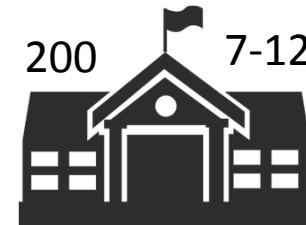
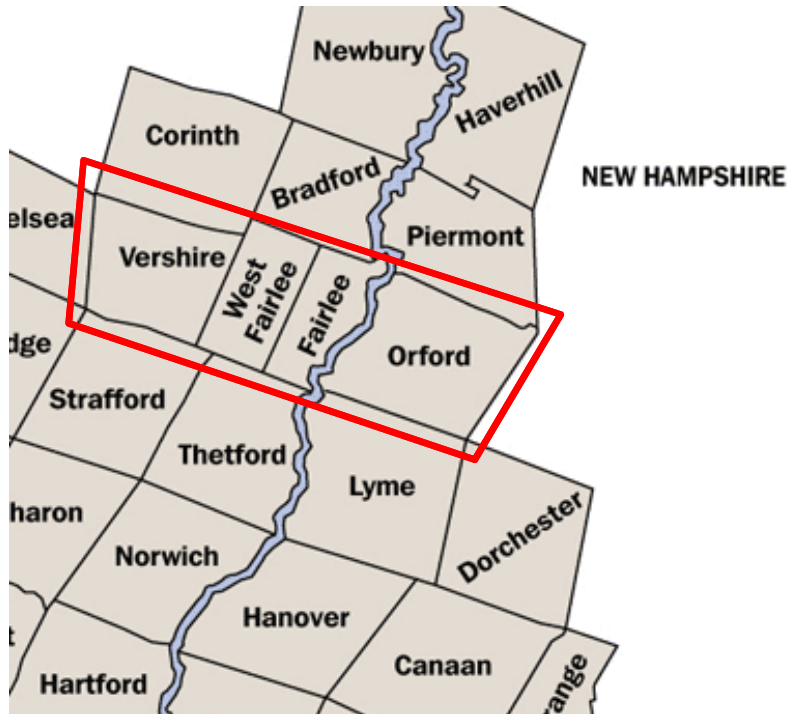


Rivendell

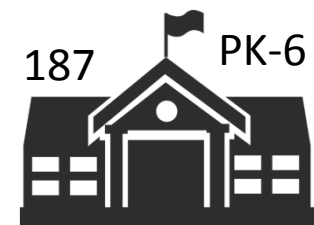
Interstate School District



Rivendell Academy



Westshire
Elementary



Samuel Morey
Elementary

Presented Jan. 8, 2016 by RISD Board Members Kathy Hooke (Vershire), Mark Avery (Fairlee)



Formed in 1998

Incorporated many best practices

- preschool
- after school & summer enrichment
- individual support for literacy
- no tracking



Student outcomes have soared across 4 towns of varied economic status



- Poverty level at VT average
- Test scores way above avg.



Rivendell Academy #5 in VT



Near an Address

Compare Schools

City Rankings

District Rankings

School Rankings

Best 10 Schools

Worst 10 Schools

Most Improved

Over 50 million people have visited SchoolDigger.com!

Top states visiting SchoolDigger right now:

Illinois: 20%

New York: 14%

Georgia: 11%

Texas: 9%

Virginia: 9%

California: 6%

Florida: 6%

Nebraska: 6%

Top 10 Vermont High Schools

School Year: 2014-2015

[See advanced options](#)

Find school, district, city, zip... Table Chart View columns

Rank (of 61)	School					Student and teacher data (2014)			Rank data (2015 vs 2014)	
	School	District	City	Low Grade	High Grade	# Students	Student/Teacher Ratio	% of Students Eligible for Free/Disc Lunch	Average Standard Score (2015)	Rank change from 2014
1	Champlain Valley Union High School District #15	Champlain Valley Union High School District #15	Hinesburg	09	12	1247	12.9	11.7%	97.26	▲ 5
2	Mt. Mansfield Unified School District #17	Mount Mansfield Unified School District #17	Jericho	09	12	849	15.4	16.0%	94.81	(n/a)
3	South Burlington High School	South Burlington School District	South Burlington	09	12	850	11.9	19.8%	94.39	▼ 1
4	Essex Community Education Center Union High School District #46	Essex Community Education Center	Essex Junction	09	12	1285	8.3	16.2%	93.52	(n/a)
5	Rivendell Academy	Rivendell Interstate School District	Orford	07	12	207	8.7	39.1%	91.11	▼ 1
6	Stowe Middle/High School	Stowe School District	Stowe	06	12	408	11.3	15.7%	90.84	▼ 5
7	Montpelier High School	Montpelier School District	Montpelier	09	12	283	8.8	19.4%	90.80	▲ 1

