – There was a brief discussion and review of roles and responsibilities that were unique to Rivendell for the positions of Superintendent, Head of Schools/RA Principal and Dean of Students and attach a copy of the job description. Keiling will ask Penny Randall to e-mail a completed update to the Board. She will also request that DRAFT be placed at the top of documents rather than across the middle for easier review.
   C. Board Committees – Board discussed changes in the draft Committee List.
   D. Negotiations Update – A tentative agreement has been reached and will be sent to the REA and the Board to ratify.

VIII. New Business (Receive Information & Possible Action)
   A. Board Summer Retreat Date - Sobetzer asked that the Board look at dates in August when the new Head of Schools will be present for a Retreat. A date will be decided on at the June meeting, along with an agenda for the retreat.
   B. Correspondence – Sobetzer read a letter from student Christian Knowlton regarding changing the time when school begins that included supporting research. Sobetzer responded and thanked the student.

Other: V. DeSimone said that two students approached her regarding other students using iPods during evaluations that resulted in cheating. G. Keiling will research this further.

IX. Strategic Action Plan
   A. Update of Process - Keiling included information regarding this in her written report.

X. Future Agenda items (Discussion)
   A. Articles of Agreement regarding Election Procedures (D. Hooke)
   B. Orford Academy Building Task Force
   C. Montshire Museum/Dartmouth Partnership
   Discussion moved to the June meeting.

Action: Motion made to approve Board meeting dates as the first Tuesday of each month for the 2010-2011 school year Approved.

Action: Motion made to approve the request for $1,000 to support the Odyssey of the Mind student going to the finals. Approved.

XI. Anticipated Executive Session (Discussion & Possible Action)
   A. Personnel Issue – Action: Motion made to go into executive session at 8:40 p.m. Approved. Board came out of executive session at 9:39 p.m.

XII. Adjournment (Action)
   Action: Motion made to adjourn at 9:40 p.m. Approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheri J. Clifford
District Clerk