

WARRANT
ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING
RIVENDELL INTERSTATE SCHOOL DISTRICT
to be held on March 15, 2025

Fairlee, Vermont
Orford, New Hampshire

Vershire, Vermont
West Fairlee, Vermont

The legal voters of Fairlee (Vermont), Orford (New Hampshire), Vershire (Vermont), and West Fairlee (Vermont) are hereby notified and warned to meet at the **Rivendell Academy, Orford, New Hampshire, on Saturday, March 15, 2025**, for the purpose of holding the annual district meeting of the Rivendell Interstate School District pursuant to Article IV.G of the New Hampshire-Vermont Interstate Compact.

The polls for the election of officers under Articles 1 and 2 will open at 9:30 a.m. and will close one half-hour (30 minutes) following the completion of business under the other articles.

Business under Article 3 and the articles following will commence at 10:00 a.m.

Article 1: To elect by ballot three (3) members of the Rivendell Interstate School District Board as follows:

- 1 member from Fairlee for a 3-year term
- 1 member from Orford for a 3-year term
- 1 member from West Fairlee for a 3-year term

Article 2: To elect by ballot a moderator, clerk, treasurer, and one at-large school board member, each for 1-year terms, and two auditors, one for a 3-year term with two remaining years and one for a 3-year term.

Article 3: To hear reports from the School Board and others relating to the construction/renovation, educational, and financial issues facing the District.

Article 4: Shall the voters of the District raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,832,063 for the operating budget for the District for the 2025-2026 fiscal year?

Article 5: Shall the voters of the District approve the proposed amendments to the Rivendell Interstate School District Articles of Agreement. Pursuant to Article J, shall the voters of the Rivendell Interstate School District amend the Articles of Agreement to adopt all budgets by official ballot and adjust polling times by making the following additions and amendments to the Articles and Appendix A: The following Articles and paragraphs shall be stricken in their entirety and replaced with the following:

Articles of Agreement, Section C: School Board Members and Other District Officers

The election of school board members, moderator, clerk, treasurer, and auditors of the Interstate District, as well as the budget vote, shall take place each year within a week following the annual Interstate School District meeting. The location of the District elections and official budget vote shall be the polling place in each individual town. The date, time, and locations of polling places shall be published in all warnings as required elsewhere in the Articles of Agreement.

Appendix A, Election Procedures

1. The election of school board members, moderator, clerk, treasurer and auditors of the Interstate District and the budget vote shall take place each year within a week following the annual Interstate School District meeting. The location of the District Elections and Official Budget Vote shall be in each individual town polling place. The date, time and locations of polling places shall be published on all warnings as required elsewhere in the Articles of Agreement.
2. The school board shall post a special warrant for the election of school district officers and official Budget, prescribing the place, day and hours of the election and budget vote in at least one public place in each member district at least 30 days (not counting the date of posting and the date of voting) before the date of the earliest voting. In addition, the school board shall cause such special warrant to be advertised in a newspaper of general circulation in the District on at least one occasion, such publication to occur at least 10 days (not counting the day of publication and not counting the date of the election) before the date of the first voting. The school board may give such further notice of the voting as it deems appropriate under the circumstances.
4. The Clerk shall designate in writing to the school board the named assistants to be present at the individual town polling places to follow all applicable law and procedures regarding voting and the handling of ballots and checklists. The designated assistant(s) acting under the supervision of the Clerk shall have the authority to perform the duties of the Clerk under these election procedures.
11. The Moderator, in coordination with the Clerk and assistant clerks and local election officials, shall appoint a sufficient number of qualified voters from each of the member districts to serve as election officers of the Interstate District in both the town and District polling place.
18. The Clerk shall store the ballots, in a secure place, and 20 days prior to the vote shall present the ballots to assistant clerks and election officials in the individual town polling place in a manner consistent with all VT and NH statutory requirements.
23. The polls for voting by official ballot shall be open from 10:00 am to 7:00 pm.
33. Upon receipt of an envelope containing the marked ballots of an absentee voter, the Clerk or assistant clerks shall record the fact on the list of absent voters and safely keep the

envelope, unopened, until the day of the election. During the hours polls are open, the Clerk shall handle all absentee ballots in a manner consistent with the general election procedures as prescribed by local election law.

44. After the closing of the polls, the election officials shall cause the unopened ballot boxes from each member district, together with a statement of any discrepancies in the list of absentee voters to be sealed and delivered to the Moderator, together with any spoiled or unused ballots. The voting shall take place in each individual town, ballots shall be transported to the Moderator's location at Rivendell Academy in Orford, NH in a manner consistent with Vermont statutory requirements regarding the transportation of official ballots.

