RIVENDELL INTERSTATE SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING
Rivendell Academy, Orford, NH
September 1, 2009

Members Present: Carol Sobetzer (at-large); Cicely Richardson, Marc DeBois (Orford); Mark Avery, 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), Hank Plaisted (Director of Information Technology)

Others Present: Elizabeth Sunde

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: None at this time.

V. Consent Agenda (Accept)
   A. Minutes (July 27, 2009 & August 10, 2009)
   B. Head of Schools (Superintendent’s Report - written)
   C. Community Engagement/Policy Committee Minutes (August 13, 2009)

   Action: Motion was made to accept the minutes of July 27, 2009 and August 10, 2009 with changes. Approved.

   Action: Motion was made to accept the changes in required hours for graduation. Approved.

VI. Ongoing Business (Deliberation & Possible Action): None at this time.

   Action: Motion was made to discuss “E. Community Engagement/Policy Committee Charge” first, then proceed with “A. Resource Development Task Force.” Approved.

VII. New Business (Receive Information & Possible Action)

   F. Community Engagement/Policy Committee: C. Sobetzer asked if the CEC would report on the Finance Committee and the 2010/2011 budget. Action: Motion was made to approve charge of the CEC to report on the fiscal year 2010-2011 school budget. Approved.

   B. Policies – First Reading: G. Keiling reviewed the policies that were up for first reading and has made a schedule for timely review of policies. She also indicated that there were some missing mandatory policies and some changes for a volunteer policy. Keiling also stated that Ray Proulx suggested ‘ends policies’ and that include the Profile of a Graduate. The first reading draft will be discussed at the next meeting.

   1. D2 – Professional Development (Revision): The Board discussed the draft and how best to revise the opening paragraph. C. Sobetzer asked that any suggestions or changes should be e-mailed to the CEC/Policy Committee for review and discuss it at the next meeting.

   2. D1 – HIPPA Compliance: G. Keiling explained that this is required by law and needs to be followed.

   A. Resource Development Task Force (E. Sunde/G. Keiling: E. Sunde explained that there is a need to form a task force to explore new ways to bring revenue to the District. The group would address prioritized needs of the District and go on to find ways to bring in other resources and sustain some funding to meet these needs. G. Keiling asked the Board to consider this an action step to fulfill Strategic Plan Goal #3. The task force will include Board members and community members. M. DeBois and M. Avery will serve for the Board.
C. Compulsory Attendance for NH Residents 6 to 18 years of age: G. Keiling reported that in the event of a student dropping out of school prior to age 18 the District would need to provide an alternative learning plan or assistance with a GED program.

D. Board Goals: A rough draft was passed out with no changes or comments from the Board. Action: Motion was made to accept the Board Goals for 2009-2010 school year. Approved.

F. Email for Students: G. Keiling stated that she and H. Plaisted discussed a responsible way to teach students to use e-mail within the school and would like to begin with the senior class. A French group was tested and monitored last year. Keiling and Plaisted hope that the seniors will use this privilege for their senior projects to communicate with outside sources and business groups with the understanding that they will be monitored.

G. Correspondence: M. Avery reported that a Fairlee resident approached him, S. Ordway and B. Lyndes regarding their senior child and asked why there was nothing offered for the child if they have all the necessary credits for graduation and no interest in commuting to Dartmouth. The Board discussed the availability of AP or college classes for credit and included on-line college learning.

VIII. Strategic Action Plan
   A. Update of Process: G. Keiling stated that goal 3 was addressed by E. Sunde and the discussion of a Resource Development Task Force. Keiling is trying to partner with other schools and Piermont has asked for a proposal for 75 students, kindergarten to 8th grade, to attend Rivendell. Keiling asked that that Finance Committee prepare two proposal packages of cost for kindergarten to 5th grade and 6th to 8th grade. Piermont would like to retain the choice option for high school.
      -Advisory goal 2 is going well and Keiling will receive notebooks for each grade level by September 14th.
      -The TIPS program for juniors to job shadow will not be an advisory job.
      -Lab is coming slower and D. Valentine continues to work with staff.
      -D. Valentine will meet with student government to elect a senior and junior representative to the School Board.

IX. Future Agenda Items (Discussion)
   A. Orford Academy Building Task Force (October)
   The Board will contact Ann Green to present an update of the Orford Academy Building and ask that Green e-mail the update to the Board prior to the meeting for review and prepare any questions or concerns. The Board would like D. Valentine to report how the new schedule is working, D. Noseworthy to discuss how the transition with the 5th grade is going and also get an update from the trails work. If any Board member is interested in a particular presentation, please e-mail your request to G. Keiling.

X. Adjournment (Action)
   Action: Motion made to adjourn at 8:10 p.m. Approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheri Clifford, District Clerk