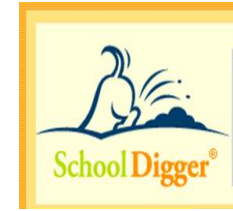
[f](#)

[t](#)

[e](#)

Source: SchoolDigger <http://www.schooldigger.com/go/VT/schoolrank.aspx?level=3>

Westshire Elementary #10

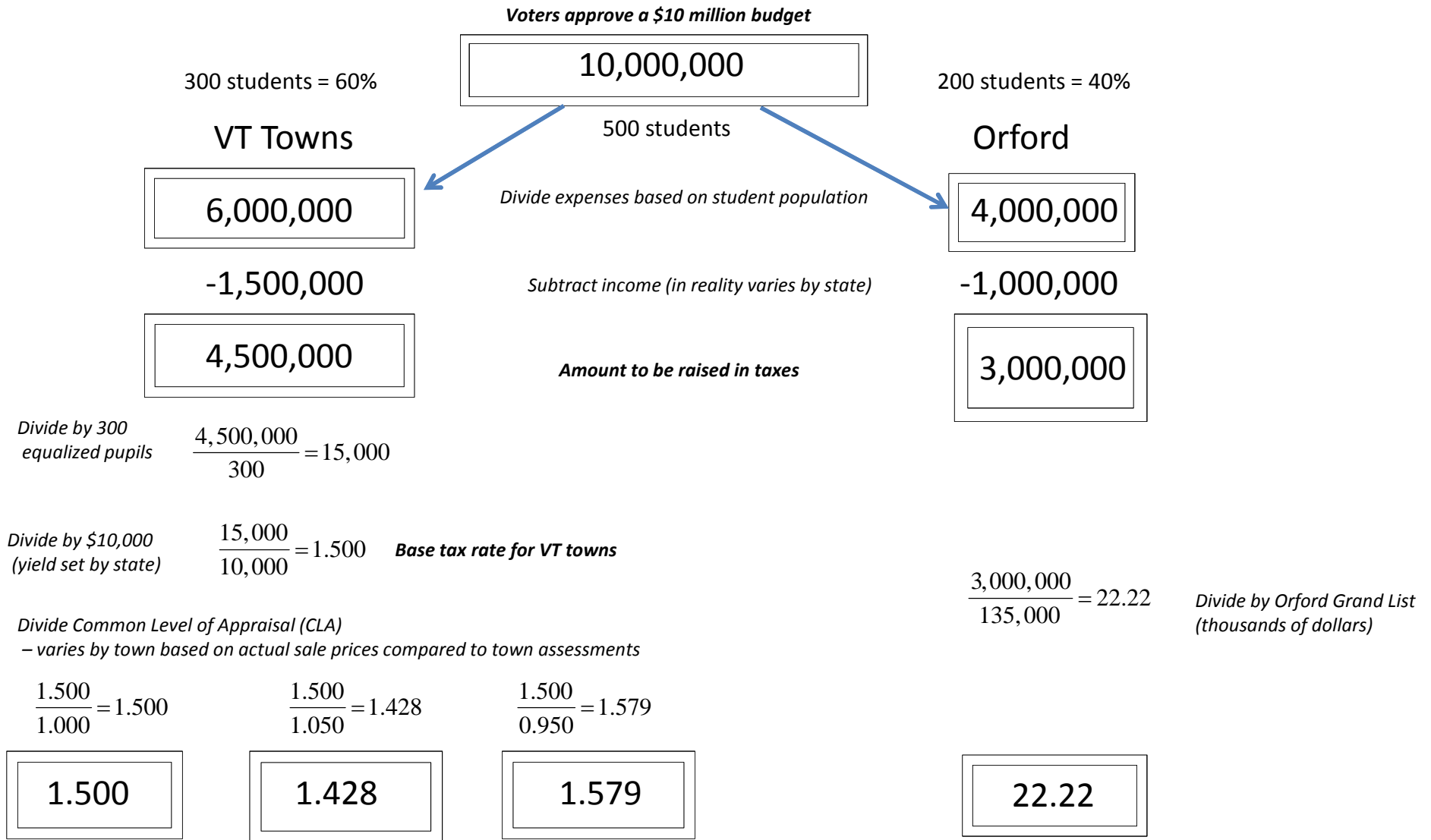


Rank (2014-15)	School	Number Students	Percent Free/Disc Lunch
1	Marion W. Cross School	332	6.6%
2	Brewster Pierce School	150	24.0%
3	Charlotte Central School	465	10.8%
4	Killington Elementary School	93	31.2%
5	Shelburne Community School	831	12.0%
6	Mt. Holly School	93	34.4%
7	Woodstock Elementary School	173	14.5%
8	Underhill Central School	165	16.4%
9	Stowe Elementary School	386	15.0%
10	Westshire Elementary School	94	41.5%

