RIVENDELL INTERSTATE SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING
Rivendell Academy, Orford, NH
May 5, 2009

Members Present: Carol Sobetzer (at large); Vanessa DeSimone, Cicely Richardson (Orford); Mark Avery, Sandra Smith-Ordway (Fairlee); Beverly Ash (W. Fairlee); Jennifer Ricker (Vershire)

Administrators and Staff Present: Gail Keiling (Head of Schools/Superintendent), Hank Plaisted (Director of Information Technology), Gabriele Martino (Technology Integration Specialist), Shawn Gonyaw (Principal, Westshire Elementary)

Others Present: Cathy Eastburn

I. Call Meeting: Meeting was opened at 6:35 p.m.

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

III. General Public Comments: None at this time.

IV. Student/Teacher Presentation & Recognition
   A. District Technology (H. Plaisted/G. Martino): Martino introduced a video clip from edutopia.org on 21st century learning and technology. Plaisted narrated a power point presentation on the direction and structure of the Technology Plan and what it means. Plaisted informed the Board that the state requires an approved Technology Plan to be submitted by June 30, 2009, the plan will be in effect until 2012. Avery and Sobetzer both expressed that parents and community members need communication regarding how technology is part of education. Students would be using tools that scientists also use to collect data to apply to work being done. Plaisted stated that it is important to communicate that there is a balance with using computer and education. Sobetzer asked if a computer class would be made available next year where the district was changing to semesters to offer more electives. Martino said that she has offered a web design club a few years ago and it was well received. She stated that part of the Technology Plan is to expand the level of learning and offerings. Plaisted will speak with Nancy Hall, Guidance Counselor, to inquire as to what electives students would like to see offered. Keiling thanked Plaisted and Martino for heading the technology group and stated that she was pleased at how well structured and productive the group was with their leadership. The Board will review the hand outs and discuss this again at their next meeting.

V. Consent Agenda (Accept)
   A. Minutes (April 7, 2009)
   B. Finance Committee Minutes (April 28, 2009)
   C. Head of Schools (Superintendent’s Report)
      Action: Motion made to accept the minutes as written and with correction to the April 7th meeting. Approved.

VI. Ongoing Business (Deliberation & Possible Action)
distributed across all four towns in calculating debt service, resulting in a total underpayment by Orford of $220,884. Orford will pay the total amount, not including interest, over a three year period back to the Vermont towns. The Finance Committee will draft a letter to Orford residents to explain this error. **Action:** Motion made to approve the three year reimbursement from Orford. **Approved.**

B. **Open School Board Seat – West Fairlee:** A letter is being sent to West Fairlee residents explaining the vacancy on the School Board and asking for anyone interested to contact the District Office.

C. **Letter from Woodsville Guaranty Savings Bank:** Keiling stated that Woodsville Guaranty Bank will charge a 2.75% interest for a loan to replace the roof at Samuel Morey Elementary. She asked for the Board’s support on this matter and the Board did support getting the loan at this interest rate from Woodsville Guaranty Bank.

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

A. **Correspondence:** None at this time.

B. **Executive Session – Personnel Issues**

1) **Evaluation**
2) **Contract**

**Action:** Motion made to go into executive session at 7:45 p.m. **Approved.** Board came out of Executive Session at 9:10 p.m.

C. **Date for Board Retreat:** Board discussed possible dates and is considering a day during the week of July 13, 2009. Board requested that Keiling contact the Administrators regarding a date that week and report back to the Board at the June meeting. New Board members asked about getting Rivendell Policy Books and Gail replied that the books are usually updated during the summer.

DeSimone offered to be the Board representative on the Orford Academy Building Task Force and Board agreed.

Board requested that Keiling have a list of the upcoming Board meeting dates sent out to all Board members.

**VIII. Strategic Action Plan**

A. **Update (G. Keiling):** Keiling shared with the Board the Student Profile brochure regarding the community night on May 12, 2009 and a press release. These brochures were sent home with elementary and middle school students and sent over the list-serves and also posted on the web site.

**IX. Future Agenda items (Discussion)**

A. **Rivendell Trails Report (A. Boyce)**
B. **French Trip Update**
C. **Volunteer Policy**
D. **Technology Plan**

**X. Adjournment (Action):** **Action** - Motion made to adjourn at 9:30 p.m. **Approved.**

Respectfully submitted,

Sheri Clifford
District Clerk