

2019
ANNUAL REPORT
of the
RIVENDELL INTERSTATE
SCHOOL DISTRICT



FAIRLEE • ORFORD • VERSHIRE • WEST FAIRLEE

RIVENDELL INTERSTATE SCHOOL DISTRICT

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e-mail and website: www.rivendellschool.org

The Rivendell District office is open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. It is located at 10 School Drive in Orford which is on the Rivendell Academy campus.

THE SCHOOL BOARD

There are eleven school board members distributed equitably among the four towns: three from Fairlee, three from Orford, two from Vershire, two from West Fairlee, and one at-large member. All serve for three-year terms except for the at-large member, who serves a one-year term. School Board meetings rotate among the school sites and are open to the public. Meeting dates are posted in each town, at the schools and on the Rivendell website (www.rivendellschool.org) calendar.

THE DISTRICT

The Rivendell Interstate School District was established on October 13, 1998, by voters in the towns of Orford, NH, and Fairlee, West Fairlee, and Vershire, VT. It is one of the only pre-K–12 interstate public school districts in the country. On July 1, 1999, the Rivendell Supervisory Union assumed responsibility for central office functions of the four existing school districts. On July 1, 2000, Rivendell assumed educational responsibility for all students in the four towns and ownership of existing school properties. On Monday, August 28, 2000, Rivendell opened its doors to approximately 550 students from member towns and about 32 students tuitioned from neighboring towns.

MISSION STATEMENT AND DESIGN PRINCIPLES

The mission of the Rivendell Interstate School District is to foster the intellectual, social, and personal development of its students. Our goal is that they will become life-long learners, positive contributors to their communities, and productive, healthy adults.

The design principles guiding development of the Rivendell program are:

- An engaging team-taught curriculum that results in well-educated students who are able to meet high academic standards, problem solve across disciplines and contexts, and take leadership in their communities
- Significant and ongoing connections between school and community
- Structures and practices that support teaching and learning
- New standards of accountability and excellence for our schools, our staff, and our students

Cover Credits:

FRONT: Academy students explore the history of immigration and modern art in NYC

BACK: View of Rivendell campus

Annual Report
of the
Rivendell
Interstate School District

July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019



Alyson Nelson, Grade 6 – Samuel Morey Elementary

Please bring this report with you to the
Annual District Meeting
Tuesday, March 19, 2019
6:30 p.m.
Rivendell Academy
Orford, New Hampshire

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Rivendell School Board

(town and expiration of term shown in italics)

Marc DeBois, Chair – Orford, 2019

Cory Austin – West Fairlee, 2019

Katherine Blanchard – at large, 2019

Vanessa DeSimone – Orford, 2021

Kerin Dexter – West Fairlee, 2021

David Gagner – Fairlee, 2019

Kathy Hooke, Vice Chair– Vershire, 2020

Maria Koebler – Vershire, 2021

Jon Lester – Fairlee, 2021

Bruce Lyndes – Fairlee, 2020

David Ricker – Orford, 2020



Samuel Morey second graders making pies

Full Year (FY), School Year (SY),

Full time (FT), Part Time (PT)

Administration, Administrative and District Office Staff

Gregory Allen	Facilities Maintenance Technician	FY – FT
Elaine Arbour	Superintendent	FY – PT
Janet Cole	Director of Special Education	FY – FT
Ross Convertino	Athletic, Transportation & Facilities Use Director	FY – FT
Julie Donahue	Elementary Principal	FY – FT
Stephanie Chesnut	Dean of Students (Rivendell Academy)	SY – FT
Lynn Farquharson	Accounting Specialist/Human Resources Assistant	FY – FT
Keri Gelenian	Head of Schools/Rivendell Academy Principal	FY – FT
Brenda Gray	Executive Assistant/Human Resources Manager	FY – FT
Charlotte Holt	Special Education Administrative Assistant/Medicaid Clerk	FY – PT
Celise Johnson	Food Service Director	SY – FT
Matthew Joska	Director of Information Technology	FY – FT
William Little	Business Administrator	FY – FT
Tammy MacQueen	Elementary Assistant Principal	FY – FT
Gabriele Martino	Technology Integration Specialist & Website	SY – PT
Angel Parkin	Administrative Assistant (Rivendell Academy)	FY – FT
Nick Pryer	Technical Support Specialist	FY – FT
Maggie Stoudnour	Trails School Coordinator	SY – PT
Terrence Straight	Director of Operations	FY – FT

Rivendell Academy – Teachers

Anna Alden	Music Teacher	SY – FT
Laszlo Bardos	Digital Culture Leader and Mathematics Teacher	SY – FT
Bonnie Blake–O’Meara	Instrumental Music Teacher***	SY – PT
Jennifer Bottum	English Teacher	SY – PT
Kerry Browne	Science Teacher	SY – FT
Emily Cousins	School Counselor	SY – FT
Jennifer Ellis	Art Teacher	SY – FT
James Graham	Physical Education Teacher	SY – FT
Story Graves	Special Education Teacher	SY – FT
Nancy Hall	School Counselor	SY – FT
Gail Keefer	World Language Teacher	SY – FT
Carolyn Lang	Title I Literacy Specialist	SY – FT
Allison Lary	Social Studies Teacher	SY – FT

Rivendell Administrators, Faculty and Staff

Brynne MacMurtry	Special Education Teacher	SY – FT
Rachel McConnell	Science and Math Teacher	SY – FT
Creigh Moffatt	School Nurse	SY – FT
Christian Peterson	Special Education Teacher	SY – FT
Paige Radney	World Language Teacher	SY – FT
Eric Reichert	Language Arts Teacher	SY – FT
Paul Ronci	English Teacher	SY – FT
Robin Rowell	ESL Teacher	SY – PT
Rachel Sanders	Science Teacher	SY – FT
Carol Sobetzer	English/Social Studies Teacher	SY – FT
Richard Steckler	Science Teacher	SY – FT
Kirsten Surprenant	Social Studies Teacher	SY – FT
Laura Taylor	Special Education Teacher	SY – FT
Christopher White	Mathematics Teacher	SY – FT
Singwai Yip	Mathematics Teacher	SY – FT

Rivendell Academy – Support Staff

Brandy Allen	Para – SPED Assistant	SY – FT
Christina Bolles	Para – SPED Assistant	SY – FT
Laura Bradley	Para – SPED Assistant	SY – FT
Deborah Churchill	Para – SPED Assistant/SPED Tutor	SY – FT
Wendy Fogg-McIntire	Para – SPED Assistant	SY – FT
Emily Harrington	Para – SPED Assistant	SY – FT
Audrey Wolf	Para – SPED Assistant	SY – FT
Joy Jean Dyke	Assistant Cook	SY – PT
Eric Gilbert	Custodian	FY – FT
Michelle Oakes	Secretary	SY – FT
Bruce Taylor, Jr.	Custodian	FY – FT
Richard Young	Custodian Team Leader 2 nd Shift	FY – FT

Samuel Morey Elementary – Teachers

Gordon Christie-Maples	Elementary Teacher (5 th & 6 th Grade)	SY – FT
Elizabeth Duvall	Elementary Music Teacher**	SY – FT
Katherine Fritschie	Elementary Teacher (Kindergarten)	SY – FT
Laurie Gould	Special Education Teacher	SY – FT
Barbara Griffin	Elementary Reading Teacher**	SY – FT
Sasha Irish	Elementary Teacher (2 nd Grade)	SY – FT
Sarah Klinkenberg	Elementary Teacher (5 th & 6 th Grade)	SY – FT
Ryan LaBella	Physical Education Teacher*	SY – FT
Lauren Lacasse	Elementary Teacher (1 st Grade)	SY – FT
Tanya Libby	Art Teacher (one year only)**	SY – PT
Tracy Martel	Special Education Teacher	SY – FT
Caroline McCrave	Elementary Reading Teacher	SY – PT
Kathleen McGowan	Elementary (Math) Teacher/Math Instructional Coach**	SY – PT
Maureen Moran	Elementary Math Teacher (5 th & 6 th Grade)**	SY – FT
Ann O’Hearn	Elementary School Counselor**	SY – FT
Jennifer Ricker	School Nurse**	SY – FT
Sara Rose	Elementary Teacher (5 th & 6 th Grade)	SY – FT
Joyce Russell	Librarian**	SY – PT
Rachael Weber	Elementary Teacher (3 rd & 4 th Grade)	SY – FT
Carmen Winchester	Elementary Math Teacher	SY – FT
Leah Wolk-Derksen	Elementary Teacher (3 rd & 4 th Grade)	SY – FT

Samuel Morey Elementary – Support Staff

Robin Avery	Para – SPED Assistant	SY – PT
Susan Calhoun	Para – SPED Assistant	SY – FT
Jean Daley	Para – Intensive Needs Assistant	SY – FT
Dwight Dansereau	Para – SPED Assistant	SY – FT
Suzanne Ivins	Para – SPED Assistant	SY – FT
Irish Johnson	Para – SPED Assistant	SY – FT
Susan Lynch	SPED Van Driver**	SY – FT
JodyAnn Mace	Para – SPED Assistant	SY – FT
Phillip Metayer	Para – Intensive Needs Assistant	SY – FT
Samantha Wheeler	Para – SPED Assistant	SY – FT
Dustin Fillian	Custodian	FY – FT
Suzanne Ricker	Food Service Manager	SY – FT
Amanda Perry	Administrative Assistant	SY – FT

Westshire Elementary – Teachers

Stephen Crimmin	Elementary Teacher (3 rd Grade)	SY – FT
Paula Driscoll	Elementary Teacher (2 nd Grade)	SY – FT
Kyle Limlaw	Special Education Teacher	SY – FT
Emily Lloyd	Elementary Teacher (1 st Grade)	SY – FT
Long-term substitute	Elementary Teacher (4 th Grade)	SY – FT
Emily Waterman	Elementary Teacher (Kindergarten)	SY – FT

Westshire Elementary – Support Staff

Ashley Bean	Para – SPED Individual Student Asst. – Intensive Needs	SY – FT
Dierdre Dennis	Para – Intensive Needs Assistant	SY – FT
Gloria Durkee	Para – SPED Assistant	SY – FT
Amy Kosakowski	Para – SPED Assistant	SY – FT
Nicole Randall	Para – SPED Assistant	SY – FT
Megan Sargent	Para – Intensive Needs Assistant	SY – FT
Shari Swantak	Para – SPED Assistant	SY – FT
Katherine Tolbert	Para – Intensive Needs Assistant	SY – FT
Amber Kilduff	Administrative Assistant	SY – FT
Viola Farrar	Food Service Manager	SY – FT
Bruce Porter	Custodian	FY – FT

Early Education Program, Fairlee and West Fairlee

Caitlin Leonard	Early Childhood Program Teacher	SY – FT
Heidi Nichols	Early Childhood Program Teacher	SY – FT
Melissa Partington	Essential Early Education (EEE) Teacher*	SY – FT
Molly Rice	Early Childhood Program Teacher	SY – FT
Nancy Cushman	Para – Classroom Assistant (ECP)	SY – FT
Matthew Jung	Para – SPED Assistant (ECP/EEE)	SY – FT
Elizabeth O'Donnell	Para – Classroom Assistant (ECP)	SY – FT
Rebecca Perry	Para – Classroom Assistant (ECP)	SY – FT
Kimberly Smith	Para – Classroom Assistant (ECP)	SY – FT

* Shared with Samuel Morey & Westshire

*** Shared with Samuel Morey

** Shared with Westshire

I would like to begin by thanking all our administrators, teachers, support staff, volunteers, coaches and contractors for their commitment and dedication to the students of our four towns. These individuals spend a tremendous amount of time organizing, preparing and delivering a high quality product to the RISD community.

The Board would like to bid a fond farewell to Superintendent Arbour. Dr. Arbour will be completing her two year contract at the end of June. We thank her for her leadership and dedicated service to the Rivendell community and wish her well in all her future endeavors.

I would like to take a few minutes to recognize Mr. Bruce Lyndes. Bruce has served the Rivendell community as a board member for the past eleven years. He has worked hard over the years to hold budget increases at a minimum while keeping student learning and experiences at the forefront of his thoughts. Thank you Bruce for your dedication to Rivendell.

The Board would also like to thank the members of the Rivendell Review Committee. The committee has worked tirelessly for the past two years and has provided the Board with both guidance and clarity with respect to interpreting the intent of our founding documents. The Board has accepted recommendations on a variety of topics and adjusted the way we will conduct business moving forward.

The Board has presented the RISD community with a budget of \$11,285,101 for FY2020, an increase of 5.1% over the current year. Two budget forums were held during January 2019 to give the voters an opportunity to review this budget and provide feedback. Both forums were well attended, and I would like to thank those who were there for their attendance and comments.

Health insurance costs have skyrocketed over 11% causing significant strain on our ability to keep the overall percentage increase in line with past years. We have a history of presenting budget increases which are fiscally responsible, and allow our children to continue to grow and prepare for the future, regardless of their career path. We ask the community to support the proposed budget as it will allow the District to maintain a high quality education and enhance our reputation as an institution with high standards and dedicated professionals.

On a closing note, I would like to ask all members of our community to get involved in your school district and be a part of the educational system which plays an important role in the future of our children. Attending meetings, completing surveys, attending plays, attending athletic events, running for a board position and volunteering are simple ways to be part of the educational community supported by your tax dollars.

Respectfully submitted,
Marc DeBois

WARRANT – ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING
Rivendell Interstate School District
TO BE HELD ON MARCH 19, 2019

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 Tuesday, March 19, 2019** 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 School Compact.

