RIVENDELL ACADEMY
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Orford, NH 03777
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Joy Clancy, *Principal*
Sean McWhite, *Dean of Students*
Lisa Burbach, *Director of Special Ed*
Thomas Marshall, *Director of Athletics*
Jeffrey Eckert, *School Counselor (9–12)*
Allison Dennis , *School Counselor (6–8)*

RIVENDELL ACADEMY SCHOOL PROFILE

2026-2027

MISSION *– The mission of the Rivendell Interstate School District is to foster the intellectual, social, and personal development of our students. Our goal is that they will become lifelong learners, positive contributors to their communities, and productive, healthy adults.*

THE SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY

Rivendell Academy was established in 2000 as part of a public, interstate school district serving the communities of West Fairlee, Fairlee, and Vershire, Vermont and Orford, New Hampshire. The students come from a wide range of socioeconomic and educational backgrounds. The Upper Connecticut River Valley is a rural community with access to nearby Dartmouth College and Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, a state-of-the-art teaching and research medical facility.

The Academy houses grades 6–12 and includes a wide range of courses. Rivendell is committed to an educational program that develops essential skills in literacy, numeracy, inquiry, and problem solving. One of our most important goals is to cultivate an inclination in our students to question and think critically. Our curricula are designed to prepare students to identify, analyze and solve complex situations that they may encounter in their adult lives.

Enrollment: 178 Academy (6–12)
Faculty: 24 teaching, 8 academic learning coaches
Teacher/Student Ratio: 1: 9
CEEB: 300480

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

Courses are taught on a trimester system with students earning up to 7.75 credits per year. The credits required to graduate are 26 and the course distribution requirements follow:

5.0 credits in Language Arts
4.5 credits in Science
4.0 credits in Social Studies
4.0 credits in Math
Level II in World Languages
1.0 credit in Health
.5 credit in Physical Education
.5 credit in Upper House Project* or Career Internship**
.5 credit in Visual Arts
.5 credit in Performing Arts

****Career Internship:** Students explore career choices. They participate in a 40-hour unpaid internship for high school credit at a job site of their choice.

CURRICULUM FEATURES

Schedule: Our fifty-five (55) minute block schedule allows students to take six classes each trimester. Classes meet every day for one, two- or three- trimesters with each trimester worth 0.50 credit.

Advisory and Assembly: Students are assigned to an academic advisor for three years in middle school and four years in high school. Advisory meets for thirty (30) minutes minimum each week and ten (10) minutes at the start of the day four times a week. The Advisory program provides students and staff with an opportunity to work together to develop community, character, and scholarship. The goal is to develop individuals who take responsibility for their own learning. Once a week, the morning starts off with a student-led all-school assembly.

Honors Challenge and AP Options: Students may go beyond course requirements through the Honors Challenge Program. The honors challenge will be reflected on transcripts by an "H" next to the grade and/or by "Hon" in the course name. While Rivendell Academy offers many challenging, advanced level courses, none are designed solely to prepare students for the Advanced Placement (AP) examinations.

Additional Opportunities for Advancement: For students who seek advanced courses and meet the appropriate criteria, college classes are available through: Dartmouth College in Hanover, NH; Dual Enrollment and Early College through the Vermont State University System; Running Start through River Valley Community College; Early College through the Community College System of New Hampshire; and AP classes through www.vtvlc.org for Vermont or New Hampshire residents and www.vlacs.org for New Hampshire residents.

River Bend Career and Technical Center, Bradford, VT: Open to juniors and seniors who meet eligibility criteria. The following fields of study are offered: Automotive Technology, Construction Trades & Residential Energy, Cosmetology, Criminal Justice, Culinary Arts, Cybersecurity, Diversified Agriculture and Natural Resources, Emergency Services, Health Sciences, Heavy Equipment, Teacher Education, and 21st Century Media and Design.

Hartford Area Career and Technical Center, Hartford, VT: Programs that are not offered at River Bend Career and Technical Center are open to juniors and seniors who meet eligibility criteria. The following fields of study are available: Autobody, Motorsports and Customs; Business, Entrepreneurship and Marketing; Design Illustration & Media Arts; Health & Human Services, Industrial Mechanics & Welding; IT: Information Technology and/or Software Engineering; Medical Assisting & Phlebotomy; Natural Resources; and STEM: Introduction to Engineering Design and/or Physics & Principles of Engineering.