Impact of Act 46

- \$10 million budget up \$48,000 from last year
- Up less than 0.5% while absorbing unavoidable increases in health insurance, salaries
- Took 3 rounds of cuts to get down to that #
- Need to cut an additional \$385k to meet spending cap
- Can't do that and meet needs of students

How taxes are calculated for 4 Rivendell towns (a basic map with simplified numbers)

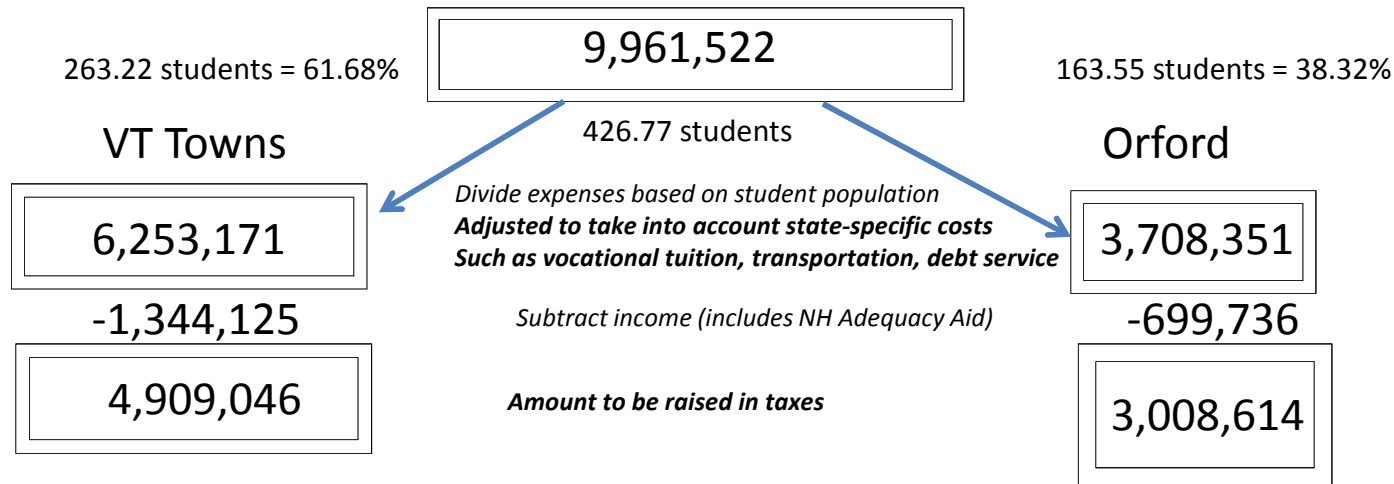


Three different tax rates for 3 VT towns – per \$100 property value (\$100,000 house pays \$1,500 if tax rate is 1.500)

Orford tax rate:- per \$1,000 property value (\$100,000 house pays \$2,222)