The polls for the election of officers under Articles 1 and 2 will open at 6:00 p.m. and will close one-half hour (30 minutes) following the completion of business under the other articles.

Business under Article 3 and articles following will commence at 6:30 p.m.

- Article 1: To elect by ballot four (4) 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
1 at-large member for a 1-year term
- Article 2: To elect by ballot a moderator, clerk, and treasurer for 1-year terms, an auditor for a 1-year term, and an auditor 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 \$11,285,101 for the operating budget for the District for the 2019–2020 fiscal year?
- Article 5: Shall the voters of the District raise the sum of \$30,000 for replenishment of the capital reserve fund?
- Article 6: 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 2019–2020 fiscal year for their intended use?
- Article 7: To transact any other business which may lawfully properly come before the meeting.

Dated February 25, 2019

A majority of the Rivendell Interstate School District Board

A true copy. Attest:

Esther Dobbins-Marsh, Clerk

**Rivendell Interstate School District
BUDGET ALLOCATION SUMMARY**

(Not Audited)

Allocation District Wide (A.D.M.)	100.00%
Budget Allocation Summary (Following Wording of Article of Agreement, Section F)	RISD
Total District Expenditures (Operating Budget + Federal Title Grants)	\$11,285,101
Capital Expenditures (Capital Fund Transfers)	\$30,000
Federal Aid Revenues to District (By State)	\$463,006
Tuition Payments Revenues to District (By ADM)	\$338,800
Other Revenues to District (By ADM)	\$60,000
Student Transportation Member Specific Expenditure (Mileage)	\$368,555
Debt Service Member Specific Expenditure	\$529,671
NET OPERATING EXPENSES (By ADM)	\$9,495,069
BUDGETED EDUCATION SPENDING	\$11,285,101
BUDGETED DISTRICT MEMBER ASSESSMENTS	\$8,951,925

BUDGETED EDUCATION SPENDING	\$11,285,101
Federal Aid Revenues to District (By State)	\$463,006
Tuition Payments Revenues to District (By ADM)	\$338,800
Other Revenues to District (By ADM)	\$60,000
State Revenues to Members	\$1,471,370
NET DISTRICT MEMBER ASSESSMENTS (without Prior-Year Adjustment)	\$8,951,925
Transfer To/From General Fund Balance	\$0
NET DISTRICT MEMBER ASSESSMENTS (with Prior-Year Adjustment)	\$8,951,925

31.67%		68.33%	
NH (Orford)		VT (Unified)	Article
\$9,501		\$20,499	F, H, G
\$124,735		\$338,271	F, O
\$107,298		\$231,502	F
\$19,002		\$40,998	F
\$80,308		\$288,247	F, L
\$210,088		\$319,583	F, H
\$3,007,077		\$6,487,992	F
\$3,558,008		\$7,727,093	
\$2,895,439		\$6,056,486	

\$3,558,008	\$7,727,093	
\$124,735	\$338,271	F
\$107,298	\$231,502	F
\$19,002	\$40,998	F
\$411,535	\$1,059,835	I

\$2,895,439	\$6,056,486
\$0	\$0

\$2,895,439	\$6,056,486
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Rivendell Interstate School District

FY20 SUMMARY OF GENERAL FUND REVENUES

(Not Audited)

Function Codes	Description	FY18 Budget	FY18 Actual	FY19 Budget	FY20 Proposed	vs. FY19 Budget	% change from FY19 Budget
Local Revenues							
1302	ECP Before & After Schl Care	-	4,303	40,000	5,000	(35,000)	-87.5%
1323	Sec Schl Tuition	175,000	335,430	275,000	338,800	63,800	23.2%
1363	SPED Tuition - NON VT	-	5,450	-	-	-	n/a
1510	Interest Income	1,500	6,057	3,000	4,500	1,500	50.0%
1710	Game Receipts	5,000	5,536	5,000	5,000	-	0.0%
1910	Rental Income	-	1,800	-	-	-	n/a
1990	Miscellaneous Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	n/a
1991	Visions After-School Fees	-	37,033	-	35,000	35,000	n/a
1993	SummerScapes Revenue	-	7,884	-	8,000	8,000	n/a
1995	Visions After-school Snack Grant	-	2,348	-	2,500	2,500	n/a
	subtotal	181,500	405,841	323,000	398,800	75,800	23.5%
District Assessments							
1935	Fairlee Assessment	2,486,728	2,518,370	2,511,788	2,465,854	(45,934)	-1.8%
1936	West Fairlee Assessment	1,845,123	1,048,110	1,772,959	1,862,648	89,689	5.1%
1937	Vershire Assessment	1,486,062	967,027	1,505,452	1,727,984	222,532	14.8%
1938	Orford Assessment	2,814,248	2,814,248	2,337,995	2,895,439	557,444	23.8%
	subtotal	8,632,161	7,347,755	8,128,194	8,951,925	823,731	10.1%
State Revenues							
3110	Vt General State Support Grant (see Note)	-	1,191,934	-	-	-	n/a
3111	NH /Adequact Aid - Orford	336,956	338,213	305,075	311,425	6,350	2.1%
3114	VT Voc Ed (On Behalf)	71,154	71,157	-	-	-	n/a
3115	VT Unenrolled	-	7,034	-	-	-	n/a
3150	VT Transportation Aid	146,457	166,862	145,000	170,000	25,000	17.2%
3152	VT Transp Aid Extraordinary	-	-	-	-	-	n/a
3201	VT SPED Mainstream Block Grant	143,000	157,256	158,000	158,271	271	0.2%
3202	VT Expenditure Reimbursement (aka "SPED SEER")	480,000	542,458	425,000	545,000	120,000	28.2%
3203	VT Extraordinary Reimb	-	136,135	49,000	140,000	91,000	185.7%
3204	VT EEE Programs	20,000	26,727	29,000	29,714	714	2.5%
3210	NH Building Aid	76,110	76,110	76,110	76,110	-	0.0%
3241	NH Voc School Tuition Grant	6,500	17,291	8,500	17,500	9,000	105.9%
3242	NH Voc Transportation Aid	-	951	-	1,000	1,000	n/a
3243	NH SPED Catastrophic Aid	-	5,479	5,000	5,500	500	10.0%
3282	VT Driver Ed Reimb	500	1,346	500	1,350	850	170.0%
3308	VT Voc Ed Transp Aid	11,000	15,667	14,000	15,500	1,500	10.7%
	subtotal	1,291,677	2,754,620	1,215,185	1,471,370	256,185	21.1%
Federal Special Education Revenues (Categorical Grants **)							
4226	IDEA-VT (SPECIAL ED)	100,550	100,550	-	110,697	110,697	n/a
4228	IDEA-VT Special Ed Preschool	2,923	2,923	-	3,191	3,191	n/a
4226	IDEA-NH (SPECIAL ED)	-	-	-	27,583	27,583	n/a
4228	IDEA-NH Special Ed Preschool	-	-	-	1,939	1,939	n/a
	subtotal	-	-	-	143,410	143,410	n/a
Federal Title and Medicaid Grants (Categorical Grants **)							
4250-5555	VT-FEDERAL GRANTS-Title Grants	-	127,979	210,534	120,771	(89,763)	-42.6%
4250-4651	NH-FEDERAL GRANTS-Title Grants	-	45,213	-	45,213	45,213	n/a
5481	NH MEDICAID	-	-	-	50,000	50,000	n/a
4651	Vt Title IIA	-	53,298	39,465	39,465	0	0.0%
5481	VT MEDICAID IEP	-	47,553	-	60,000	60,000	n/a
5483	Vt MEDICAID EPSDT	-	4,148	-	4,147	4,147	n/a
	subtotal	-	-	-	319,596	319,596	n/a
Other Revenues							
9000	Refund of Prior Year Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	n/a
9300	From Prior Yr Fund Balance	90,000	90,000	300,000	-	(300,000)	-100.0%
	Prior Period Adjustment	\$108,000	-	-	-	-	n/a
	subtotal	198,000	90,000	300,000	-	(300,000)	-100.0%
TOTAL REVENUES		10,303,338	10,598,216	9,966,379	11,285,101	1,318,722	13.2%

Rivendell Interstate School District
FY20 SUMMARY OF GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES
(Not Audited)

Function Codes	Description	FY18	FY18	FY19	FY20	vs. FY19	% change
		Budget	Actual	Budget	Proposed	Budget	from FY19 Budget
1110	Elementary Instruction	1,607,451	1,705,879	1,691,221	1,824,767	133,546	7.9%
1130	Secondary Instruction	1,594,251	1,616,971	1,642,604	1,701,256	58,652	3.6%
1200	Special Education	1,652,956	1,990,892	1,832,386	1,865,967	33,581	1.8%
1211	Early Essential Education	112,641	126,840	122,993	98,741	(24,252)	-19.7%
1220	Early Childhood Program	369,768	369,544	376,266	378,207	1,941	0.5%
1330	Career/Technical Education	210,773	195,643	160,835	160,835	0	0.00%
1400	Extracurricular/Athletics	119,837	133,958	148,999	145,599	(3,400)	-2.3%
2120	Guidance	219,011	200,812	340,338	260,788	(79,550)	-23.4%
2130	Health	126,133	166,351	154,211	162,028	7,817	5.1%
2212	Instructional Improvement	18,875	8,184	23,875	17,600	(6,275)	-26.3%
2222	Library	178,038	129,339	116,416	68,566	(47,850)	-41.1%
2225	Technology	443,219	427,068	441,609	459,308	17,699	4.0%
2310	School Board	41,719	28,924	34,240	43,240	9,000	26.3%
2313	Treasurer	2,905	3,014	2,830	2,830	0	0.00%
2321	District Administration	276,864	275,873	275,919	353,300	77,381	28.0%
2410	School Administration	561,018	674,576	602,224	706,830	104,606	17.4%
2420	Special Ed. Admin	160,440	166,847	172,967	196,321	23,354	13.5%
2490	Contracted Benefits	113,426	302,726	132,500	193,940	61,440	46.4%
2520	Business Office	197,963	219,521	208,887	233,042	24,155	11.6%
2620	Operations	798,413	836,855	776,408	904,620	128,212	16.5%
2630	Grounds	34,350	41,268	39,250	62,250	23,000	58.6%
2640/2650	Driver Ed/Vehicles Costs	6,650	8,664	1,400	5,000	3,600	257.1%
2711/2720	Transportation/Field Trips	432,494	515,720	441,709	458,067	16,358	3.7%
3000	Visions	70,432	38,316	49,951	34,275	(15,676)	-31.4%
3310	Rivendell Trails Program	12,318	10,913	12,500	13,456	956	7.7%
5100	Debt Service	697,500	613,301	566,422	529,671	(36,751)	-6.5%
5200	Transfer to Capital Reserve	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	0	0.00%
	Transfer to Food Program						
5300	Enterprise Fund	35,000	35,000	35,000	55,000	20,000	57.1%
SUBTOTAL:		10,124,445	10,872,997	10,433,960	10,965,505	531,545	5.1%

Expenditures related to Federal Title and Medicaid Grants (Categorical Grants)

319,596

TOTAL District Expenditure Budget	11,285,101
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Rivendell Interstate School District
FY20 BUDGET REVENUE SUMMARY
(Not Audited)

Description	Total	NH (Orford)	VT (Unified)
Average Daily Membership:	446.26	141.33	304.93
Allocation District Wide (A.D.M.)	100.00%	31.67%	68.33%
Vt Districts Allocation	100.00%		100.00%
Total District Expenditure Budget	11,285,101		
LESS amount for Debt Service	-\$529,671		
LESS Student Transportation to/from School	-\$368,555		
LESS Local, District Wide, General Fund Revenues	-\$398,800	-\$126,299	-\$272,501
LESS Revenues Supporting Categorical Grants	-\$463,006	-146,633	-316,373
EQUALS assessments before district-specific adjustments (aka "Net Education Spending*")	9,525,069	3,016,578	6,508,491

* State of Vermont Defines "Ed Spending" as Expense Budget minus Revenue Budget

CALCULATION OF DISTRICT ASSESSMENTS

District-Specific Items

less State-Specific General Fund Revenues

Adjustments to apply various state-specific revenues to corresponding districts

3110	Vt General State Support Grant	-		-
3111	NH Adequacy Aid - Orford	311,425	311,425	-
3114	VT Voc Ed (On Behalf)	-		-
3115	VT Unenrolled	-		-
3150	VT Transportation Aid	170,000		170,000
3152	VT Transp Aid Extraordinary	-		-
3201	VT Mainstream Block Grant	158,271		158,271
3202	VT SPED SEER (aka "Intensive Reimb")	545,000		545,000
3203	VT Extraordinary Reimb	140,000		140,000
3204	VT EEE Programs	29,714		29,714
3210	NH Building Aid	76,110	76,110	-
3241	NH Voc School Tuition Grant	17,500	17,500	-
3242	NH Voc Transportation Aid	1,000	1,000	-
3243	NH SPED Catastrophic Aid	5,500	5,500	-
3282	VT Driver Ed Reimb	1,350		1,350
3308	VT Voc Ed Transp Aid	15,500		15,500
	Subtotal District-Specific State Revenues	1,471,370	411,535	1,059,835

PLUS State-Specific Expenditure Items

Adjustments to apply state-specific expense items

	Debt Service	529,671	210,088	319,583
	Transportation to/from School (same % as FY19)	368,555	80,308	288,247
	Subtotal District-Specific Expense Items	898,226	290,396	607,830

Adjusted Assessments	8,951,925	2,895,439	6,056,486
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Student Transportation

(Member-Specific Expenditure Allocation)

	RISD	NH (Orford)	VT (Unified)
Mileage Percentage	100.00%	21.79%	78.21%
Transportation to/from School (same % as FY19)	\$368,555	\$80,308	\$288,247

Rivendell Interstate School District

FY20 ADM STATISTICS AND TAX RATE ESTIMATES

(Not Audited)

	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Fairlee</u>	<u>West Fairlee</u>	<u>Vershire</u>	<u>Orford</u>
1) Percentage Share Calculation:					
Average Daily Membership:	446.26	124.15	93.78	87.00	141.33
Fall Census 1st-40th days School year FY19	100.00%	27.82%	21.01%	19.50%	31.67%

Equalized Pupil Counts for purposes of Vt Tax Rate Calculation					
VT Equalized Pupils (See Note)	315.38	132.61	97.05	85.72	
	100.00%	42.05%	30.77%	27.18%	

2) Tax Rate Estimates:
a. Vermont Town Tax Rate estimates

Under Act 130, Vermont union members use same tax rate before adjustment for CLA.