COURSES

Classes are each worth 0.50 credit (60 credit hours).

Core Courses — (9th and 10th grades):

Humanities 9 & 10, Mathematics (Algebra I and Geometry) Science (Biology and Conceptual Physics). Other required courses include Spanish I & II, Art History/Skills, Performing Arts, Social/Emotional Health, Fitness/Nutrition, and Physical Education.

Core Courses and Electives — (11th & 12th grades):

Language Arts: Junior English (required), Analysis through Film, Classic Literature, Contemporary Literature, Dramatic Literature, Dystopian Fiction, Holocaust Literature, Lyrical Poetry, Modern Literature, Philosophy through Literature, RVCC English Composition, RVCC Creative Writing, Shakespeare, Short Stories, and Writers' Café.

World Languages: Spanish III, IV, V.

Social Studies: Germany, Global Studies/Environment, Holocaust and Human Behavior, India, Intro to Psychology, Middle East Cultures, and National Issues, War History through Film, 21st Century US History.

Mathematics: Algebra II (required), Pre-calculus, and Calculus.

Sciences: Astronomy, Chemistry (required), Global Studies/Environment, Human Physiology I & II, Marine Biology, RVCC Physics.

Other STEM Electives: Intro to Engineering.

Health and Physical Education: Social/Emotional Health, Fitness/Nutritional Health, and Physical Education.

Visual Arts: Ceramics, Painting/Fiber Arts, Printmaking, and Studio Art.

Performing Arts: Chorus, Creative Studio, Performance Skills, Rock Band, Speech and Debate, Theater (Fall Play, Spring Musical), and Theater Techniques.

GRADING SYSTEM

A: 90–100	(A- = 3.67, A = 4.0, A+ = 4.33)
B: 80–89	(B- = 2.67, B = 3.0, B+ = 3.33)
C: 70–79	(C- = 1.67, C = 2.0, C+ = 2.33)
F: <69	(< 1.5)

GPA is based on a scale from 0–100 and is unweighted.

Class rank is unweighted and exact.

SPORTS AND ACTIVITIES

The Rivendell Raptors Varsity Teams include Baseball, Basketball, Golf, Soccer, Softball. Students also have the opportunity to participate in: Women's and Men's Ice Hockey at Hartford High School, Hartford, VT or Woodstock High School, Woodstock, VT; Lacrosse at area high schools in a member-to-member exchange; and Track & Field at either Thetford Academy, Thetford, VT or Oxbow High School, Bradford, VT. Other non-Varsity athletics include: Skiing and Snowboarding.

Co-curricular opportunities: DREAM, Dungeons & Dragons Club, Eco Club, Four Thousand Footers Hiking Club, Art Club, Cooking Club, Leos Club, Minecraft Club, National Honor and National Technical Honor Societies, Rivendell Abroad, Student Voice, Theater (Fall Production & Spring Musical).

SAT SCORES

Class of 2023	CR613	M580
Class of 2024	CR526	M525
Class of 2025	CR591	M547
Class of 2026	CR536	M520
Class of 2027	CR520	M526

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES FOR THE CLASS OF 2026:

University of Chicago, University of Vermont, Simmons University, Norwich University, Plymouth State University, Moore College of Art and Design, Vermont State University, Champlain College, Colby-Sawyer College, Colorado College, Colorado State University (Fort Collins), Community College of Vermont, Franklin Pierce University, Keene State College, Merrimack College, Penn State University, Quinnipiac University, Roger Williams University, Southern Maine Community College, Suffolk University, University of Connecticut, University of Denver, University of Maine (Orono), University of Massachusetts (Lowell), University of New Hampshire, University of Southern Maine, White Mountains Community College, Colorado Mesa University

GRADUATE PLANS FOR THE CLASS OF 2026

Four-year college:	40%
Two and one year:	13%
Employment:	47%
Military:	0%