Actual numbers for FY16

Voters approve a \$9,961,522 budget (article 4)



Divide by 293.14 equalized pupils

$$\frac{4,909,046}{293.14} = 16,746 \quad \text{Cost per equalized pupil}$$

Divide by \$9,459 (yield set by state)

$$\frac{16,746}{9,459} = 1.7704 \quad \text{Base tax rate for VT towns}$$

Divide Common Level of Appraisal (CLA)

$$\frac{1.7704}{1.0091} = 1.7545$$

$$\frac{1.7704}{1.0037} = 1.7639$$

$$\frac{1.7704}{0.9906} = 1.7872$$

1.7545*

1.7639*

1.7872*

Fairlee

West Fairlee

Vershire

$$\frac{3,008,614}{143,643,726} = 2.02094 \quad \text{Divide by Orford Grand List Old # (in annual report)}$$

$$\frac{3,008,614}{135,087,611} = 2.2272 \quad \text{New # (due to reassessment)}$$

22.27*

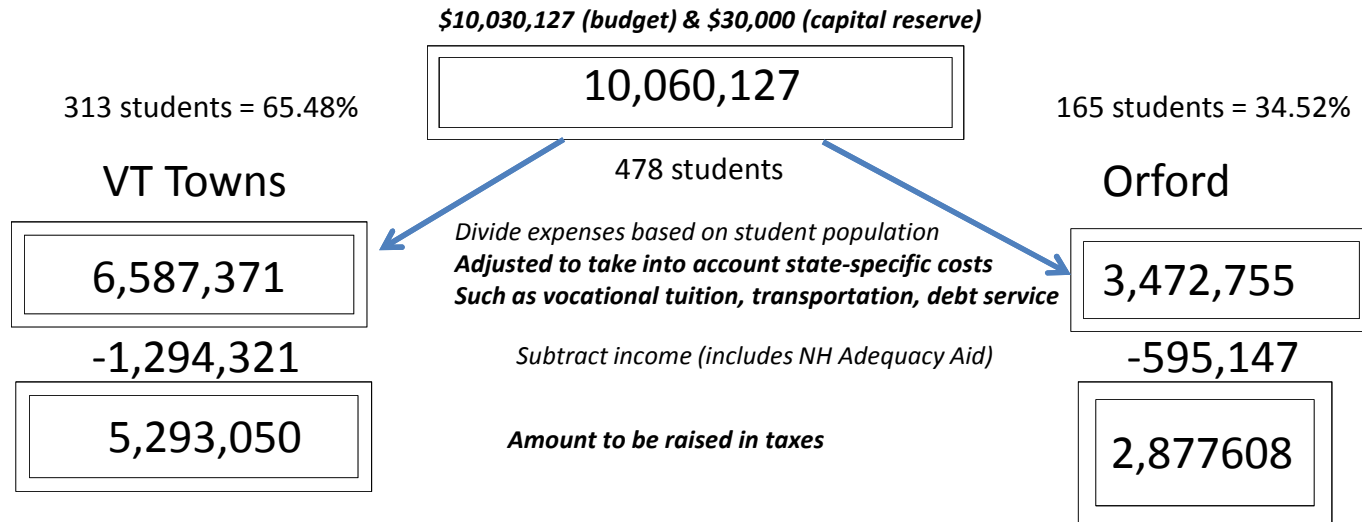
Orford

Three different tax rates for 3 VT towns – per \$100 property value (\$100,000 house pays \$1,754 if tax rate is 1.754)

Orford tax rate:- per \$1,000 property value (\$100,000 house pays \$2,227)

*Voters approve \$50,000 for Capital Reserve Fund (Article 5) which is apportioned among the 4 towns, adding a small amount to the tax rate

How it looks this year (FY17)



Divide by 296.7 equalized pupils $\frac{5,293,050}{296.7} = 17,839.74$ **Cost per equalized pupil**

Exceeds threshold by \$786/EP

Divide by \$9,870 (yield set by state) $\frac{17,839.74}{9,870} = 1.8075$ **Base tax rate for VT towns (without penalty)**