Total Local Education Spending (i.e. District Assessments)	\$6,056,486	\$2,465,854	\$1,862,648	\$1,727,984	
DIVIDE by Vermont Equalized Pupils	<u>315.38</u>				
Education Spending per Equalized Pupil	\$ 19,204				
ADD EXCESS SPENDING PENALTY (see 3 year comparative data)	\$ -				
DIVIDE by Yield	<u>\$10,666</u>				
equals Local Tax Rate Equalized	<u>\$1.8005</u>				
Equalized Tax Rates		\$1.8005	\$1.8005	\$1.8005	
divide by Common Level of Appraisal (1/2/2019)		98.96%	98.44%	94.39%	
equals Estimated Vermont Local Education Tax Rates per \$100 valuation		\$1.8194	\$1.8290	\$1.9075	

b. Orford Local Tax rate estimate per \$1,000 valuation

Net Assessment					\$2,895,439
STATE-Wide Education Property Tax (SWEPT) Assessment					\$300,021
divide by Estimated Orford Grand List (without utilities)					\$134,810,928
STATE Education Property Tax Rate (per \$1,000 valuation)					\$2.23
LOCAL Education Property Tax Assessment					\$2,595,417.94
divide by Estimated Orford Grand List (with utilities)					\$136,919,128
LOCAL Education Property Tax Rate (per \$1,000 valuation)					\$18.96
equals Estimated Orford Tax rate per \$1,000 valuation					\$21.18

Annual Property Tax on a \$100,000 property	\$1,819	\$1,829	\$1,908	\$2,118
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	<u>Fairlee</u>	<u>West Fairlee</u>	<u>Vershire</u>	<u>Orford</u>
3. Prior Year Tax Rates				
Equalized Tax Rate	\$1.7967	\$1.7967	\$1.7967	
CLA	106.37%	93.85%	98.50%	
Local Tax Rate	\$1.6891	\$1.9144	\$1.8241	\$17.08
State Tax Rate				\$2.26
Prior Year Tax on \$100,000 Property	\$1,689	\$1,914	\$1,824	\$1,934
Change in Tax on \$100,000 Property	\$130	-\$85	\$83	\$184
Percent Change on a \$100,000 Property	7.7%	-4.5%	4.6%	9.5%

Note: "Equalized Pupil" counts are calculated by the State Of Vermont, and start with a two-year average enrollment number for each town. Factors for pre-K, secondary enrollment, poverty, and, limited English proficiency, are added to the total. The resulting total is then multiplied by the "equalizing ratio" (which is a statewide ratio of "real" students to students "inflated" by the factors mentioned above); for each of the three Vermont towns. The result is the Equalized Pupil counts listed above.

Rivendell Interstate School District

THREE PRIOR YEARS COMPARISONS

PRELIMINARY

Three Prior Years Comparisons - Format as Provided by AOE

ESTIMATES
ONLY

District: Rivendell Interstate USD County: Orange		Property dollar equivalent yield U146 Rivendell			Homestead tax rate per \$10,000 of spending per equalized pupil 1.00	
		10,666	13,104	Income dollar equivalent yield per 2.0% of household income		
		FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	
Expenditures						
1.	Adopted or warned union district budget (including special programs and full technical center expenditures)	\$6,726,840	\$7,131,702	\$7,433,939	\$7,705,195	1.
2.	plus Sum of separately warned articles passed at union district meeting	-	-	-	-	2.
3.	Adopted or warned union district budget plus articles	\$6,726,840	\$7,131,702	\$7,433,939	\$7,705,195	3.
4.	plus Obligation to a Regional Technical Center School District if any	-	-	-	-	4.
5.	plus Prior year deficit repayment of deficit	-	-	-	-	5.
6.	Total Union Budget	\$6,726,840	\$7,131,702	\$7,433,939	\$7,705,195	6.
7.	S.U. assessment (included in union budget) - informational data	-	-	-	-	7.
8.	Prior year deficit reduction (if included in union expenditure budget) - informational data	-	-	-	-	8.
Revenues						
9.	Union revenues (categorical grants, donations, tuitions, surplus, federal, etc.)	\$1,294,321	\$1,313,790	\$1,595,224	\$1,648,709	9.
10.	Total offsetting union revenues	\$1,294,321	\$1,313,790	\$1,595,224	\$1,648,709	10.
11.	Education Spending	\$5,432,519	\$5,817,912	\$5,838,715	\$6,056,486	11.
12.	Rivendell Interstate USD equalized pupils	296.68	309.48	317.97	315.38	12.
Education Spending per Equalized Pupil						
13.		\$18,311.04	\$18,798.99	\$18,362.47	\$19,203.77	13.
14.	minus Less net eligible construction costs (or P&J) per equalized pupil	-\$1,322.26	-\$1,326.49	-\$1,096.69	-\$1,098	14.
15.	minus Less share of SpEd costs in excess of \$50,000 for an individual (per egcup)	-	-	-	\$48	15.
16.	minus Less amount of deficit if deficit is SOLELY attributable to tuitions paid to public schools for grades the district does not operate for new students who moved to the district after the budget was passed (per egcup)	-	-	-	-	16.
17.	minus Less SpEd costs if excess is solely attributable to new SpEd spending if district has 20 or fewer equalized pupils (per egcup)	-	-	-	-	17.
18.	minus Estimated costs of new students after census period (per egcup)	-	-	-	-	18.
19.	minus Total tuitions if tuitioning ALL K-12 unless electorate has approved tuitions greater than average announced tuition (per egcup)	-	-	-	-	19.
20.	minus Less planning costs for merger of small schools (per egcup)	-	-	-	-	20.
21.	minus Teacher retirement assessment for new members of Vermont State Teachers' Retirement System on or after July 1, 2015 (per egcup)	-	-	-	-	21.
22.	Excess spending threshold	\$17,053.54	\$17,386.00	\$17,816.00	\$18,311.00	22.
23.	plus Excess Spending per Equalized Pupil over threshold (if any)	-	\$54	-	-	23.
24.	Per pupil figure used for calculating District Equalized Tax Rate	\$18,311	\$18,853	\$18,362	\$19,203.77	24.
25.	Union spending adjustment (minimum of 100%)	188.754%	185.563%	179.672%	180.047%	25.
		<small>based on \$9,701</small>	<small>based on yield \$10,160</small>	<small>based on \$10,220</small>	<small>based on yield \$10,666</small>	
26.	Anticipated equalized union homestead tax rate to be prorated [\$19,203.77 ÷ (\$10,666 / \$1.00)]	\$1.8875	\$1.8556	\$1.7967	\$1.8005	26.
		<small>based on \$1.00</small>	<small>based on \$1.00</small>	<small>based on \$1.00</small>	<small>based on \$1.00</small>	
Prorated homestead union tax rates for members of Rivendell Interstate USD						
		FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	FY20 %
T074	#N/A	1.8875	1.8556	1.7967	-	-
T215	#N/A	1.8875	1.8556	1.7967	-	-
T230	#N/A	1.8875	1.8556	1.7967	-	-
27.	Anticipated income cap percent to be prorated from Rivendell Interstate USD [((\$19,203.77 ÷ \$13,104) × 2.00%)]	3.37%	3.14%	2.97%	2.93%	27.
		<small>based on 2.00%</small>	<small>based on 2.00%</small>	<small>based on 2.00%</small>	<small>based on 2.00%</small>	
Prorated union income cap percentage for members of Rivendell Interstate USD						
		FY2017	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	FY20 %
T074	#N/A	3.37%	3.14%	2.97%	-	-
T215	#N/A	3.37%	3.14%	2.97%	-	-
T230	#N/A	3.37%	3.14%	2.97%	-	-

- Following current statute, the Tax Commissioner recommended a property yield of \$10,666 for every \$1.00 of homestead tax per \$100 of equalized property value. The Tax Commissioner also recommended an income yield of \$13,104 for a base income percent of 2.0% and a non-residential tax rate of \$1.58. New and updated data will likely change the proposed property and income yields and perhaps the non-residential rate.

- Final figures will be set by the Legislature during the legislative session and approved by the Governor.

- The base income percentage cap is 2.0%.

2019/2020 BUDGET EXPENDITURE DETAIL

(Not Audited)

Acct	Description	FY18 Budget	FY18 Actual	FY19 Budget	FY20 Proposal	Change
1110 – ELEMENTARY EDUCATION						
110	Salaries – Teachers	1,037,613	1,055,106	1,141,970	1,184,794	42,824
115	Salaries – Paraprofessionals	57,316	78,550	59,441	42,994	(16,447)
120	Substitutes	25,722	29,918	35,000	35,000	–
200	Benefits	430,400	490,302	389,000	454,544	65,544
320	Professional Development	1,600	2,725	1,000	1,000	–
330	504 Service Costs – EL	4,750	2,743	2,000	32,000	30,000
550	Copiers	9,000	10,978	9,200	4,970	(4,230)
580	Travel	3,000	1,936	1,600	1,600	–
610	Classroom Supplies	17,500	17,890	29,860	33,360	3,500
612	Art Supplies	3,550	3,593	4,650	2,705	(1,945)
613	Music Supplies	500	124	500	4,500	4,000
640	Classroom Books	4,800	3,191	4,000	10,000	6,000
730	Classroom Equipment	4,500	2,856	6,600	6,400	(200)
734	Testing/Eval. Matts.	400	281	600	900	300
891	Partnerships	6,800	5,686	5,800	10,000	4,200
	TOTAL ELEMENTARY	1,607,451	1,705,879	1,691,221	1,824,767	133,546
1130 – SECONDARY EDUCATION						
110	Salaries – Teachers	1,034,116	1,074,218	1,117,738	1,174,233	56,495
115	Salaries – Paraprofessionals	2,479	399	2,584	1,556	(1,028)
120	Substitutes	30,866	31,946	31,000	31,000	–
200	Benefits	474,100	467,321	428,582	428,788	206
320	Professional Development	1,000	276	1,000	–	(1,000)
330	Purchased 504 Services	1,800	5,822	1,800	11,000	9,200
550	Copiers	13,000	16,467	13,000	9,529	(3,471)
580	Travel	500	30	700	500	(200)
610	Classroom Supplies	9,490	5,776	9,300	8,850	(450)
612	Enrichment/Events	4,000	1,531	4,000	4,000	–
613	Ldrshp/Career Exploration	3,800	101	2,500	2,500	–
641	RA Summer Reading Program	–	–	–	2,000	2,000
640	Books	8,500	7,239	8,800	10,900	2,100
640	Project Materials	2,500	2,011	14,000	10,000	(4,000)
642	Driver Ed. Materials	–	–	200	–	(200)
643	Testing/Evaluation Materials	1,200	1,437	1,200	1,000	(200)
730	Equipment	6,900	2,398	6,200	5,400	(800)
	TOTAL SECONDARY	1,594,251	1,616,971	1,642,604	1,701,256	58,652
1200 – SPECIAL EDUCATION						
110	Salaries – Teachers	336,746	342,872	347,994	343,516	(4,478)
115	Salaries – Paraprofessionals	370,361	439,398	361,523	375,080	13,557
120	Substitutes	5,324	39,400	6,107	–	(6,107)
200	Benefits	385,150	457,027	348,162	261,671	(86,491)
320	In-Service Training	12,500	14,449	30,000	22,000	(8,000)
330	Purchased Professional Services	271,600	339,634	333,500	436,000	102,500
430	Equip. Repair/Maint.	500	–	500	500	–
513	Student Transportation	110,000	124,856	135,000	150,000	15,000
560	Out of District Tuitions	282,000	207,822	243,000	247,600	4,600
580	Travel	500	68	500	500	–
594	Tech Center Services	7,525	7,378	8,600	8,600	–
610	Supplies	5,000	3,507	5,000	5,000	–
611	Testing Materials	1,000	1,041	1,000	3,000	2,000
640	Books/ Periodicals	500	1,959	500	1,500	1,000
670	Software	1,000	244	1,000	1,000	–

2019/2020 BUDGET EXPENDITURE DETAIL

(Not Audited)