The following paragraphs shall be added to Appendix A:

53. The vote to adopt the budget of the Interstate District shall be by official ballot and shall take place each year on the same date and at the same location as the election of school district officers.
54. The budget vote shall be written in the form of a question, with boxes indicating a choice of "yes" and "no" directly to the right side of the question.
55. The budget ballot shall be entitled "OFFICIAL BALLOT FOR THE RIVENDELL INTERSTATE SCHOOL DISTRICT" followed by the date of the budget vote and a facsimile signature of the Clerk who prepared the ballot. Immediately below, the following instruction shall be printed: "Instructions to Voters: To vote on the budget, mark a cross (X) in the square at the right of the question." This budget ballot question may appear on the same ballot as that used for the election of district-wide school district officers.
56. Budget ballots cast by the voters of the Interstate School District shall be commingled and shall not be counted according to the town in which a voter resides.
57. All election procedures in Appendix A concerning the election of school district officers shall apply to the budget vote by official ballot, except that with regard to a request for a recount of the budget vote, at least one registered voter from each town of the Interstate School District may together demand a recount of ballots if the margin by which the budget passed or failed is less than five percent of the total votes cast on the budget. The request shall be filed with the clerk within 10 days after the budget vote.
58. The District board, in consultation with the district Clerk and Moderator, shall establish policies and procedures to address: cost and reimbursement for personnel and assistant clerks utilized in the voting process, Australian ballot procedures as outlined in Vermont Title 17 Section 2680 including any specific details regarding certification and absentee ballots, and any other pertinent guidelines needed for the appropriate adherence to these Articles and Appendices.

Article 6: Shall the voters of the District authorize the School Board to apply an additional \$250,000 from the unassigned fund balance for the purpose of offsetting tax rates for the 2025-2026 fiscal year?

Article 7: Shall the voters of the District reallocate funds from the unassigned fund balance, the sum of \$225,000, to be placed in the Repairs and Maintenance Contingency Fund for the purpose of replacing roofs, to be expended by June 30, 2027?

Article 8: Shall the voters of the District reallocate funds from the unassigned fund balance, the sum of \$330,000, to be placed in the Repairs and Maintenance Contingency Fund for the purpose of general repairs?

Article 9: Shall the voters of the District reallocate funds from the unassigned fund balance, the sum of \$50,000, to be placed in the Repairs and Maintenance Contingency Fund for the purpose of energy efficiency upgrades, to be expended by June 30, 2028?

Article 10: Shall the voters of the District expend funds from the unassigned fund balance, the sum of up to \$75,000, for the purpose of school facility consolidation study?

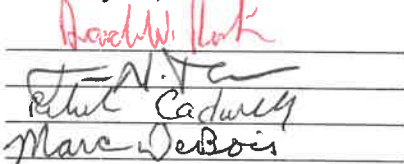
Article 11: Shall the voters of the District reallocate funds from the unassigned fund balance, the sum of \$200,000, to be placed in the Repairs and Maintenance Contingency fund for the purpose of making ongoing Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) upgrades, to be expended by June 30, 2027?

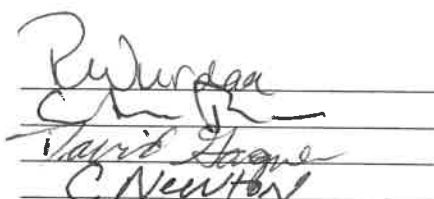
Article 12: Shall the voters of the District expend funds from the unassigned fund balance, the sum of up to \$133,413, to pay off the construction long term debt?

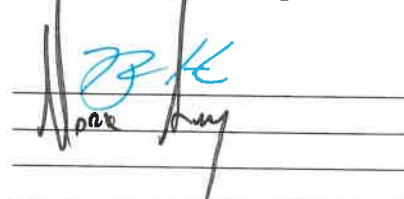
Article 13: Shall the voters of the District authorize the School Board to apply for, accept, and expend, without further action by the voters of the District, all money from any governmental or private source which becomes available during the 2025-2026 fiscal year for their intended use?

Article 14: To transact any other business which may lawfully properly come before the meeting.

February 20, 2025

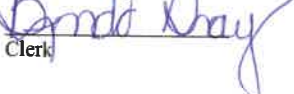


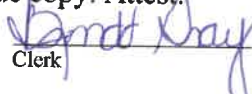




A majority of the Rivendell Interstate School District Board

A true copy. Attest:


Clerk


Clerk