I. Call Meeting: Meeting was opened at 6:34 p.m.

II. Agenda Revision/Time Allocation: Student Council Representatives present, but not on Agenda, so heard first and they reported Student Council is presently focused on increasing school spirit and increasing student participation in activities; five officers and two class representatives per Grades 7-12 sit on the Student Council. Two Student Council members will be School Board representatives. The Board will email Student Board Representative’s Role Descriptions to Ms. Wright’s email address. The Board prefers continuity in Student Representatives’ attendance at Board meetings rather than student representative rotating attendance.

III. General Public Comments: None at this time.

IV. Presentation/Guests
   A. Curriculum Connections at the Tunbridge Fair: J. Holcombe and B. Griffin presented a PowerPoint highlighting the academic connections and student projects with unique Vermont traditions and history presented at the Tunbridge Fair, including literacy, mapping and Geography, history and Social Studies, and Native American Vermont History.

V. Consent Agenda (Accept)
   A. Minutes (September 7, 2010)
   B. Superintendent Report (written): B. Needham requested the minutes reflect her public thanks to RISD member Town Officials for welcoming her attendance at Town Select Board Meetings in order to introduce herself and discuss RISD issues at the Town governing level. Needham also reported the Memo of Understanding between NH and VT is close to closure and fruition and the idea of a school group news on-line list-serve is in the works.
   C. Head of Schools Report (written): Gelenian reported on his new discipline plan “with a heart” he implemented to help students and teachers deal with classroom behavioral incidents (described as silly, immature behaviors), aiming to get the student to identify his or her behavior and take responsibility for the consequences of his or her actions (such as disrupting instruction); the student identifies the infraction and discusses the incident with the teacher, then enters into a written agreement regarding expected behavior. It is a tiered process that would involve parents at a certain level, and which is revisited after a set period, with the student having the opportunity to start over with a clean slate. Gelenian also reported Michael Galli is the Truant Officer, and on a planned trip to University Park High School, a model
for good university partnership in hopes for better connection with Dartmouth College. Gelenian also reported on the number of students failing two or more classes and discussed revising graduation requirements and course descriptions and compliance with the NEASC timeline.

**D. Principals Report (written):** Holcombe reported that Westshire is still off to a good start and the staff is of great assistance to her in her new position. Keiling not present; written report provided.

**Action:** Motion made to approve the consent agenda with corrections to the September 7, 2010 minutes. **Approved.**

**VI. Ongoing Business (Deliberation & Possible Action)**

**A. Election Procedures re Changing Articles of Agreement:** Board review and discussion of timeline for notice of and public meeting for comment (set for 12/9/10) on proposed amendment to Articles of Agreement (length of time for voting before and after Annual Meeting to be shortened).

**B. Board Goals:** Smith-Ordway asked the Board to review the goals that were compiled during the retreat and e-mail her or Carol before the next meeting.

**C. Conversations with Piermont and OESU:** Needham reported she and Gelenian received calls from OESU administrators and Oxbow High School regarding the proposed informational meeting with Piermont representatives; it was clarified that this group is independent from the Piermont School Board and town government, and therefore Oxbow and Haverhill withdrew from the event; RISD withdrew as well. The Piermont group has received written information regarding RISD. Piermont is also exploring whether to tuition out its 7th and 8th grade students.

**VII. New Business (Receive Information & Possible Action)**

**A. Correspondence:** Received letters from REA regarding beginning negotiations.

**B. Policies:**

i. **First Reading - G10, Animal Dissection (Revision); F17, Head Lice (Revision); B3, Board Member Conflict of Interest (Revision):** Needham explained current health recommendations are for children to not be sent home immediately when lice discovered, so to diminish teasing and ridicule by other students.

ii. **Second Reading - F29, Truancy: Orange County Policy:** Needham noted police officers to accompany Truant Officer. Policy **approved.**

iii. **Foreign Students**-still need to work on.

Needham reported she is first reviewing all mandatory policies that are greater than five years old.

**C. Board Westshire Walk-Through:** The Board toured the school including classrooms.

**D. Budget 2011-2012:** Reviewed timeline for, planned number of Public Meetings/Town Forums (2-3), and 12/15/10 draft budget deadline discussed.

**E. Update on VSBA Regional Meeting and Act 153:** Smith-Ordway and Richardson attended meeting on Act 153 and Vermont’s advisement to cut budgets and on district consolidation. Need to look at what is best for the children; good experience discussing Act 153 with board members statewide.

**F. Plowing Bids:** Slate of bids reviewed and discussed. Needham discussed there needs to be in place and, followed, a solid process, done in a deliberate manner for review of all contracts RISD considers. **Action:** Motion made to offer Upper Valley Landscaping the plowing bid for SME and RA, with Malcolm Godfrey being offered the plowing bid at WES. **Accepted.**
VIII. Future Agenda Items (Discussion)
   A. Elementary Principals
   B. TIPS Program
   C. Sixth Grade at Samuel Morey Elementary School
   D. Technology – Board Email & Rivendell Google Group
   E. SummerScapes

IX. Anticipated Executive Session (Discussion & Possible Action)
   A. Contract Negotiations
   B. Personnel Issue
   C. Special Education Issue

Action: Motion made at 9:07 p.m. to enter into executive session on items A and C. Approved. Executive session ended at 9:30 p.m.

X. Adjournment (Action): Motion made to adjourn at 9:31 p.m. Approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Levin Sarazin
Recording Secretary