Acct	Description	FY18 Budget	FY18 Actual	FY19 Budget	FY20 Proposal	Change
730	Equipment	5,000	11,238	10,000	10,000	-
810	Dues & Fees	5,000	-	-	-	-
900	LESS: IDEA & Medicaid	(146,750)				
	TOTAL SPED	1,652,956	1,990,892	1,832,386	1,865,967	33,581
1211 – EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL ED						
110	Salaries – Teachers	48,669	53,953	46,088	47,816	1,728
115	Salaries – Paraprofessionals	12,672	16,092	10,749	11,152	403
200	Benefits	25,000	9,069	22,156	21,473	(683)
320	Inservice – Training	-	12	500	500	-
330	Purchased Services	25,000	39,301	41,700	16,000	(25,700)
580	Staff Travel	300	255	300	300	-
610	ECSE Materials and Supplies	500	214	500	500	-
730	ECSE Equipment	500	7,944	1,000	1,000	-
	TOTAL ECSE	112,641	126,840	122,993	98,741	(24,252)
1220 – EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS						
110	Salaries – Teachers	174,167	171,483	177,235	183,881	6,646
112	ECP Salaries – Sec'y	2,705	-	2,796	2,901	105
115	Salaries – Paraprofessionals	55,096	66,099	67,767	70,308	2,541
120	Substitutes	-	9,990	-	-	-
200	Benefits	103,400	107,205	93,468	93,617	149
300	Act 166 Commun.-Based Pre-School	30,000	12,213	30,000	20,000	(10,000)
320	ECP Accred./In Svc Trng	300	-	300	300	-
580	ECP Staff Travel	100	-	100	100	-
610	ECP Materials & Supplies	3,000	2,242	3,000	5,500	2,500
640	ECP Classrm. Books	-	-	600	600	-
730	ECP Equipment	1,000	313	1,000	1,000	-
	TOTAL EARLY CHILDHOOD	369,768	369,544	376,266	378,207	1,941
1330 – CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION						
568	Additional Tech Center	19,619	39,403	26,928	26,928	-
569	VocEd Tuition Pd for NH Students	120,000	85,083	64,000	64,000	-
568	VT Paid on behalf Voc Ed Tuition	71,154	71,157	69,907	69,907	-
	TOTAL CAREER & TECH ED	210,773	195,643	160,835	160,835	-
1400 – ATHLETICS						
110	Coaches	51,444	79,127	75,449	75,449	-
120	Game Officials & Field Staff	24,693	22,819	27,000	26,000	(1,000)
200	Benefits	8,000	7,489	8,000	8,000	-
320	Professional Development	300	275	2,000	2,000	-
525	Co-Curricular Student Insurance	650	1,200	650	650	-
540	Advertising	800	200	400	400	-
580	Staff Travel	850	941	800	800	-
610	Supplies/Equipment	16,000	12,469	19,900	16,000	(3,900)
810	Dues/Fees	6,800	5,940	4,500	6,000	1,500
	TOTAL ATHLETICS	109,537	130,460	138,699	135,299	(3,400)

2019/2020 BUDGET EXPENDITURE DETAIL

(Not Audited)

Acct	Description	FY18 Budget	FY18 Actual	FY19 Budget	FY20 Proposal	Change
1401/1402 – CO-CURRICULAR						
321	Academy Clubs–RA	800	–	800	800	–
330	Theater Arts Contracted Svcs.	4,000	3,110	4,000	4,000	–
611	Theater Arts Supplies	4,500	388	4,500	4,500	–
730	Theater Arts Equipment	1,000	–	1,000	1,000	–
	TOTAL CO-CURRICULAR	10,300	3,499	10,300	10,300	–
2120 – GUIDANCE						
110	Salaries	165,511	152,587	272,792	186,750	(86,042)
200	Benefits	49,500	44,654	64,746	69,888	5,142
610	Supplies	2,750	3,017	1,500	1,500	–
640	Books	600	261	650	2,000	1,350
810	Dues & Fees	650	293	650	650	–
	TOTAL GUIDANCE	219,011	200,812	340,338	260,788	(79,550)
2130 – HEALTH						
110	Salaries	93,033	108,672	112,289	116,500	4,211
200	Benefits	28,600	54,546	37,222	40,178	2,956
580	Travel	500	199	500	1,000	500
610	Supplies	3,500	2,934	3,500	3,500	–
640	Books	–	–	500	100	(400)
730	Equipment	500	–	200	750	550
	TOTAL HEALTH	126,133	166,351	154,211	162,028	7,817
2212 – INSTRUCTIONAL IMPROVEMENT						
110	Consulting Teachers	3,000	610	3,000	–	(3,000)
115	Teacher. Stipends	10,375	4,289	10,375	8,000	(2,375)
200	Impr. Instr. Empl. Benefits	2,600	2,861	2,600	2,800	200
320	Prof. Dev. – Imp of Inst	1,000	425	1,000	–	(1,000)
330	Impr. Inst. Consult.	–	–	5,000	5,000	–
580	Travel – Improvement	500	–	500	–	(500)
610	Supplies – Improvement	450	–	450	1,800	1,350
640	Books/Research Mtls/Periodicals – Imp	500	–	500	–	(500)
690	Testing Materials – Improvement	450	–	450	–	(450)
	TOTAL INSTRUCTIONAL IMPROVEMENT	18,875	8,184	23,875	17,600	(6,275)
2222 – LIBRARY						
110	Salaries	123,958	103,978	68,447	47,697	(20,750)
200	Benefits	49,500	22,518	43,869	17,369	(26,500)
610	Supplies	750	230	600	600	–
640	Books	3,350	2,287	3,000	2,500	(500)
730	Equipment	480	325	500	400	(100)
	TOTAL LIBRARY	178,038	129,339	116,416	68,566	(47,850)

2019/2020 BUDGET EXPENDITURE DETAIL

(Not Audited)

Acct	Description	FY18 Budget	FY18 Actual	FY19 Budget	FY20 Proposal	Change
2225 – TECHNOLOGY						
110	Technology Coordinator	65,848	72,196	68,250	69,615	1,365
112	Integration Specialist	113,586	55,581	111,754	113,989	2,235
113	Technical Specialist	43,272	62,899	44,125	45,008	883
200	Technology Empl. Benefits	38,000	35,495	43,213	46,645	3,432
320	Professional Development	9,765	8,850	7,674	6,485	(1,189)
330	Purch. Prof Svcs	19,886	16,368	32,984	40,806	7,822
430	Maint. Agreements	52,523	57,500	57,946	54,705	(3,241)
530	Network Commun. Exp	9,356	7,523	9,595	10,015	420
580	Travel	500	364	500	500	–
640	Books and Periodicals	100	–	100	100	–
730	Equipment	90,383	110,292	65,468	71,440	5,972
	TOTAL TECHNOLOGY	443,219	427,068	441,609	459,308	17,699
2310 – BOARD						
115	Board Secretary	1,029	1,820	1,200	1,200	–
220	Employer FICA & Medicare	400	519	350	350	–
320	Prof Dev – School Board	90	90	90	90	–
330	Voting & Annual Meeting Costs	3,500	2,936	3,500	3,500	–
340	Professional Services	500	–	500	500	–
360	Legal Services	4,000	–	4,000	4,000	–
370	Audit Services	11,000	6,720	10,000	14,000	4,000
390	NEASC	5,000	2,718	–	5,000	5,000
522	Umbrella Liability Ins.	4,000	4,333	4,500	4,500	–
530	Communications/Postage	3,000	1,222	2,000	2,000	–
540	Advertising & Recruitment	500	379	500	500	–
550	Printing	300	–	200	200	–
600	Web Site Maintenance	4,500	5,385	4,000	4,000	–
610	Misc. Supplies/ Expenses	900	110	900	900	–
810	Dues and Fees	3,000	2,694	2,500	2,500	–
115	Treasurer Stipend	2,675	2,800	2,600	2,600	–
200	Treasurer Benefits	230	214	230	230	–
	TOTAL BOARD	44,624	31,939	37,070	46,070	9,000
2321 – DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION						
110	Superintendent's Office	164,294	184,386	156,744	215,558	58,814
113	Grant Manager	–	–	15,000	–	(15,000)
200	Dist. Admin. EE Benefits	77,000	34,867	69,605	81,437	11,832
320	Prof Dev – Distr Admin	6,000	3,393	6,000	6,000	–
340	Criminal Record Checks	1,500	953	1,500	1,500	–
360	Legal Services	2,000	22,128	2,000	25,000	23,000
523	Cyber Insurance	–	2,768	–	–	–
530	Communication (Tel/Postage)	8,000	5,414	8,000	8,000	–
540	Advertising	2,000	1,407	2,000	2,000	–
550	Copier	4,420	5,489	4,420	3,155	(1,265)
551	Printing	500	–	500	500	–
580	Travel	1,200	1,713	1,200	1,200	–
610	Office Supplies	3,500	1,740	3,500	3,500	–
730	Equipment	450	575	450	450	–
810	Dues and Fees	6,000	11,040	5,000	5,000	–
	TOTAL DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION	276,864	275,873	275,919	353,300	77,381

2019/2020 BUDGET EXPENDITURE DETAIL

(Not Audited)

Acct	Description	FY18 Budget	FY18 Actual	FY19 Budget	FY20 Proposal	Change
2410 – SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION						
110	Administrators	286,908	376,648	339,883	353,940	14,057
112	Building Secretaries	115,210	116,844	109,295	118,320	9,025
200	School Admin. Benefits	100,000	127,365	90,396	174,920	84,524
320	Professional Development	7,500	9,326	7,500	6,500	(1,000)
530	Telephone	12,500	12,342	11,000	11,000	–
532	Postage	4,850	4,716	5,300	5,300	–
540	Advertising	1,600	1,755	1,400	1,900	500
550	Printing	2,700	1,600	2,700	2,700	–
580	Travel	1,250	111	1,250	1,750	500
600	Graduation	3,000	3,198	4,000	4,000	–
610	Office Supplies and Materials	19,000	17,632	19,500	19,500	–
730	Equipment	3,500	1,573	3,500	3,500	–
733	Furniture & Fixtures	–	–	3,500	–	(3,500)
810	Dues and Fees	3,000	1,464	3,000	3,500	500
	TOTAL SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION	561,018	674,576	602,224	706,830	104,606
2420 – SPED ADMINISTRATION						
110	Office of Special Education	107,840	118,650	117,308	129,030	11,722
200	Benefits	40,000	36,715	36,159	47,791	11,632
320	Professional Development	2,500	335	2,500	2,500	–
330	Purchased Services	–	300	–	–	–
360	Legal Service (non-reimbursable)	3,000	–	2,000	2,000	–
532	Postage/Phone	500	312	500	500	–
580	Travel	2,000	850	2,000	2,000	–
610	Office Supplies and Materials	2,000	400	2,000	3,000	1,000
640	Books and Periodicals	600	161	500	500	–
670	SPED Software	–	8,426	8,000	7,000	(1,000)
730	Equipment	1,000	–	1,000	1,000	–
810	Dues and Fees	1,000	700	1,000	1,000	–
	TOTAL SPED ADMINISTRATION	160,440	166,847	172,967	196,321	23,354
2490 – CONTRACTED BENEFITS						
210	Health & Dental Ins.	(46,674)	137,497	–	–	–
212	Sec. 125 & 403b Admin Fees	1,000	2,273	1,000	1,000	–
213	Life & Disab. Ins.	34,000	489	1,500	1,500	–
220	FICA & Medicare Taxes	100	–	–	–	–
240	Retirement Program Costs	25,000	18,219	20,000	20,000	–
250	W/C Insurance	45,000	84,547	55,000	101,440	46,440
260	Unemployment	5,000	1,478	5,000	5,000	–
270	Tuition Reimbursement Pool	50,000	58,224	50,000	65,000	15,000
	TOTAL CONTRACTED BENEFITS	113,426	302,726	132,500	193,940	61,440

2019/2020 BUDGET EXPENDITURE DETAIL

(Not Audited)

Acct	Description	FY18 Budget	FY18 Actual	FY19 Budget	FY20 Proposal	Change
2520 – BUSINESS OFFICE						
110	Office of Business Services	130,163	151,874	149,197	159,000	9,803
200	Benefits	60,500	59,784	54,690	59,042	4,352
320	Professional Development	2,600	3,619	2,500	2,500	–
580	Travel	700	1,665	600	600	–
610	Supplies	900	1,507	900	900	–
810	Dues & Fees	200	350	200	200	–
811	Bank Service Charges	900	721	800	800	–
830	TAN Interest	2,000	–	–	–	–
330	Payroll Contracted Services	–	–	–	10,000	10,000
	TOTAL BUSINESS OFFICE	197,963	219,521	208,887	233,042	24,155
2620 – OPERATIONS						
110	Building Operations Salaries	269,563	281,771	265,972	316,008	50,036
200	Benefits	100,100	80,109	90,487	115,563	25,076
411	Water Fees	5,200	4,899	6,500	6,000	(500)
421	Rubbish Removal	14,600	15,472	12,700	12,700	–
425	Hazardous Waste Removal	1,500	–	500	500	–
430	Purchased Services	82,000	113,395	90,000	90,000	–
521	Auto & Multi-peril Insurance	57,500	53,733	57,500	57,500	–
580	Travel Expense	500	–	500	500	–
610	Maintenance & Repair	26,000	14,411	21,149	41,149	20,000
611	Custodial Supplies	17,500	20,122	12,650	12,650	–
622	Electricity	101,000	89,583	104,000	104,000	–
623	LP Gas	40,200	43,458	40,200	40,200	–
624	Fuel Oil	65,000	66,343	64,000	64,000	–
730	Equipment	10,000	50,108	9,900	10,700	800
733	Furniture & Fixtures	7,500	2,864	–	32,800	32,800
810	Dues & Fees	250	587	350	350	–
	TOTAL OPERATIONS	798,413	836,855	776,408	904,620	128,212
2630 – GROUNDS						
422	Snow Plowing	20,000	22,300	6,800	36,000	29,200
430	Purchased Grounds Services	2,000	240	4,500	2,500	(2,000)
441	Lease – Orford Fields	8,500	8,500	8,500	8,500	–
611	Grounds Supplies	3,850	10,228	3,250	6,250	3,000
730	Equipment – Sander	–	–	8,000	–	(8,000)
626	Other Vehicles Gasoline	2,000	1,964	2,000	2,000	–
800	Other Vehicle Costs	3,200	6,202	6,200	6,200	–
320	Operations Professional Development	–	–	–	800	800
	TOTAL GROUNDS	39,550	49,433	39,250	62,250	23,000
2650 – DRIVERS EDUCATION						
430	D Ed Vehicle Repair and Maintenance	500	111	500	500	–
626	D Ed Gasoline	800	367	750	750	–
800	Other D Ed Vehicle Costs	150	20	150	150	–
	New Vehicle lease	–	–	–	3,600	3,600
	TOTAL DRIVERS EDUCATION	1,450	498	1,400	5,000	27,400

