I. Call Meeting to Order: Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. Budget 2014-2015: Paulson distributed the 2014-2015 draft budget. Needham stated that she had received an email from Richardson with some questions so she would go through those, preliminary info has been received on ADMs (293.83 down from 303.88), Paulson has an update from Academy on voc-tech students for next year, and administrators were present to answer any questions. She also said that per the Board’s discussion at the last meeting regarding cutting the proposed draft budget the administrators will be looking at new things and personnel first probably for cuts. Needham answered questions from Richardson such as voc-tech projected at 28 (up from 21 this year); technology maintenance agreements typically go up every year; tech equipment is based on request from the buildings (mainly laptops); operations was over budget for FY13 at end of year due to some of those expended funds being used on items that had been put off in the past but needed to be done asap; the $26,000 for District-wide field trips was supposed to be $260 instead (error); significant increase in the Academy field trips based on their request; debt service regarding TAN down Paulson said by refinancing of bond - $75,000 in debt service in FY 15 and the principal is going down about $25,000; towns have been paying more promptly and because of unexpended funds from last year Paulson has not had to borrow so much; recommend keeping Food Service subsidy at $25,000; federal titles trend is continuing to be less each year; next enrollment next will be taken December 20th and available for January meeting. Discussion on Vermont school choice and how Vermont students can now choose any school they want to attend, following an application process and time deadline, however, no money follows them. Needham indicated this does not apply to towns that have no high school or no specifically designated high school (i.e., Waits River). DeBois pointed out that the Board is here to give the Administration a bottom line figure for the proposed 2014-2015 budget for them to come back with changes for the January meeting. Discussion on where cuts might be and Needham stated that there will, of course, be a cost right now to anything cut as there is not any fluff in presented draft budget. She said that the Administrators will get together as a group to review and discuss cuts, but it will affect programs. Richardson had a question on number of paraprofessionals and Needham said Cole could answer better but that paras have been needed for particular students and there are some particular difficult students who need direct support in order to manage. Keiling added some of our youngsters have really complicated issues and we need to make sure that we are getting highly qualified people. Needham stated she will check para line item amount to make sure it is correct. DeBois reiterated that the Board would come up with a bottom line number and then the administrators will need to decide where the cuts will be made. DeBois polled the Board and then averaged out the percent – Board decision was that the proposed 2014-2015 budget be no more than a 1.75% increase.
III. **Transact any other business that needs to be considered:** Board needed to hold an executive session. **Action:** Motion made to go into Executive Session to discuss contract negotiations. **Approved.** Board entered Executive Session at 7:55 p.m. Board came out of executive session at 8:30 p.m.

IV. **Adjournment (Action) –**
**Action:** Motion made to adjourn at 8:31 p.m. **Approved.**

Recorded by:

Penny Perryman
Recorder