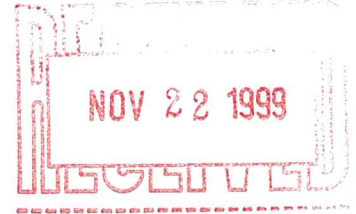


To: Allen Avery, Chairman of the Board, Rivendell Interstate School District

From: Elizabeth Twomey, Commissioner of Education, New Hampshire  
Marge Petit, Acting Commissioner of Education, VT

Date: November 8, 1999

Re: An Administrative Agreement on the Rivendell District



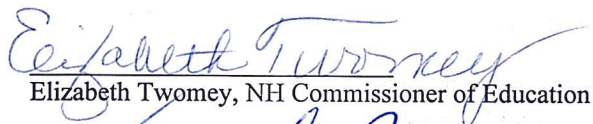
The Rivendell District faces the challenge of satisfying state and local needs for accountability, while working to put together a high quality, coherent educational program for students. This process is complicated by the fact that Rivendell students will all spend time on both sides of the border between NH and VT. In your memo, you outlined how the Rivendell District proposes to maintain the integrity and coherence of its program while satisfying the needs of both NH and VT for accountability. Your proposal is the inverse of the Dresden District, in which the district conforms entirely to NH assessments and standards. In the interest of preventing disruption or discontinuity in program due to the crossing of state lines, we agree:

1. The Rivendell District will satisfy the states' need for accountability by adhering to the Vermont Comprehensive Assessment Plan, and supplementing with additional, locally developed assessments. Rivendell pupils will participate in the VT Comprehensive Assessment Plan as an alternative to (and instead of) participation in the New Hampshire assessments. (Reference NH RSA 193-C:6, as amended)
2. For initial licensure, all Rivendell teachers will possess licensure in the state in which they will be teaching. However, for relicensure or certification, all teachers shall follow the VT process for relicensure/recertification, regardless of the state in which they teach. The NH Department of Education will review the VT professional development plan for Rivendell teachers to ensure that it is consistent with applicable administrative rules. Rivendell teachers who are teaching in NH must hold NH certification, but they are allowed to follow VT guidelines for professional development with the Rivendell Local Standards Board, in order to maintain that eligibility. Since the duration of VT licenses differs from that of NH licenses, a letter of good standing from the Rivendell LSB to the NH Bureau of Credentialing will qualify the teacher in question for recertification. (Reference NH RSA 186:8 III, as amended.)
3. The Rivendell Interstate School District will follow the VT School Quality Standards, which were written to support the VT Framework and Comprehensive Assessment Plan. The Rivendell District will follow the VT School Quality Standards instead of the NH public school approval standards required by RSA 194:23. The Rivendell District will document that it meets the VT School Quality Standards. When this documentation is received by the NH Department of Education, The Rivendell School will be placed on the NH Department of Education's list of approved schools for NH students.\*

\*Subject to approval of related legislation by the NH legislature.

4. This agreement will be updated and amended as necessary.

Signed:

  
Elizabeth Twomey, NH Commissioner of Education

11-16-99  
Date

  
Marge Petit, VT Acting Commissioner of Education

12-13-99  
Date