2019/2020 BUDGET EXPENDITURE DETAIL

(Not Audited)

Acct	Description	FY18 Budget	FY18 Actual	FY19 Budget	FY20 Proposal	Change
2711 – TRANSPORTATION						
110	Transp. Mgr. Stipend	–	–	15,000	–	(15,000)
2711-519	Contracted Student Transportation	354,244	397,732	361,329	368,555	7,226
519	Other Student Transp.			–	5,000	5,000
2712-519	Voc. Ed. Transp.	20,000	57,619	20,630	21,042	412
2713-519	Homeless Transp.	250	8,561	250	250	–
2715-519	Warren Stu. Transp.	5,500	5,067	5,500	5,860	360
2716-519	Waits River Stu. Transp.	3,000	3,850	3,000	3,360	360
2720-514	Fuel Surcharge	6,000	–	–	–	–
2720-519	Sports Transp.	20,000	15,674	20,000	19,000	(1,000)
2720-519	Field Trips	23,500	27,217	16,000	26,000	10,000
1401-581	Summer Scapes Regular Transportation			–	9,000	9,000
	TOTAL TRANSPORTATION	432,494	515,720	441,709	458,067	16,358
3000 – VISIONS PROGRAM						
110	Visions Salaries	40,301	648	25,301	22,500	(2,801)
111	After-School Salaries	12,861	31,325	13,000	–	(13,000)
200	Benefits	10,320	4,910	5,800	7,875	2,075
519	Visions Field Trips	300	128	250	–	(250)
540	Visions Advertising	50	48	100	–	(100)
610	Visions Supplies	1,600	946	3,500	–	(3,500)
615	Visions Snacks	5,000	310	2,000	3,900	1,900
	TOTAL VISIONS PROGRAM	70,432	38,316	49,951	34,275	(15,676)
3310 – RIVENDELL TRAILS COORDINATOR						
110	Trails Coordinator	12,318	10,137	12,500	12,500	–
220	Trails Benefits	–	776	–	956	956
	TOTAL	12,318	10,913	12,500	13,456	956
5100 – BONDS & TRANSFERS						
830	Rivendell Bond Interest	114,500	77,389	93,000	61,261	(31,739)
833	Bond Refinance Expense	–		3,422	3,410	(12)
834	Asbestos Loan Interest	8,000	175	–	–	–
910	Rivendell Bond Principal	475,000	470,000	470,000	465,000	(5,000)
910	Asbestos Loan Principal	100,000	65,736	–	–	–
930	Transfer to Capital Exp Trust Fund	30,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	–
931	Transfer to Food Service Fund	35,000	35,000	35,000	55,000	20,000
	TOTAL BONDS & TRANSFERS	762,500	678,301	631,422	614,671	(16,751)
		10,124,445	10,872,997	10,433,960	10,965,505	531,545

LONG-TERM DEBT
(Not Audited)

Balance
June 30, 2018

General Obligation Serial Construction bond payable, interest at 2.98%, interest paid semi-annually, principal of \$330,000 due on November 15th of each year until 2024, originally borrowed \$8,000,000 on August 1st, 1999.	\$2,310,000
Vermont Municipal Bond Bank, bond payable, interest at 4.88%, interest paid semi-annually, principal of \$130,000 due on December 1st of each year until 2026, originally borrowed \$3,195,000 on July 26, 2001.	\$1,170,000
Vermont Municipal Bond Bank, bond payable, interest at 4.11%, interest paid semi-annually, principal of \$10,000 due on December 1st of each year until 2010, then \$5,000 due on December 1st of each year until 2022, originally borrowed \$120,000 on July 31, 2002.	\$25,000
Total long-term debt	\$3,505,000

DEBT SERVICE ALLOCATION
(Not Audited)

Description	Total	NH (Orford)	VT (Unified)
State Member Percentage (FY19 ADM)	100.00%	31.67%	68.33%
Debt Service Before Initial VT Aid	\$14,171,085		
LESS NH Portion FY20 Distribution	\$4,487,965	\$4,487,965	
VT FY20 Portion of Original Debt Service	\$9,683,120		
LESS Initial VT Construction Aid	\$2,856,085		
VT FY20 Portion of FY20 Distribution	\$6,827,035		\$6,827,035
State Share of Debt Service After Initial Aid	\$11,315,000	\$4,487,965	\$6,827,035
	39.7%	39.7%	60.3%
FY20 Budgeted Debt Service	\$529,671	\$210,088	\$319,583

NOTE: Per historical, all VT Debt Service is exempt from Excess Spending Threshold

FY 18 FOOD PROGRAM

(Not Audited)

Not including Commodities and Depreciation

OPERATING REVENUES:

Sales	\$78,185	
Total Operating Revenues		\$78,185

OPERATING EXPENSES:

Salaries and Benefits	134,977	
Food and Supplies	71,892	
Software	1,246	
Total Operating Expenses		\$208,115

Operating Income (Loss) (\$129,930)

Non-Operating Income:

State Sources		
Lunch Match	1,397	
Child Nutrition Breakfast	506	
Child Nutrition Other	705	
Reduced Lunch Initiative	1,627	
Restricted Grants:		
National School Breakfast Program	25,606	
National School Lunch Program	62,129	
Total Non-Operating Income		\$91,970

Income (Loss) Before Transfers (37,960)

Operating Transfers In (Out) 35,000

Net Income (Loss) (2,960)

Retained Earnings, July 1, 2017 (deficit) (\$66,001)

Retained Earnings, June 30, 2018 (deficit) (\$68,961)

CAPITAL FUND

(Not Audited)

Balance as of July 1, 2017	<u>\$160,755</u>
FY18 Capital Fund Appropriation	30,000
FY18 Capital Fund Use	147,940
FY19 Capital Fund Appropriation	30,000
FY19 Special Article Capital Transfer	70,000
FY19 Capital Fund Use Anticipated	15,000
Balance at December 30, 2018	<u>\$127,815</u>

Student Enrollment: 1/31/19

SCHOOL	PreK	K	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th	Adult	TOTAL
Rivendell Academy								30	29		36	39	38	33	3	208
Samuel Morey Elementary	20	15	13	20	21	22	37	27								175
Westshire Elementary	26	13	16	17	18	19										109
TOTALS	46	28	29	37	39	41	37	27	30	29	36	39	38	33	3	492

160 NH Students & 332 VT Students

Homeschool Students	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th	TOTAL
Rivendell Academy							1	1	1	1	1		5
Samuel Morey Elementary			2	2	3	2							9
Westshire Elementary			4	1									5
TOTALS			6	3	3	2	1	1	1	1	1		19

Year	Elementary (PreK-6)	Grades 7-12	Total
2015-2016	300	202	502
2016-2017	286	203	489
2017-2018	291	209	500
2018-2019	284	208	492
Projected 2019-2020	277	199	476

Towns Rivendell Academy Students came from as of 1/31/19	
Fairlee	49
Orford	61
Vershire	29
West Fairlee	41
Corinth	3
Piermont	9
Sharon	1
Warren.....	10
Bradford.....	5
TOTAL.....	208

Report from the Superintendent



Elaine M. Arbour, Ed.D.

The mission of the Rivendell Interstate School District is to foster the intellectual, social and personal development of its students. One important role of the superintendent and District Office is to ensure that the operations of the district are well run and serve the ultimate goal of student learning. To that end, the District Office has worked diligently to improve our service to the schools through policy and procedure, budget, staffing and facilities improvements.

In 2017, prior to my becoming the superintendent, a committee was formed to look at how the district operates relative to the Articles of Agreement and the Interstate Compact, our governing documents. That committee, now called the Rivendell Review Committee, has done a tremendous amount of work with district officials in order to accomplish our mission and to ensure that specific principles of equity, fairness and quality are at the heart of our educational and operational decisions. The questions they have asked and studied in the one and one half years during my tenure have been deep and complex. They have also led to greater understanding of the impact of certain decisions and helped us develop better processes for accuracy and transparency moving forward. I am proud to have been part of that important work on behalf of Rivendell's students and taxpayers.

The pages of this year's annual report include additional details from each school regarding the teaching and learning happening in Rivendell's schools, how our students fare academically, and the financial resources we use to accomplish the work of this district. Our budget is built to support the mission of the district and the priorities set forth by the School Board.

Our world can be a wondrous and challenging place, and it is critical that we support our students in becoming well-informed, engaged, compassionate and healthy adults. They are our future. As I complete my final year as your superintendent, I urge you to continue to challenge your children to be thinkers, questioners, creators and helpers. Thank you for the opportunity to have served your children and your community.



Westshire second grader weaving a black ash basket

Respectfully submitted,
Elaine M. Arbour



Keri Gelenian

Academy staff continues to create a supportive academic and social environment for students in our four towns and sending districts. We strive to be educational leaders in the Upper Valley by creating new and creative ways for our students to learn and our communities to benefit from our success.

Teachers have continued to develop rigorous interdisciplinary projects to better engage students in learning and applying what they learn. Our work has been supported by professional development funded by the Rowland Foundation and relationships with High Tech High and Critical Exploration. At the end of the year we were recipients of a \$10,000 grant to develop a maker's space and workshop in the Academy building. The end of the year also brought a redesign in our schedule to allow for greater interdisciplinary collaboration and co-teaching among our teachers.

We have found that we get better work from students when the projects are rigorous, interdisciplinary, and the work is displayed in public exhibitions. Examples of project work include the 9th grade large-scale displays of original research on mercury levels in dragonfly larva and exhibition at Dartmouth, the 9th grade monument project competition in which students produced individually designed scale models of monuments depicting the human conditions of injustice, and the 10th grade biology projects that combined art, research, and 3D models to explore the science of genetically based diseases. We want students to express what they know in many ways and develop a range of skills focused on becoming effective problem solvers, effective communicators and responsible citizens. Public exhibitions give students a real audience, which improves the quality of work and learning.

Travel and global studies are important at RA. We want students to be more than tourists. Staff designed a new adventure for students last spring – a roundtrip bike trip to Quebec City. In Nicaragua students had some stays in the town of San Ramon and worked in elementary schools in surrounding villages. Travel in high school supports a willingness to study overseas in college. Rivendell graduates have gone on to study in Europe, Africa, and Latin America.

Our earliest accomplishment of the year was bringing home the Academy's first state soccer title. The end of the year brought 19 (62%) accepted to 4-year institutions; 6 (21%) accepted to 2-year colleges; 1 (1%) student joined the military; and 5 (16%) students joined the workforce. Two students attended St. Paul's Summer Academy. One Junior attended the Mountain School. Two students earned a full year of college credit through Vermont's Early College and one senior earned college credits through the VSAT program. Our seniors also earned college credits in physics and calculus. Five students earned college credits at Dartmouth.

Our goal is to continue to improve. Our best advertising is what people see and experience in the halls of Rivendell Academy. We want our work to have an impact by showing that the best education goes beyond the transfer of knowledge; it builds confidence, creativity, and innovative thinking for all students.

Respectfully submitted,
Keri Gelenian



Julie Donahue

I feel honored and proud to write my first annual report as the principal of the Rivendell Elementary Schools. It has been an extremely productive year thus far, and I cannot begin to thank the staff, community, students, and fellow administrators for being so welcoming and invested in creating the best two elementary schools we possibly can.

We were excited to welcome new staff members to the district to join our extremely talented veteran staff. Mrs. Leah Wolk-Derksen is at SME as the 3/4 language arts teacher, teaming with Ms. Rachael Weber, who moved to the 3/4 math and science position. This is the first year of having teachers specialize in the 3/4 classes, and we are happy to report that is going well. Mrs. Elizabeth Duvall comes to us from Chelsea School District as our dynamic music teacher. Mrs. Tanya Libby also joins us from Chelsea as our creative art teacher. Rounding out our new staff is Ms. Molly Rice, our wonderful new preschool teacher at SME. Ms. Maureen Moran moved into a new position as the 5/6 math teacher, while Mrs. Carmen Winchester has moved into the Title 1 math position. Finally, Mrs. Tammy MacQueen moved into the new position of Elementary Assistant Principal and she continues to support our district with her fabulous work as the VISIONS and Summerscapes Director.

