Members Present: Carol Sobetzer (at-large), Cicely Richardson, Mark DeBois (Orford); Sandra Smith-Ordway, Bruce Lyndes, Mark Avery (Fairlee), Jennifer Shatney, Beverly Ash (West Fairlee); Jennifer Ricker, Kathy Hooke (Vershire); Student Representatives: Will Ricker and Nick Ludwig.

Administration and Staff Present: Gail Keiling (Head of Schools/Superintendent), Kathy McGowan (Math Consultant for K-8).

Others Present: David Hooke, Kathy George, Kostas Amanatidis, Georgette Wolf-Ludwig, Cheryl Howe, Mark Blanchard, Anne Duncan Cooley.

I. Call Meeting: Meeting was opened at 6:31 p.m.

II. Agenda Revision/Time Allocation: Action: Motion made to take D. Hooke (Future Agenda Items) first under General Public Comments. Approved.

III. General Public Comments:

A. D. Hooke reported process to change §23 of the Articles of Agreement which states the time voting poles are open before and after the RISD Annual Meeting to 30 minutes.

B. Parent Request: G. Keiling updated parents regarding progress regarding students’ transportation by Thetford Academy to Hartford Tech. Center; G. Keiling spoke with Keith Merrick (Thetford); Dick Paulson will follow up. State assigns designation of RISD’s vocational center and lists conditions to change designation of voc center. Financial hardship caused to former or future vocational center is considered. K. Amanatidis asked if the RISD van can take the students to Thetford to get the bus as the students’ cannot car pool due to State drivers’ licensure restrictions, G. Keiling will research RISD van transport; K. Amanatidis offered to pick the students up at end of school day.

VI. Student/Teacher Presentation & Recognition

A. Student Board Reps Report (W. Ricker and N. Ludwig). Student Reps reported Seniors’ Baccalaureate was Sunday; N. Ludwig asked for Brenda Grey to be recognized and thanked for helping with Graduation. Reps reported success of Senior Prank and presented their reflections of RISD Pros and Cons: Pros: Teachers and Advisors, sense of physical safety at school, opportunity for Dartmouth classes, Guidance Counselors’ referrals to enrichment opportunities, and technology. Cons: Censorship of students’ freedom of expression. Representatives stated Board could address scheduling (limit class length to one hour; not have Advisory last block) and curriculum (heterogeneous classroom does not work, Honors Program discouraging without class environment, lack of AP classes, transportation to Dartmouth classes). Suggestion made for future Student Representatives to be on Board email.

Action: Motion made to take Mathematics presentation by K. McGowan before Orford Academy Building Task Force. Approved.

B. Mathematics (K. McGowan). K. McGowan presented analysis of students’ testing as tool to identify strengths and weaknesses, readiness, gaps in performance; discussed expectations for increase in mean scores due to teaching to assessment trends and use of Advisory/Lab time as kid specific with time on
K. McGowan recommended assessments for 8th and 10th grades, as well as 9th and 11th. Future State testing will track individual student’s cumulative testing scores, allowing ability to identify individual areas of weakness, readiness for following year, and identify clear gaps to increase proficiency. C. Sobetzer stated RISD needs to address pace/rigor of math classes and the issue of differentiated/heterogeneous classes.

C. **Orford Academy Building Task Force.** M. Blanchard and A. Duncan-Cooley (Orford) requested Board’s support of community group *1851 Academy Association* as Board’s designated party to spearhead Academy Building project, make contacts, fundraise, and regularly report to Board regarding future rehabilitation and development of Academy Building per 07/21/06 Orford Academy Task Force Resolution. Group is not IRS 501(c)(3) corporation, but they have contacted Upper Valley Land Trust, which agreed to be fiscal agent for *1851 Academy Association*. Group does not want to be subcommittee of RISD Board and would expect Board to maintain building from further deterioration. Sobetzer stated Academy Building is RISD’s, not Orford’s, and all four communities must be involved; W. Blanchard stated W. Fairlee and Vershire probably would not be interested. G. Keiling thanked group for efforts and stated Board will have RISD’s attorney review request and place on next agenda for motion and will follow up with A. Duncan-Cooley.

**VII. Consent Agenda (Accept)**

A. Minutes (May 4, 2010 and June 1, 2010).
B. **Head of Schools (Superintendent) Report (written);** G. Keiling reported contact from Charlie Buttrey, Thetford School Board, regarding possible partnering with RISD. C. Buttrey to attend July 2010 Board Meeting.

**Action:** Motion made to approve Consent Agenda with changes. **Approved**

**VIII. Ongoing Business (Deliberation & Possible Action)**

A. **Negotiations Update – One Year Contract:** Done last meeting.

**IX. New Business, Continued (Receive Information & Possible Action)**

A. **Correspondence:** G. Keiling presented letter received from Bonnie Burrows of Head Start in response to a Journal Opinion article regarding comments about the Head Start program made at the RISD Board’s April meeting; letter from Town of Orford regarding billing and payment of Town funds; letter from Attorney Gavin Reed regarding need for Corrective Deed from RISD regarding septic system right-of-way. G. Keiling will contact Attorney Reed regarding cost of Corrective Deed.

**X. Strategic Action Plan**

A. **Update of Process:** None at this time.

**XI. Future Agenda Items (Discussion)**

A. **Articles of Agreement regarding Election Procedures (D. Hooke)** (Above.)
B. **Reading/Writing Data Report** (Not addressed.)

Discussion listing future Agenda items: TIPS Program, Internships, Academy Handbook, Scheduling, K-12 Curriculum, 5/6 schedule, Thetford Board member.

G. Keiling reported that Gary Barton, Barbara Griffin and G. Keiling, who were the third grade teachers to Rivendell Academy’s Graduating Senior Class, all spoke at
Baccalaureate, along with long term community volunteer Russ Smith. Public recognition was given for Academy Secretary Nancy Murphy “holding down the fort” at the high school. Recognition also given for Senior Project by Caitlyn Clifford and Stephanie Gray per S. Smith-Ordway regarding comments she received from Dartmouth Press about the two seniors.

XII. Executive Session (Discussion & Possible Action): Action: Motion made to go into executive session at 8:30 p.m. Approved. Board came out of executive session a 9:14 p.m.

XIII. Adjournment (Action)-Action: Motion made to adjourn at 9:15 p.m. Approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Levin Sarazin
Board Recording Secretary