Divide Common Level of Appraisal (CLA)

$$\frac{1.8075}{1.0294} = 1.7558$$

$$\frac{1.8075}{0.9461} = 1.9104$$

$$\frac{1.8075}{1.0154} = 1.7801$$

$$\frac{2,877,608}{135,087,611} = .0213$$

Divide by Orford Grand List Old # (in annual report)

1.7558

1.9104

1.7801

21.30

+0.0775

+0.0843

+0.0784

Penalty

Orford

1.8333

1.9947

1.8586

Orford tax rate:- per \$1,000 property value (\$100,000 house pays \$2,130)

Fairlee
Up 4.5%

West Fairlee
Up 13%

Vershire
Up 4.0%

Increase from FY16

What to do?

Cut \$385,000 more (3.8% of budget)
and destroy our schools by cutting the
programs that have led to our success

or

Take the penalty and try to sell it to the voters

- *Hard to sell a tax increase of 4% (13% for West Fairlee) when expenses are only up by 0.5%.*
- *Leaves us feeling that we are funding accelerated merger incentives for other districts when we are not even eligible for the incentives.*

How our view of Act 46 has changed over the year

VERMONT SCHOOL SPENDING LIMITS

SCHOOL DISTRICT	Spending Per Equalized Pupil with Exclusions	Allowable Growth in Per Pupil Spending	Total Allowable Growth in FY 2017
Thetford	\$16,899	0.79%	\$53,083
Hartland	\$16,533	0.92%	\$69,277
Woodstock UHSD	\$16,498	0.94%	\$72,639
West Windsor	\$16,292	1.02%	\$22,058
Bethel	\$16,244	1.04%	\$48,737
Pomfret	\$15,840	1.21%	\$10,498
Strafford	\$15,562	1.33%	\$36,372
Blue Mountain USD	\$15,403	1.40%	\$86,842
Barnard	\$15,335	1.43%	\$12,312
Tunbridge	\$15,216	1.48%	\$40,521
Woodstock	\$15,144	1.52%	\$35,832
Chelsea	\$15,089	1.54%	\$41,753
Hartford	\$14,858	1.65%	\$370,753
Oxbow UHSD	\$14,789	1.69%	\$85,950
Sharon	\$14,639	1.76%	\$63,288
Royalton	\$14,498	1.83%	\$83,982
Randolph UHSD	\$14,398	1.89%	\$135,426
Rivendell Interstate USD	\$14,211	1.98%	\$82,437
Weathersfield	\$14,207	1.98%	\$93,683
Norwich	\$14,192	1.99%	\$178,970
Windsor	\$12,922	2.73%	\$168,922
Randolph	\$12,278	3.16%	\$120,111

Source: Vermont Legislature

VALLEY NEWS — SHAWN BRALEY

June: “no problem”

August: “tough but good”

- health insurance up 7.9%
- income down \$160k
- belt-tightening can be good
- helps to clarify priorities

November: “really tough but we’ll survive”

- serious cuts will require creativity

December: “downward trending rollercoaster”

- impossible! (equalized pupils down 10)
- phew! (calculation error - EP up 3)
- aargh! (expense exemptions don’t apply)

January: “time to cry FOUL!”

- yield down to \$9870, taxes up even more

- how can this be fair?

how can we possibly sell this to

voters?

Source: Valley News June 7, 2015

<http://www.vnews.com/home/17146865-95/tough-target-for-vermonts-schools>

Some issues unique to Rivendell's interstate status

* Title 16 : Chapter 015 : New Hampshire-Vermont Interstate School Compact

§ 783. Miscellaneous provisions-Article XIII

H. Amendments. **Neither state shall amend its legislation or any agreement authorized thereby without the consent of the other in such manner as to substantially adversely affect the rights of the other state or its people hereunder...**

* Cost per equalized pupil calculations

- RISD expenses divided VT vs NH based on **annual** ADM
- Equalized pupil based on **2 yr average** of ADM, adjusted (HS=1.2, PK=0.5, etc.)
- Numerator governed by different rules than denominator
- Adding PK in FY17 caused numerator to grow more than denominator



Rivendell

Interstate School District

THANKS FOR LISTENING!

QUESTIONS?

