

1 **Southwest Vermont Regional Technical School District (SVRTSD)**
2 **Regional Governing Board Meeting Minutes: Monday, December 12, 2022, in-person and online**
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4 **RGB members present:** Mike Cutler, Asher Edelson, Fran Kinney, John MacDonald, Ken Swierad;
5 online-Dane Whitman, Anthony (TJ) Williams, J. Kelly and C. Putney
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7 **CDC represented** by: Michael Lawler, Superintendent/Director; Meg Honsinger, Assistant Director;
8 Rebecca Tattersall, Business Manager and Lisa Harrington, Guidance Coordinator at 10:15AM
9

10 Audience: CAT-TV; no public attendees
11

12 **Recorder:** Sandra Redding, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent
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14 Chair Ken Swierad called the meeting to order at 10:05AM noting no public present or online for
15 comments. The board went immediately to the Consent Agenda:

- 16 • Full board minutes were unanimously approved after one correction, adding C. Putney to
17 members present online at the November 14th meeting-Motions MacDonald and Edelson
- 18 • Finance Committee minutes from November 8, 2021 were unanimously approved, motions
19 Kinney and Swierad
- 20 • Finance Committee minutes from November 14, 2022 were unanimously approved, motions
21 Kinney and MacDonald
- 22 • Finance Committee minutes from November 28, 2022 were unanimously approved, motions
23 Kinney and MacDonald
- 24 • Education/Facilities Committee minutes from November 28, 2022 were unanimously approved,
25 motions Kinney and MacDonald
- 26 • Payroll warrants were unanimously approved, motions Kinney and MacDonald
- 27 • Vendor warrants were unanimously approved, motions Kinney and MacDonald

28 Business documents were noted as present in the drop box.
29

30 Finance Committee Chair, F. Kinney, reported that this committee met just previously to this meeting and
31 upon hearing information from Business Manager Tattersall, agreed to present her findings FY 2024 to
32 the full board. He noted that she had done a phenomenal job in keeping the budget increase to such a
33 low amount while insuring quality education for students. He shared:

- 34 • Budget FY 2024-\$4,383,830, an increase of just 3.69%
- 35 • FY2024 Tuition-\$24,470, while showing a 1.97% increase, after state funds applied, results in a
36 DECREASE of \$940. for district pupil tuition

37 With motions from Kinney and MacDonald to accept and approve the FY2024 budget and FY2024 tuition,
38 the full board voted unanimously to approve and support these actions. So done!
39

40 TJ Williams shared that the Education/Facilities Committee met on November 28th and invited L.
41 Harrington, School Guidance Coordinator to explain the context of that meeting. She shared the
42 following:

- 43 • The requested changes for several programs, (Culinary, Graphic Arts and Video) concerning
44 embedded credits available for our students. Working with program teachers, who provided
45 extensive materials to support the requested additional credits, Harrington noted the current
46 credits and updated with what the state suggests. Culinary is good to go with math added;
47 Graphic Arts has embedded math credit, one credit for long block, ½ tech and ½ elective, one
48 math, one art; Video would add one science and one English
- 49 • Teachers put a great deal of effort into the research for these changes and should be thanked
- 50 • With motions from Cutler and Edelson to approve the requested additional course credits and
51 take this request to the MAU Education committee for their consideration/approval, the motion
52 carried unanimously. This information will be sent to our other sending schools as well.
- 53 • J. Kelly thanked L. Harrington for her work on this project.
54
55

- 1 Edelson introduced the policies listed to be considered for adoption/updated:
2 o 2200C-Anti-Discrimination-Edelson noted that this policy will be brought current concerning
3 gender and will be in line with Vermont state guidelines.
4 o 5030C-Attendance
5 o 5140C-Communicable Diseases
6 o 5266C-Educatioanl Support System
7 o 4001C-Sexual Harassment, (Employee)
8 o 7205C-Board Members Conflict of Interest

9 With motions from Kinney and Cutler, all policies were unanimously approved to be updated and marked
10 as such

11 Superintendent's Report:

- 12 • Supt. Lawler informed the group of the district's first snow delay-day which was today! School
13 opened at 9:50AM instead of the usual 7:50AM due to icy road conditions.
- 14 • Our 5 year NEASC review has been completed with a team of three visiting for three days in
15 November. Lawler felt it was time well spent and a very successful visit. The visiting team noted
16 our school's strong united culture and climate. The full report will be available to us in a few
17 months. Supt. Lawler will share as soon as he has the documents.
- 18 • Lawler thanked our teachers and all the people involved in the 8th grade tours. Even though the
19 tours are very disruptive to teaching schedules, it is a very important event and a necessary tool
20 for recruiting future students.
- 21 • R. Tattersall was congratulated for her diligent and resourceful attention to our budget process
22 and for all her efforts to keep the budget in a reasonable increase margin.
- 23 • Continued efforts are being made on the renovations and cleanup needed to bring our school
24 back to a fully operational facility after the extreme damage caused by two flooding events in
25 2021. The Assembly Room is the last space to be finished and we look forward to holding our
26 RGB meetings in there as soon as February. Lawler noted that 2 weeks ago was the year
27 anniversary of the flooding events. A great deal of work has been done and new equipment has
28 been installed to replace what was lost in the flood. Insurance money has also been coming in to
29 cover costs.
- 30 • Second semester will be starting up in just a few weeks in January. Many of our programs will
31 have a new roster of introductory classes.

32
33 With one last "Thank You" to Tattersall for the incredibly good news of keeping the increase in our budget
34 to just 3.69%, the board unanimously adjourned with motions from Kinney and MacDonald. The board will
35 next meet January 9, 2023 at SW Tech and online.
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