One of the focuses of our year has been providing new and unique opportunities to bring the two elementary schools together, both staff and students. We have brought the students together for the all school hike back in October, as well as for the first annual Trunk or Treat. Students performed together at our incredible holiday concert, where all students sang several songs together, among them our new school songs, “Rivendell ROCKS,” written by our very own music teacher. Our schools have also come together for the new and improved Winter Program, where students are skiing, attending fantastic Hulbert workshops, and many different fabulous activities at Samuel Morey planned by staff members. Students are doing origami, learning broomball, ice skating, and cooking, just to name a handful of the many activities. We look forward to even more opportunity for our students to know each other and grow together as the year continues.

We have also been working diligently to provide academic, emotional, and behavioral support for all students. Our new Educational Support Team has seen a great deal of success, as we have a district wide team of professionals working to come up with new ways of helping students be the best they can be. We are in the process of installing sensory walks at both schools – creative ways to combine learning and sensory stimulation. We are thrilled to be working with We R H.O.P.E., an organization committed to helping students with anxiety, and we are pleased to report that we are seeing students be very successful as part of this program. Teachers are working enthusiastically to provide new and exciting ways of teaching curriculum and supporting our students, and we are committed to helping our students become the best citizens, learners, and people they can be.

We are very proud of our progress thus far, and we look forward to continuing the proud tradition of Rivendell Interstate School District with the work of our elementary schools as accomplishing.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Donahue



Janet Cole

Special Education at Rivendell provides services to our district's eligible children, ages 3-21, both inside and outside of the classrooms. We are dedicated to providing meaningful and challenging educational opportunities for all students. Our vision of inclusion for all guides our work, meeting students where they are and supporting them in their progress toward academic achievement and independence. Students receive specialized instruction, support, and related services – such as speech and counseling – designed to provide an appropriate education and allow them to progress in the general curriculum. It is our goal that all students develop the knowledge, skills and global understanding necessary to develop a successful and responsible life.

At this time, more than 30% of Rivendell students have been found to have an educational disability or impairment that impacts their ability to access their education. Some of these students require only accommodations in the classroom to help them access their education or demonstrate learning. Additional students may need support in the classroom, physical or occupational therapy, computers and other assistive technology devices, counseling, wheelchairs and lifts, or specialized transportation. A few students have not been successful within our schools and are attending day programs outside of the district. It is always the goal for these students to return to our community.

Rivendell preschool-age children with developmental delays attend our exemplary Rivendell Early Childhood Program with our typically developing children within elementary schools. Here they receive developmentally appropriate instruction from our Early Childhood Special Education teacher and the preschool teachers along with any necessary related services. Participating in a preschool program with typically developing children gives our children an opportunity to practice their new skills while making new friends and preparing for school success. We have seen a significant increase in both the number and intensity of language delay in three and four year olds and have responded to this by increasing the language supports. It is critical that these delays are addressed early to avoid learning delays in later years.

Many of our teachers and paraprofessionals go above and beyond the obligations of their jobs to help their students reach for the stars. They can be found in the classrooms teaching, in the hallways counseling, at recess playing, after school guiding homework, in the evenings supporting school events, supporting and reminding students by text and email, and even on weekends at Special Olympics and other athletic competitions.

No report is complete without writing about our students. Although some face challenges, sometimes very significant challenges, they are growing and learning along with their non-disabled peers. Talking with our students, I see pride on their faces as they tell me about their achievements: how they successfully attacked a challenging humanities project, passed a math exam, made the honor roll, got their driver's license, or were offered a job. These may seem like small victories, but a short time ago they believed them to be impossible.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Cole

Report from the Director of Operations



Terry Straight

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Superintendent Arbour and the school board for putting their trust in me as Rivendell's Director of Operations. In the few months that I have been in this position we have hired a new facilities maintenance technician, Greg Allen. Greg has over 20 years of experience in building repairs and maintenance. We have also been able to hire a third custodian for Rivendell Academy. With these additional personnel we have a great team to service the Rivendell School District.

In the last few months we have been able to repair and replace all of the outdoor lighting on all of the school buildings. We have thoroughly inspected the HVAC systems in all of the buildings and performed complete maintenance on all of that equipment. This included filter replacement, belt replacement, along with replacement of burnt motors and many outdated/broken thermostats. We replaced ceiling fans in the cafeteria area of Rivendell Academy to improve the HVAC load in this area. The heater in the greenhouse was replaced to allow its continued use through the cold months.

In looking outward into 2019, we have targeted some projects that we would like to complete. The HVAC control/computer system is in serious need of an update as the whole system cannot be connected to a common control, which limits the optimization of the system and ability to make adjustments to reduce our overall HVAC energy use. We have a great deal of building repairs and painting that needs to be completed in the coming months to be able to get back on a general maintenance schedule. The grounds at all facilities need to have cleanup including, but not limited to, the cut back and reshaping of shrubs, tree trimming, lawn reseedling and fertilizing, and gardens remulched. The emergency exit doors in the gym at Rivendell Academy need to be replaced because they are no longer weather tight.

Thank you for the opportunity and trust you have in the operations staff to serve the Rivendell District. I look forward to growing my relationship in this community over the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,
Terry Straight



Elementary all school hike



Matthew Joska

The goal of technology is to help people and organizations more effectively and efficiently meet their objectives. At Rivendell the students depend on technology to engage in lessons that are interactive and thought provoking. Teachers depend on technology to teach lessons that are engaging. Staff depend on technology to keep it all running smoothly so that teachers and students can focus on what matters. We all depend on technology to help us do our jobs better!

This year has seen the implementation of two long standing major objectives by the Vermont Agency of Education (AOE). The AOE has led the implementation of the Statewide Longitudinal Data System (SLDS). The goal of SLDS is to provide the AOE more data about our schools, teachers and students that is current and more accurate. This project required an overhaul of the data contained in our Student Information System (SIS). Ultimately, our investment in the system should allow the state to become more responsive to the changing needs of our district. The AOE is also leading the implementation for a new Shared School District Management System (SSDMS) called eFinancePLUS. The new SSDMS is a shared financial and human resources data management system. The new system is far more robust than our current system and will provide more efficient reporting to the state.

The move from our FirstClass email and collaboration suite to Office 365 is well underway. Office 365 improves upon all features and functionality of FirstClass. Greater ease-of-use is found through the more familiar Windows look and feel. Office 365 also offers the ability to create sites, blogs, e-portfolios and even host video conferences. Office 365 will always be up to date, available and accessible from any device anywhere in the world. We are looking forward to having the district cutover and leveraging the many benefits of Office 365 by the end of the year.

This year the tech team gained a new Academy Digital Culture Leader, Laszlo Bardos. Laszlo's experience with teaching, his approachable nature and his proven ability to leverage technology at the Academy make him a valuable member of the team. Laszlo Bardos, Technology Integration Specialist, Gabi Martino and Technical Support Specialist, Nick Pryer, work together to form a talented and dedicated tech team. The teachers and staff here are equally dedicated and talented. I know that by working together we will continue to achieve great things!

Respectfully submitted,
Matthew Joska



Westshire second graders working on writing project

It has been an amazing year in the Rivendell Early Childhood Programs. Our classrooms are flourishing with more than 40 students who are learning and engaging in pre-kindergarten activities. In our programs we use a developmentally appropriate, play-based curriculum where children learn important skills in all areas of development. Our curriculum is child centered which means that activities and learning are often based on the specific interests and explorations of the children in the classroom. This leads to having students that love being in school and are excited about being involved in the learning process.

On a regular basis we take advantage of being in public schools by using the additional learning environments that are available, such as the kindergarten classrooms, gym, music and art rooms, and the outdoor playgrounds. In this way, we are able to expand the opportunities for children, while making them familiar with the staff and the places they will experience once they have moved from preschool to our early elementary programs.

In addition to our regular daily activities we have engaged in a variety of enriching events including:

- a field trip to the River View Farm in Plainfield, NH to pick apples and pumpkins
- a harvest dinner celebration
- a gift making festival in December
- weekly visits from special community literacy volunteers
- regular excursions to the local public library
- walking trips to a local park
- a variety of special projects organized by parent volunteers

Our Steering Committee, comprised of parents and teachers, is a vital part of the Rivendell preschool experience. This group, which meets several times per year, helps plan events, and forms a bridge between the children and families that reside in our various communities. This year they also organized preschool holiday art events and supported our annual harvest dinners.

At the end of last year we sadly said goodbye to Rob Reade, a much beloved teacher who taught at the Samuel Morey preschool for 11 years, and Jane Finlay, a founding member of the Rivendell preschool team. This fall we were fortunate to welcome two amazing teachers, Molly Rice and Melissa Partington. Molly joined us as the SME preschool teacher. She is a first year educator who has brought her youthful energy and many new ideas to our program. Melissa has taken over the role of our early childhood special educator and has done a wonderful job supporting both the students and the classroom teachers.

Looking ahead, we are already engaged in the enrollment process for the 2019–2020 school year. We anticipate, and very much look forward to the continued positive growth of our programs. We are honored and thankful to work in such a positive and supportive school district, one that truly values early education for all students.

Respectfully submitted,
The Early Childhood Staff – Tammy MacQueen,
Heidi Nichols, Caitlin Leonard, Molly Rice and Melissa Partington



Celise Johnson

Report from the Director of Food Service

The greatest resource in the food service department continues to be the staff that provide students with nutritious meals every day. The Food Service Managers are Viola Farrar at Westshire Elementary and Suzanne Ricker at Samuel Morey Elementary. Jean Dyke is the Assistant Cook at Rivendell Academy.

Some of this year's highlights and accomplishments are:

- greenhouse at Rivendell Academy
- staff training aimed at increasing quality of food service
- all schools focused on fresh local foods
- Vermont Fresh Network Alliance
- annual Harvest Dinner at all schools
- vegetarian meals served daily at all sites
- greater use of commodity foods reduced overall food cost
- Fresh Fruit and Vegetable grant at Westshire Elementary
- improvements and variety for meals at all sites

In the coming year we hope to make improvements to the Mealtime Point of Sale system at all schools by providing online account access to parents. The greenhouse has been repaired and there is spinach and lettuce mix growing. Next spring and summer more vegetables will be added. There will also be opportunities for students to participate in project based learning.

Respectfully submitted,
Celise Johnson



Greenhouse under repair

The RISD Board voted on 3/7/2017 to create a Rivendell Review Committee (RRC), charging it to:

- (a) Examine current practices apportioning expenses and allocating state aid and their compliance with the RISD's Articles of Agreement; and
- (b) Report findings and recommendations to RISD's Board.

The RRC now consists of: Dr. Elaine Arbour (Superintendent), David Gagner (School Board Member – VT), Mark Blanchard (Appointed NH School Board Representative), Mark Burger (Orford Representative), Doug Tift (Fairlee Representative), Erin Mansur (West Fairlee Representative), David Hooke (Vershire Representative), Marc DeBois (RISD Chair, *ex-officio*), Stacie Marshall (hired as recording secretary).

The committee found issues/problems arising from inconsistent application of the Articles of Agreement. Our examination, among other topics, covered ADM calculation, preschool counts, expense allocations of Special Education and Career and Technical Education (CTE), and roles of auditors. Dr. Arbour engaged Cappy Nunlist of Gardner, Fulton and Waugh to aid in our work. Atty. Nunlist's opinion 12/6/17 and our early findings underlie initial recommendations to the Board. These were accepted February 2, 2018 and the Board reauthorized the RRC for another year. Interim recommendations were, in short:

1. Actively engage our Locally Elected Auditors (LEA) to offer advice on financial procedures and reporting, validate allocation of costs and apportionment to be raised by taxes in member districts, and assist in evaluating and selecting hired auditors.
2. Improve public financial reports for accuracy, simplicity and clarity by March 2020 such that the budget expenditures and allocations presentation show direct references to, and be consistent with, the Articles. Further, that the Business Office produce reports using a computerized model integrating all steps in calculating allocations.
3. Align Career and Technical Education (CTE) budgeting procedures to be as similar as possible for both NH and VT students and correct an unintentional, but significant bias.
4. Perform end-of-year reconciliation of approved budget vs actual expenses, revenues affecting apportionments with any variances being reported and recognized in the next budget year.

Work continued on remaining issues supported with a second opinion from Atty. Nunlist. Her opinion, 4/19/18, highlighted Articles' lack of Statement of Principles, which would have helped guide RISD as external conditions evolved across the years.

Meanwhile, specific team members met business office staff, documenting current procedures, defining enrollment and allocating income and expense. Results of a key meeting of administration, locally elected auditors and external auditors, Plodzik & Sanderson, were determinations that federal grants (IDEA, Titles, REAP) accrue to RISD district-wide and should NOT be treated in the same manner as State aid under Article I. Out of this work, we compiled a second set of Interim Recommendations.

The second recommendations set, as accepted by the Board, 1/10/2019, provided, in short:

1. A statement of principles, with policy footnotes and definitions, for use in interpreting the Articles and to be updated as future financial ambiguities arise in our District. We feel this is probably the most significant part of our work to date.
2. Creation of a procedures guide, for use by the business office, for proper allocation calculations and other purposes.
3. Ensuring all copies of Articles used and posted are void of typos, and that erroneous language (i.e., “RISD is a Vermont District”) is removed from official use.
4. Improved consistency, clarity and fairness in the calculation of Average Daily Membership (ADM).
5. Recognizing the three Vermont towns as a Unified District per Vermont policy.
6. Improving the Annual Report by showing allocation simply between New Hampshire (Orford) and Vermont Unified, rather than among four towns, except for tax rate estimates by town. The clarified template to be implemented for FY2021 is to support Articles, state law and Interstate Compact law citations.
7. Rivendell shall adopt no policy or practice from one state that would unfairly impact a member financially in another state.
8. RISD Board not limit the role of the LEA, but develop a common work plan that involves the district office, state, the LEA, and the hired auditors.



