

1 **Southwest Vermont Regional Technical School District (SWVRTSD)**
2 **Regional Governing Board Meeting Minutes: April 8, 2019**
3 Assembly Room, Career Development Center (CDC)

4
5 RGB Members Present: Rickey Harrington, Board Chair, Art Haytko, Fran Kinney, Jackie Kelley, Edward
6 Letourneau, Ken Swierad, Michael Munson

7
8 CDC represented by: Meg Honsiger, Assistant Director; Cathy Vosburgh, Interim Business Manager.

9
10 CAT-TV: This meeting was recorded but not broadcast live by Ryan Scutt.

11
12 Recorder: Sandra L. Redding, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent.
13
14

15
16 Board Chair, Rickey Harrington, called the meeting to order at 6PM. With no public present, the consent
17 agenda was approached:

- 18 • Minutes of full board meeting, Monday, March 18, 2019
 - 19 ○ Motioned by Fran Kinney, second by Ken Swierad, unanimous vote for approval
- 20 • Payroll Warrants #22 and #1038
 - 21 ○ Motioned by Fran Kinney, second by Ken Swierad, unanimous vote for approval
- 22 • Vendor Warrants #1039 and # 1040
 - 23 ○ Motioned by Fran Kinney , second by Ken Swierad, unanimous vote for approval

24
25 Education/Facilities Committee report was given by committee chair Jackie Kelley:

26 Concerning the Orchard Road property: The property is across from the Molly Stark School, is
27 available for sale or lease. Rob Bahny, David Dence and Brian Coon reached out to Dan Monks at
28 the Bennington Town office and other town workers. The CDC might be interested in using the
29 property for storage of vehicles and equipment. The property/building needs work and this could be
30 part of a proposal to the town. It was noted that whoever purchases the property becomes
31 responsible for all issues related to said property. That could involve soil and well testing which
32 could be somewhat expensive. Jackie Kelley mentioned a possibility of leasing from Molly Stark
33 School especially not knowing the costs involved in ownership. Molly uses the property for additional
34 parking and the fire department uses the property as well. More research needed. Check for any
35 grant availability for this project.

36 Adult Education:

37 Rob Bahny shared previously with the committee that Bennington Rescue Squad will be using our
38 building to run EMT courses in the fall with maximum of 12 people in each class. We are fortunate to
39 be a part of this program and hope to see more.

40 David Dence shared previously that he will run a Class B CDL program in the fall. There is a high
41 demand for the jobs, so he is seeing good interest.

42 Noted that there are several programs continuing to run strong: LNA, Pharmacy Tech, Vet Tech,
43 Manufacturing classes. Kelley added that there has been an increase in participation and classes
44 offered since the addition of new staff for the adult education program.

45 Vehicles purchases were discussed in committee with the suggestion of referring information to the
46 finance committee for further study and approval.
47

48 Finance Committee report was given by Ed Letourneau. This committee met just prior to full board
49 tonight. The committee heard all the same information as education/facilities in their meeting. After
50 sharing their thoughts, the committee agreed to recommend to the full board for consideration/approval
51 the following:

- 52 • Administration/Business Office return to the full board with proposals/RFBs for:
 - 53 ○ CDL Training Truck purchase up to \$40,000
 - 54 ○ Properly equipped school bus up to \$35,000
 - 55 ○ Univent room heating/cooling unit replacements as requested by Paul Dansereau-\$42,000
- 56 Discussion ensued as to the funds available for these purchases. Cathy Vosburgh, Interim Business

1 Manager, assured the board that funds were indeed available for the requested purchases.
2 The board requested that these items be placed on the next agenda, May, for Action.
3

4 Action Items:

- 5 • Culinary Program Field Trip to Washington, DC, May 7-11, 2019. Students will compete in the
6 Pro-Serve Nationals and our instructor, Jaime Lyn Schmidt, will be receiving, for the second year
7 in a row, the Educator of Excellence Award from this organization. The group and equipment will
8 travel by auto to DC for the competition. Motion was made to approve by Fran Kinney and
9 seconded by Ken Swierad. Unanimous approval.
- 10 • Policies for Adoption:
 - 11 ○ C1000-Policy on Policy
 - 12 ○ C2600-Superintendent Evaluation
 - 13 ○ C3100-Transportation
 - 14 ○ C3216-Idling of Vehicles
 - 15 ○ All four policies were motioned by Fran Kinney and seconded by Ken Swierad. After some
16 general discussion of how/why policies are created and updated, the vote was
17 unanimous to approve the adoption of said policies as warned.
- 18 • Policy for Warning:
 - 19 ○ C7300-Public Participation at Board Meetings
 - 20 ○ Policy was motioned by Fran Kinney, seconded by Ken Swierad. With no discussion, vote
21 was unanimous to warn as posted.

22
23
24 Assistant Director, Meg Honsinger, then gave the superintendent's report. She mentioned he would have
25 a written report at a later date for them.

- 26 • Law Enforcement Program had a great experience at Norwich University attending the CSI
27 Experience/Competition. As the only high school team competing with college teams, our
28 students fared very well and received high accolades for their professional participation. The
29 students were also featured on a WCAX TV report about the event.
- 30 • The CDC is sending forty students to Skills Competition in Burlington Vermont this week.
31 Several of our programs are participating, Auto, Cosmetology, Law Enforcement, Manufacturing
32 and Medical Professions.
- 33 • Friday, April 12th, we have a group of CDC Building Trades students and two faculty/staff
34 heading to Puerto Rico to continue with the recovery efforts in the countryside. Brian Coon,
35 Building Trades Instructor and Lauri Wright, Tech Specialist, will share chaperoning
36 responsibilities while working with the students.
- 37 • End of April, our DECA students travel to National Competition in Orlando with two Tech
38 Specialists chaperoning, Lauri Wright and Martin Munoz.
- 39 • As this is Career and Technical Education Month, many of our programs have been out with
40 students visiting elementary schools to share CDC experiences with the younger children. With
41 the help of our Guidance Coordinator, Stephannie Peters, our programs were well represented
42 and much appreciated as noted by the many cards/letters of thanks we received after the visits.

43
44 The meeting headed towards its conclusion with a discussion of how the dress code policy was
45 developing. Many thoughts were shared concerning this policy, so it would be very helpful to have more
46 board members come to policy committee meetings to discuss the forward motion of this policy.
47 Superintendent Lawler has shared his thoughts on the subject as well. Kelley suggested we invite
48 students to participate/comment as we work thru this process.
49

50 With no other business brought forward, Fran Kinney motioned with Ken Swierad as a second for
51 adjournment. Unanimous approval at 6:35PM.
52
53