



Rivendell
Interstate School District

Rivendell Interstate School District
PO Box 153, Orford, NH 03777
Tel: 603-353-2170 Fax: 603-353-2189
www.rivendellschool.org

Gail M. Keiling
Head of Schools (Superintendent)

Janet B. Cole
Director of Special Education

December 22, 2009

Dear Rivendell Families and Community Members:

At the December 15th School Board meeting, the School Board approved reorganizing the District's administrative structure and the reorganization of the grade level configurations. The decision was made to move sixth grade to the elementary schools and seventh through twelfth grade to Rivendell Academy. However, for the coming school year (2010-2011), there will be one District sixth grade which will be located at Samuel Morey, as the current Westshire fifth graders have been attending Samuel Morey this year. In addition, the District Office will be moving to space in the current middle school area of Rivendell Academy.

Our hopes are that the reduced administrative structure and the new grade level configuration will allow for expansion of offerings and opportunities for our students while addressing the many financial and economic challenges Rivendell is facing. The new administrative structure includes:

- Superintendent (part time – 50%)
- Head of Schools/Rivendell Academy Principal (7-12)
- Head of Elementary Schools/Samuel Morey Elementary Principal
- Westshire Elementary Principal

Non-administrative positions include:

- Curriculum Coordinator (part time – 50%)
- Dean of Students, Rivendell Academy

In looking at the new administrative structure, we recognize that we have talented administrators to fill most of the roles. We are pleased to announce that the Board has appointed Gail Keiling as Head of Elementary Schools/Samuel Morey Principal. Gail knows the Rivendell vision, as well as the Samuel Morey community, and will be invaluable in continuing our work at the elementary level. Also, Shawn Gonyaw has been asked to continue as the Westshire Elementary Principal to build on the great work he and his staff have already accomplished at Westshire.

The above administrative changes do mean, however, that Eloise Ginty will be leaving us. We are very grateful for the support, care and concern that Eloise has shown the students and families at Samuel Morey and wish her the best in her future endeavors.

The Board is currently in conversations with Donna Valentine about the position of Head of Schools/Rivendell Academy Principal (7-12) and with Bridget Fariel about continuing her work in curriculum, as the Curriculum Coordinator.

The process for the search for a new part-time Superintendent will begin when we return from December Recess. We will be appointing a search committee, creating a brochure of the roles and responsibilities for this position, contacting the state education organizations, and then beginning the interviewing process. We will do our best to keep you current with this process.

We would like to thank all the parents and community members who attended our meetings and spoke with us over the past few weeks regarding the reorganization. As we begin planning for the implementation of this new structure, we are hopeful that we can count on all of you to continue sharing your views and collaborating with us as we move forward.

Sincerely,

Carol Sobetzer
Chair, Rivendell Interstate School District Board