Rivendell Academy Global Posters & Social Change students travel to NYC

RRC is now working up a final detailed report likely to be considered by the Board in April. Included will be a few topics meriting further research by the administration.

Issuance of our final report will complete the RRC function. We envision compilation of our reports and other materials as the basis for a permanent *Financial Governance & Procedure Guide*, to be used and kept updated by administration. The Guide 1.0 can be completed by a small group of former RRC members recruited to assemble RRC’s work.

The RRC project took longer than expected. We are pleased to give our 20-year-old district new tools adding clarity and consistency for its financial procedures. Looking at the next 20 years, we recognize our independent interstate school district, the only such pre-K to 12 in the USA, will face inevitable challenges as our two states grapple with changing education landscapes. We hope we have improved prospects for handling them fairly.

SCHOOL ANNUAL REPORT CARD

- Schools will be required to provide information about their strengths and needs in each of the five Education Quality Standards: Academic Proficiency; Personalization; Safe & Healthy Schools; High Quality Staffing; and Investment Priorities.
- When reviewing the following data, please note that performance results often fluctuate due to our small numbers of students who are tested. Numbers less than 50 have less statistical significance. It is helpful to view the performance over time.
- Student data is not disaggregated by specific groups due to the small number of students tested.



Rivendell Academy seventh & eighth graders working on laser cutting project



Elementary students enjoying Winter Program



Seventh grade Robotics students awarded Judge's Choice Award

STUDENT STATISTICAL INFORMATION

It is expected that all school districts can provide meaningful data regarding students' well being. We are providing data on absences, discipline referrals, suspensions and extra-curricular participation.

		08/24/16– 01/31/17	08/24/17– 01/31/18	08/28/18– 01/31/19
Absences (Students with over 10 absences)	Rivendell Academy	32	29	23
	Samuel Morey Elementary	10	11	12
	Westshire Elementary	10	14	18
Disciplinary Referrals	Rivendell Academy	25	54	156
	Samuel Morey Elementary	40	52	54
	Westshire Elementary	20	18	35
In & Out of School Suspensions	Rivendell Academy	51	19	47
	Samuel Morey Elementary	8	5	5
	Westshire Elementary	4	7	4
Extra-Curricular Participation	Rivendell Academy	74%	78%	75%
	Samuel Morey Elementary	82%	70%	75%
	Westshire Elementary	87%	81%	80%
Dropouts	Rivendell Academy	2016 0.004%* <i>1 of 204</i>	2017 ****	2018 ****
Graduations	Rivendell Academy	87% ^{**} <i>34 of 39</i>	84% ^{**} <i>21 of 25****</i>	92% ^{**} <i>33 of 36*****</i>

* Percentages provided by the state of Vermont

** Percentage is determined as 4-year cohort graduation rate from the state of Vermont

*** 1 of the 4 is a 5th year student

**** Starting with the 2016-2017 school year the Vermont Agency of Education will no longer report the dropouts rate

***** 3 of the 36 are 5th year students

SAT (COLLEGE BOARD) RESULTS FROM RIVENDELL ACADEMY

N = 18	Class of 2015	CR 488	M 514	W 482
N = 25	Class of 2016	CR 531	M 518	W 532
N = 16	Class of 2017	CR 546	M 568	W 720
N = 23	Class of 2018	CR 568	M 550	**
N = 20	Class of 2019	CR 595	M 579	**
	Vermont State Average*	CR 565	M 554	
	National Average*	CR 536	M 531	

* VT & National averages are for Class of 2018; Class of 2019 results will not be released until June 2019
 ** SAT Writing section has been discontinued

ACT RESULTS FROM RIVENDELL ACADEMY

N = 2	Class of 2019	Composite Score: 31
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Eleventh graders replicate launchers



Samuel Morey preschoolers



Elementary all school bike

SMARTER BALANCED ASSESSMENT CONSORTIUM (SBAC)

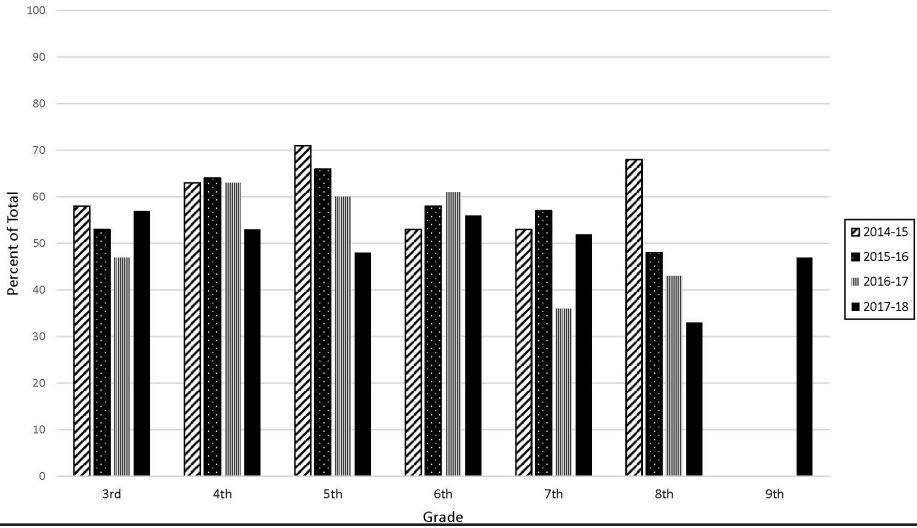
The SBAC statewide assessment provides information on our students’ mastery of State Standards. These Standards describe what we want our students to know and be able to do. SBAC was developed to assess mastery of the Common Core State Standards. They are given in the spring to grades 3 through 8 and grade 9, not grade 11 (beginning in 2018).

Every Student Succeeds act (ESSA) is scheduled to take full effect in 2017–18. As states and the federal government prepare for transition from No Child Left behind (NCLB) to ESSA, school statuses in regard to school improvement remained the same, so Rivendell Academy has remained on its second year.

SBAC Achievement Level Descriptions

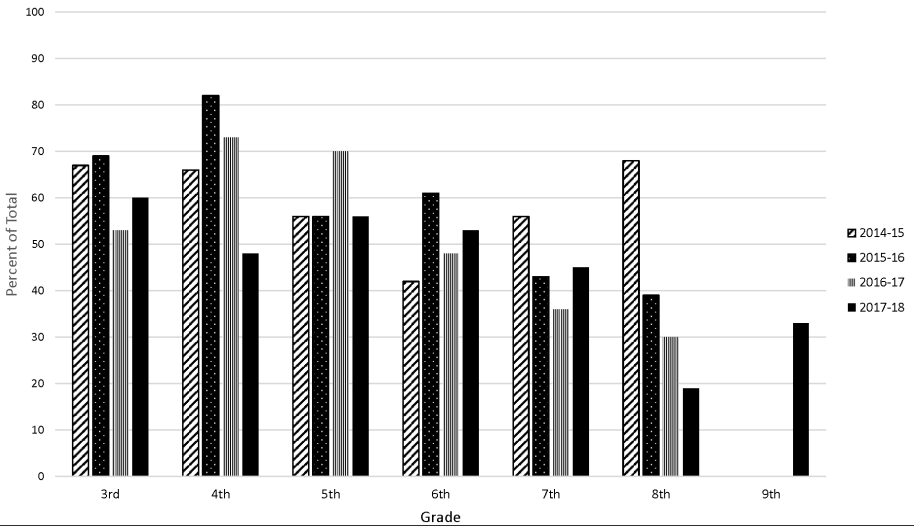
Does Not Meet State Standards (Level 1)	Does Not Meet State Standards (Level 2)	Meets State Standards (Level 3)	Meets State Standards (Level 4)
Student has not met the achievement standard and needs substantial improvement to demonstrate the knowledge and skills in English language arts/literacy needed for likely success in future.	Student has nearly met the achievement standard and may require further development to demonstrate the knowledge and skills in English language arts/literacy needed for likely success in future coursework.	Student has met the achievement standard and demonstrates progress toward mastery of the knowledge and skills in English language arts/literacy needed for likely success in future coursework.	Student has exceeded the achievement standard and demonstrates advanced progress toward mastery of the knowledge and skills in English language arts/literacy needed for likely success in future coursework.

Rivendell SBAC Data
Percent Proficient in English Language Arts
Grades 3 through 9
2014-2018



For comparative purposes, VT state average for 2017-18 for 3rd grade 50%, 4th grade 53%, 5th grade 55%, 6th grade 53%, 7th grade 57%, 8th grade 57% and 9th grade 55%.

Rivendell SBAC Data
Percent Proficient in Math
Grades 3 through 9
2014-2018



For comparative purposes, VT state average for 2017-18 for 3rd grade 52%, 4th grade 49%, 5th grade 42%, 6th grade 41%, 7th grade 44%, 8th grade 42% and 9th grade 35%.

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE RIVENDELL INTERSTATE SCHOOL DISTRICT
Held on March 20, 2018**

The Annual Meeting was held in the gymnasium of Rivendell Academy in Orford, NH. Voters of Orford, NH, Fairlee, West Fairlee and Vershire, VT met 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 School Compact. Approximately 158 voters attended the Annual Meeting.

David Hooke, Moderator of the Rivendell Interstate School District, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Mr. Hooke asked that those present stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Hooke read the Warrant, reviewed the procedures to follow during the meeting, and stated that the polls were opened at 6:00 p.m. and would remain open for one-half hour following the completion of business under the other articles. Mr. Hooke asked if there were any members of the press attending the meeting – Ciceley Richardson, *Journal Opinion* and Tim Camerato, *Valley News*, were recognized.

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

The article was moved and seconded. Marc DeBois recognized Dick Paulson, CFO, Michael Foxall, SME Principal and Jean MacDonald, School Board member – all three are retiring this year from their perspective positions. DeBois introduced Bill Little as the new CFO for the district. DeBois discussed the highlights of things the board is working on the budget of \$10,632,960 is a 1.01% increase and is a responsible budget for the district. The board has extended its relationship with AHEAD, the non-profit working on a development plan for the Academy Building; Critical Exploration; a weapons policy was adopted by the schoolboard, and the ADA Project – approximately \$93,000 was spent to bring Rivendell into compliance with the ADA. Bruce Lyndes addressed the budget for the 18-19 fiscal year. This year's budget increased 1.01% as compared to other K-12 schools (BME 4.54% and Oxbow 3.03%). Historically our 7-year average is less than 1.75%. Jim McGoff, Orford commented that the actual budget amount for these other school is lower than Rivendell (BMU \$8M and Oxbow \$7M) and asked what is the student count attend these schools (RISD grades Prek-12 – 500, Blue Mountain Union School grades, Prek-12 – 425, Oxbow High School grades, 7-12 – 324.* Terry Harwood, Orford thinks there's a typo on the number of students in the annual report. Elaine Arbour confirmed 500 is the correct number. Ronald Smith, Orford asked about the declining graduation percentage rate. What is the board doing to address this issue? Jan Cole responded that there are several students that didn't drop out but took a 5th year and that can throw off the percentages as they don't get counted with their class. Kathy Hooke commented that when there are small numbers it can skew the percentage reported. Cathy Eastburn, Orford asked about the students that are sent to Riverbend and Hartford. Do tuition students have their town pay for these classes. Keri Gelenian responded that sending towns are responsible for the Vo-Tech expenses. Justin Adams, Orford provided the student count for K-12 for BMU is 419, Oxbow 623 and Rivendell 500. He asked why we are paying so much more for our education. DeBois replied that Rivendell maintains three buildings and the board is exploring what the savings would be to only use two buildings. Hod Palmer, Fairlee mentioned that the Oxbow budget is only for the high school – there is another budget for the elementary school. Doug Tift, Fairlee addressed the Auditors report and the handout that reflects some corrections to the annual report. The Rivendell Review committee will be working with the auditors to review how expenses are allocated and the impact in the tax rates per town. They will also work on how the financial information is presented to make it easier to understand. Kathy Hooke wanted to share that while there are 398 BMU students but they are ranked 53 out of 54 and Rivendell is ranked 5 out of 55. A West Fairlee resident questioned the Special Education funds that were discovered. How many years has this been allocated, and what assurances do we have that this won't happen again? Paulson responded that this was a misunderstanding - the money was deducted on the primary budget but moved to the Grant Funding line item. The total budget was not affected by this re-classification. Mark Berger commented that the money was spent correctly, the changes are only for how it's allocated. McGoff asked the number of total district voters (2633) and is concerned about the low turnout. McGoff asked about the Vo-Tech educational expenses. How many go to Riverbend and Hartford. Paulson responded the Riverbend tuition rate is approximately \$8,000 and Hartford \$9,000 with 26 and 4 students of expected enrollment respectively. McGoff asked why students are allowed to Hartford. Arbour replied that if Hartford offers courses that Riverbend doesn't, then students can take that option. McGoff asked why NH doesn't get transportation funding but VT does? Berger responded that Vermont towns pay a small part of the Vo-Tech expenses, and the state provides funding directly to the Vo-Tech schools. This is something else the Review Committee will be working on to help clarify.

*Enrollment information sourced directly from the school/district

Article 4: Shall the voters of the District raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,632,960 for the operating budget for the District for the 2018-2019 fiscal year?

