Members Present: Carol Sobetzer (at-large); Vanessa DeSimone, Cicely Richardson, Marc DeBois (Orford); Sandra Smith-Ordway, Bruce Lyndes (Fairlee); Beverly Ash (W. Fairlee); Jennifer Ricker, Deb Davidson (Vershire)

Administrators and Staff Present: Gail Keiling (Head of Schools/Superintendent), Donna Valentine (Head of HS, Rivendell Academy)

Others Present: None

I. Call Meeting: Meeting was opened at 6:30 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. Academy Student/Parent Handbook (D. Valentine)
      D. Valentine informed the Board that there were no major changes to the student/parent handbook other than graduation requirements because of the switch from trimesters to semesters and teachers will be responsible for attendance during each class.
   
   B. Graduation Credits (D. Valentine)
      D. Valentine stated that she will be working closely on communication with students during the change to semesters and shared with the Board a card for students that outlines what the new credit requirements for grade classification and graduation. Board also discussed the benefits of grade appropriate advisories and the drawbacks, as well as, discussing the possibility of creating a separate advisory for students not achieving the necessary credits to move along with their peers (i.e., a 17 year old freshman).

   C. HS Students Support .5 Position
      G. Keiling explained the reasoning for the new .5 position to the new Board members. She said that Valentine requested an additional person to deal with the daily issues/problems and now needs to change the title of the position. Valentine explained that they first titled the position Student Support Counselor and neuro-psychologists were applying for the position. Valentine felt it was necessary that the person have an educational background and experience within a school building in order to properly assist a student with what to do to be more successful within a classroom. She asked that the position be titled Dean of Student Support and it would not require administrative certification. Valentine distributed a draft of the job description.

V. Consent Agenda (Accept):
   A. Minutes (June 2, 2009)
      C. Sobetzer distributed the SBAs rules on the taking of school minutes so the Board would know what is required and in case any Board member may be asked to take minutes. Revisions were made to the minutes.

   B. Head of Schools (Superintendent’s Report - written)
      Action: Motion made to accept the consent agenda items, with minutes of June 2, 2009, as amended. Approved.

VI. Ongoing Business (Deliberation & Possible Action): None at this time.
VII. New Business (Receive Information & Possible Action):
   A. Insurance Premium Coverage
   S. Ordway reported that the Finance Committee had met with the insurance agent regarding the old Orford Academy building and the building will be inspected by the Hanover Group. The building is presently insured for replacement cost of $1.5 million but replacement costs from architect study was $3 million. The District’s Insurance Agency feels Hanover Group may not even cover it for $1.5 million. After a brief discussion, the Board decided to wait for recommendations from the Hanover Group. Ordway also stated that the coverage for Board liability is $4 million and Peer Group Insurance quotes are between $2 and $3 million, the cost is $1,000 per million. Ordway asked if the Board would like to continue with this coverage or increase coverage. After a brief discussion, Board decided to stay with the present coverage.

   B. Personnel - Resignations
   G. Keiling reported on three resignations all from Rivendell Academy, two are certified positions and would require a motion from the Board to release them from their contracts: Nancy Hall, School Counselor (HS), and Kimberly Poulin, Special Educator. Other non-certified resignation was from HS Administrative Assistant, Lynne McKeever. **Action:** Motion made to release Nancy Hall and Kimberly Poulin from their 2009-2010 school contracts. **Approved.**

   C. Correspondence
   S. Ordway reported that she received a call from an Academy parent who was very upset about Ms. Hall’s resignation. She also received a letter regarding Act 144 that Fairlee participates in, regarding whether or not Fairlee wishes to continue or move away from Act 144. The Fairlee members of the RISD Board will meet to review their options.

VIII. Anticipated Executive Session (Discussion & Possible Action)
   **Action:** A motion was made at 8:12 p.m. to move into executive session. **Approved.** The meeting opened to the public again at 8:35 p.m.

   **Action:** Motion made to hire Tiffany Russo for Rivendell Academy High School Counselor. **Approved.**

   **Action:** Motion made to hire Deb Freyman for Rivendell Academy Special Education Teacher. **Approved.**

   **Action:** Motion made to give the Executive Committee the authority to approve or disapprove the request for a leave of absence. **Approved.**

IX. Strategic Action Plan
   A. **Update of Process (G. Keiling)** - G. Keiling distributed a copy of the Strategic Plan and briefly outlined the different indicators and where the District was at this time. She also read the beginning of the plan to show the process is in line with the vision of the updated Profile of the Graduate.

X. Future Agenda items (Discussion): None at this time.

XI. Adjournment (Action):
   **Action:** Motion made to adjourn at 8:43 p.m. **Approved.**

Respectfully submitted,

Sheri Clifford, District Clerk