The article was moved and seconded. Terry Harwood, Orford asked why Special Education was up over last year. Paulson responded that the actual expense isn't up, but how it's recorded on the financials. The grant for special education is reported in another area of the financials. Brook Gladstone, Fairlee asked why the Guidance Salary line has increased. Arbour responded that \$100,000 was added back to the budget by the board to cover social, emotional and mental health support for students. Gladstone also asked why the Administrator Salary increased. Arbour responded it reflects the current administration, but the likely savings will be with the elementary assistant principal will be lower in salary and will actually reduce this line item. Gladstone asked about professional development funding. Paulson responded that this expense is now included in the benefits line item. Mark Blanchard, Orford commented on the issue around Special Education and how schools are not responsible for providing these services at a cost to the tax payers. He asked the school to somehow raise the issues back to us and think of how we can help more with these issues as a community. Deb McGoff, Orford asked if it's true that the Pre-school will be moving to the High School. Arbour responded that the board and administration are exploring ways to better use the buildings, but no decisions have been made yet. Ken Pushee, Vershire asked about the Visions program and a decrease in funding for that. How will that impact our students? Arbour responded that Title One funds will be used to supplement some of these costs. Pushee also asked about the increase to the sports budget. Arbour responded that it's based on anticipated increase due to all the changes occurring in Vermont and which schools we will compete against. Jim McGoff requested a paper ballot for the vote - seven supported this.

Total votes cast by paper ballots were 158, 139 for, 18 against, and 1 blank. **The article passed.**

Article 5: Shall the voters of the District authorize the School Board to add the sum of \$70,000 for future capital needs reserve fund?

The article was moved and seconded. Jim McGoff asked what the balance in the fund currently is. Paulson responded around \$62,000. McGoff asked what these funds are used for. John Jakubens, Director of Operations responded for maintenance of the buildings. The heating systems need flushing every 3 years, roof issues that come up occasionally. DeBois mentioned that the fund balance was higher, but was used for the ADA project. The moderator asked if voters were ready for the question. **The article passed by voice vote.**

Article 6: 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 2018-2019 fiscal year?

The article was moved and seconded. With no discussion, the moderator asked if the voters were ready for the question. **The article passed by voice vote.**

Article 7: To transact any other business which may lawfully properly come before the meeting.

There was no discussion.

Motion made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Esther Dobbins-Marsh
District Clerk, RISD
March 29, 2018

ANNUAL MEETING, MARCH 20, 2018

Ballots were officially counted and tallied as below:

Fairlee Board Member (3 year):

Write in candidates received the following:

Jon Lester –8*, Noel Walker (1), Matt Jung (1), Leda Amanatidas (1), Clyde Blake (1), Sue Martin (1), Margaret Gladstone (1), Robert O'Leary (1), Lucy Pilcher (1), Bern Traendley (1), Blank (14), Spoiled (2)
Total Ballots – 33

**Registered voters in the Town - 734*

Write in candidate needs 1% of the Total Town registered voters to win election

Orford Board Member (3 year):

Vanessa DeSimone (64)

Write in candidates received the following: Justin Adams (1), Michael Smythe (1), Robb Day (1), Anne Green (1), Joseph Schwendler (1), Seth Carter (1), Tom Thomson (1)
Total Ballots – 71

West Fairlee Board Member (3 year):

Kevin Dexter – 17,
Total Ballots – 17

Vershire Board Member (3 year):

Write in candidates received the following:

Maria Koehler (16)*, Jack Kruse (1), Ken Bushey (1),
M Koch (1), Jen Ricker (1), Sue Kruse (1), Blank (4)
Total Ballots – 25

**Registered voters in the Town - 499*

Write in candidate needs 1% of the Total Town registered voters to win election

For At-Large Board Member, 1 year term:

Kathy Blanchard – 128

Write in candidates received the following: Jeanine
MacDonald (1), Mark Blanchard (1), Tom Thomson (1),
Jim McDonald (1), Sandra Marsh (1), Craig Pelletier (1),
Annie Jones (1), Sara Day (1), Blank (9), Spoiled (1)
Total Ballots – 146

For Moderator, 1 Year Term:

David O. Hooke – 141

Write in candidates received the following:
Peter Thomson (1), Mark Burger (1), Blank (3)
Total Ballots – 146

For District Clerk, 1 Year Term:

Esther Dobbins-Marsh – 139

Write in candidates received the following:
Justin Adams (1), Sara Dyke (1), Blank Ballots (5)
Total Ballots – 146

For Treasurer, 1 Year Term:

Esther Dobbins-Marsh – 139

Write in candidates received the following:

Judy Franklin (1), Mark Burger (1)
Blank Ballots (5)
Total Ballots – 146

For Auditor, 2 Year Term:

Write in candidates received the following:

Mark Burger (11), Doug Tift (7), Carl Cassel (2),
ErinCilley (1), Chase Kling (1), Bill Payton (1),
EthelPike (1), Judy Franklin (1), Larry Taylor (1),
RyanPeebles (1), Jon Lester (1), Amy Winagle (1),
PeterBerger (1), Caleb Day (1), Clement Powers (1)
Blank (112)
Total Ballots – 146

Registered voters in the District – 2540

Write in candidate needs 1% to win election – no write in received the percentage required – no one was elected.

For Auditor, 3 Year Term:

Chris Crowley– 133

Write in candidates received the following: Sheri
Clifford (1), Ted Cooley (1), Jon Molesworth (1),
Blank(10)
Total Ballots – 146

All ballots and exit checklists are sealed and on file per request of the District Clerk at her office in Hanover, NH.

All write in votes are listed above as spelled by the voters on their actual ballots, regardless of whether spelling is correct or not.



Rivendell Academy students attended the VT Climate Summit

Local Elected Auditors Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

Audited Fiscal Year 2017 and 2018 Financial Statements

Plodzik & Sanderson, P.A. (PSPA) is a Concord, NH independent certified public accounting firm, with interstate school district experience. They replaced RISD's prior firm due to their inability to complete the work. PSPA have examined the financial statements that collectively comprise Rivendell Interstate School District's basic financial statements for the years ending June 30, 2017 and 2018. As of January 30, 2019, the firm had just issued the draft 2017 audit report, but has not yet issued the 2018 report and the corresponding management letters.

PSPA issued, in the FYE 2017 audit, an adverse opinion for RISD governmental activities and a qualified opinion for the food service fund. The adverse opinion was issued because RISD has not recorded the long-term costs of retirement health care costs and obligations for other post-retirement benefits. This departure from generally accepted accounting principles will affect the liabilities, net position, and expenses reported in the financial statements. RISD needs to hire an actuary to calculate the future liability and record the costs for this condition to be resolved. The basis for the qualified opinion for the food service fund relates to the lack of audit evidence to support that there are no students balances owed to or by RISD and the lack of accounting closing procedures.

PSPA also identified the following significant deficiencies in the internal controls over financial reporting: The significant deficiencies identified relate to the following financial management activities of RISD: no formal procedure in place for year-end closing of RISD accounting records; no formal procedures, the food service fund, for daily, monthly and annual accounting records; lack of supporting documentation requirements and procedures related to student activity funds and athletic gate receipts.

Once the FYE 2018 audit report of the independent auditors are available, the LEAs will complete our statutory obligation and provide certification of the financial reporting being provided by RISD. Both our certification and the audit report for June 30, 2018 will be announced and posted on the district's website and made available for public inspection at the Rivendell Interstate District Office in Orford, NH.



Rivendell Academy Outing Club bikes to Quebec City

As part of the new procedures recommended by the Rivendell Review Committee (RRC) and adopted by the RISD Board, the LEAs have checked the FY20 budget allocation calculations tables included in this 2019 annual report. To assist the checking of the calculation, the FY20 budget information was entered into an independent spreadsheet tool that produced similar results. The budget allocation schedules included in the report have not been vouched, but they do agree to the budget approved by the board on February 15, 2019, reproduced in part in this annual report. The estimated tax rate calculation presented in the annual report appears reasonable based on the information provided. The calculation used to allocate the FY20 annual budget is consistent with the new procedures and understanding developed through the RRC and adopted by the RISD Board. So far, several issues have been addressed, such as allocation of Career Technical Education expenses and federal SPED grant revenues. It is likely that there will be some additional changes in the procedures for fiscal year 2021 as the RRC completes its work.

The FY18 approved allocated budget information reported in the annual report was compared with VT and NH filings to identify if there were any changes from the annual meeting reports and the specific state's reporting systems. During the review the FY18 and FYE19 input to VT was reviewed and was correct. The FY18 and FY19 input to NH was reviewed and variances explained.

Finally, we want to say that the LEAs are also working on a guidebook for future auditors that will describe the activities to be performed and provide a roadmap, checklist and schedule to accomplish them. It will give prospective LEAs a clear "mission plan" to make the job easier. Consider being a candidate. There will be clear guidance as to what the effort entails. Anyone can do it.

Respectfully submitted by the Rivendell Elected Auditors,
Doug Tiffit (appointed)
Chris Crowley
Mark J. Burger



Ninth grader working in the Maker's Space



Westshire students outside Black Family Visual Arts Cir.

Rivendell Interstate School District | 2019-2020 CALENDAR
APPROVED 2/15/2019

4 Independence Day
8-31 Summer Program

JULY 2019						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

JANUARY 2020						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

1 No School – Holiday Recess
20 No School – M.L. King Day

21/98 Student Days
21/104 Teacher Days

1-2 Summer Program
22-23 Teacher Work Day
26-27 Teacher Work Day
28 First Student Day

AUGUST 2019						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

3/3 Student Days
7/7 Teacher Days

FEBRUARY 2020						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29

17-21 No School – February Recess

15/113 Student Days
15/119 Teacher Days

2 Labor Day – No School

SEPTEMBER 2019						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

20/23 Student Days
20/27 Teacher Days

MARCH 2020						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

9 No School – Teacher Inservice
20 No School – Conferences

20/133 Student Days
22/141 Teacher Days

14 No School – Teacher Inservice

OCTOBER 2019						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

22/45 Student Days
23/50 Teacher Days

APRIL 2020						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

20-24 No School – April Recess

17/150 Student Days
17/158 Teacher Days

8 No School - Conferences
11 No School – Veterans Day
27 Early Dismissal: 1:00 PM
28-29 No School – Thanksgiving Recess

NOVEMBER 2019						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

17/62 Student Days
18/68 Teacher Days

MAY 2019						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

25 No School – Memorial Day

20/170 Student Days
20/178 Teacher Days

22-31 No School – Holiday Recess

DECEMBER 2019						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

15/77 Student Days
15/83 Teacher Days

JUNE 2019						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

6 Tentative Graduation
12 Tentative Last Student Day – 1:00 PM Dismissal
13 Tentative Last Teacher Day

10/180 Student Days
11/189 Teacher Days

Remaining June days provide 5 VT & 10 NH contingency days

PRINCIPLES EMBODIED IN THE RIVENDELL INTERSTATE SCHOOL DISTRICT ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT

The guiding principles below express the aims and intentions of the Rivendell Articles of Agreement as understood by the Rivendell Review Committee two decades after the District's founding.

1. Enabling Local Self-Governance

Manifest in the coming together of four small towns across state lines is a belief that local self-governance in the education of our children requires broad community support, participation, understanding, and accountability. As such, Rivendell and its elected members will strive for clarity and directness in presentations to voters to enable informed decision-making by the electorate. Fairness and transparency should be present in all dealings the District has with its students in education matters and with taxpayers in financial matters.

2. Equality of Educational Opportunity Across the District

All Rivendell students are to be treated equally and provided with comparable learning opportunities, with costs to be borne by the District and allocated among member districts based on enrollment as defined in the Articles of Agreement. Regardless of town or state affiliations, board members, administrators, faculty, and staff shall embrace the credo, "These are all our children."

3. Sharing Expenses and Revenues While Recognizing State Differences

While expenses and revenues for education generally will be shared among the member districts on the basis of student enrollment, the Articles of Agreement recognize that in certain instances differences between the two states may require variance from this approach. Care must be taken that such instances are in accord with specific provisions of the Articles of Agreement and that implementation is done without unintended bias.

4. Fiscal Fairness Across State Lines

Rivendell will adopt no policy or practice from one state that would unfairly impact a member financially in another state. No one member, or members, within one state will be disadvantaged or caused to bear a disproportionate share of District expenses except as allowed within the Articles of Agreement.

5. Asserting Our Interstate Autonomy

The District has considerable autonomy to shape its educational community relatively free from the laws of either state. As necessary, Rivendell should assert its unique standing as an interstate school district to challenge and seek exemption from laws or policies of either state that would compromise this self-determination. Mechanisms within the Articles of Agreement and the Interstate School Compact Law, such as administrative agreements between commissioners of education, should be utilized to arrive at two-state solutions whenever possible.

6. A Dynamic Document Held True to Its Intent

From time to time the Articles of Agreement may need amendment under the arduous procedure outlined in Article J. A truly dynamic and living document, however, allows for reasoned interpretation short of amendments during unforeseen circumstances if the intent of the document is broadly understood and embraced. In all instances, it is imperative that clarifying interpretations in practice or policy be recorded with their rationale. Supporting documents such as administrative agreements and legal opinions with direct bearing on how the Articles of Agreement are to be applied should also be appended. The District should maintain this well-documented and transparent record having the Article of Agreement at its core.

7. Commitment to Sound Fiscal Management

Stable and robust financial procedures in accord with the Articles of Agreement support fairness for all students and confidence among member districts and individual taxpayers. Properly staffed administrative offices are essential for well-organized and accessible financial records, consistent fiscal practice from year to year, and documentation of procedural change.

Proposed by the Rivendell Review Committee January 30, 2019

Adopted by the RISD Board, February 15, 2019

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