

1 **Southwest Vermont Regional Technical School District (SVRTSD)**
2 **Regional Governing Board Meeting Minutes: Monday, September 11, 2023, in-person and online**
3

4 **RGB members present:** L. Johnson, J. Kelly, F. Kinney, G. Sauer, K. Swierad, D. Whitman and A.
5 Williams. Online: M. Cutler, A. Edelson, T. Kane, C. Putney
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7 **SWT represented** by: Michael Lawler, Superintendent/ Director; Rebecca Tattersall, Business Manager
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9 Audience: CAT-TV
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11 **Recorder:** Sandra Redding, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent
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13 Meeting was called to order at 10:05AM noting no audience or comments. Chair Swierad asked for a
14 moment of silence to remember and honor all those who were lost on September 11, 2001 and those who
15 have since lost their lives due to injuries or illness related to that fateful day.
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17 Consent agenda was introduced:

- 18 • RGB Full Board meeting minutes, August 14, 2023-Motions from Kinney and Johnson were unanimously
19 approved
- 20 • RGB Policy Committee minutes, August 14, 2023-Motions from Kinney and Johnson were unanimously
21 approved
- 22 • Payroll Warrants-Motions from Kinney and Johnson were unanimously approved
- 23 • Vendor Warrants-Motions from Kinney and Johnson were unanimously approved

24 Business office documents were accepted as presented.
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26 Policy Committee Chair Edelson shared that he received a list from Supt. Lawler of potential policies to review. Johnson
27 offered that the SVSU policy committee was meeting this evening and he would forward the policies they are working
28 on. VSBA has also released a list of policies that might need to be considered and/or updated.
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30 Action Items:

- 31 • CTSO nominations were presented for approval. All CTSO stipends are determined by the Teachers
32 Contract.
 - 33 ○ FBLA Kristen Barrett Approx. \$1300. Motions by Kinney and Johnson-unanimously approval
 - 34 ○ ProStart Nick DeLauri Approx. \$2400. Motions by Kinney and Johnson-unanimously approved
 - 35 ○ SkillsUSA Jen MorganHall Approx. \$1900. Motions by Kinney and Johnson-unanimously approved
 - 36 ○ HOSA Kathy Slade Approx. \$2600. Motions by Kinney and Johnson-unanimously approved
- 37 • Policies for Adoption:
 - 38 ○ **3400C-Fire and Emergency Preparedness Drills**-Motions by Kinney and Johnson to approval
39 policy as presented were unanimously approved
 - 40 ○ **3410C-Access Control and Visitor Management**-this policy was tabled for the moment as a clean
41 and updated version was not present. At 10:45AM, the revised and clean copy of this policy was
42 presented to the board for approval. Motions by Kinney and Johnson to approve as presented at this
43 time were unanimously approved by the board.
44

45 Supt. Lawler began his report by sharing we did not have too much damage from the recent storm here at SW Tech.
46 Also, enrollment this semester is strong with almost all programs at capacity. The HVAC system is working better, so
47 thanks goes out to our maintenance department for all the follow-thru. Work is about complete in the Assemble Room
48 with ceiling repairs and he noted the addition of the new chairs which were provided at no cost to us. They are quite
49 comfy. Our Perkins Grant is in the final approval stage. We are in the process of researching recovery grant money in
50 several of our programs. Tom Haskins, Auto Program Instructor, informed Supt Lawler of the great interest and
51 availability of funds in the EV production and maintenance areas. A great deal of money may be available to assist
52 interested schools. Lawler noted that our fleet of vehicles is aging and some replacements may be needed soon. We
53 continue to increase the safety on buses with cameras and faster, continuous viewing of footage. Our automated sign-in
54 system for students and visitors is about ready to re-launch. We have been waiting for upgrade parts. We now have
55 manual sign-in. Supt. Lawler shared that there is a need for changes in governance for tech centers and this is a big
56 topic at the state level as they want to downsize and combine districts and schools. A great deal of input and response

1 from all invested parties is essential and we should be working on where we stand in this area now and where we want
2 to be in the future. The state presently has several models they are considering so this is the right time for us to
3 research and develop a plan for our future. Leon Johnson suggests we should be pushing for changes, be proactive in
4 the direction of our choosing, goals for five years and including faculty, staff and community in the planning process.
5 Dane Whitman noted this process may be slow going as all will be dealing with finances and governance which always
6 takes time. We should focus on what we want and then research the funding needed.

7
8 Ken Swierad inquired if all board members were receiving the newsletters and reports from the VSBA. He noted that
9 there is always a lot of good information included. Also, the upcoming conference at Lake Morey, October 26 and 27 is
10 a great way to become better acquainted with Vermont school board operations and is free of cost to board members.
11 Just see our Business Manager, Rebecca Tattersall for details.

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13 FYI-the October full board meeting will move to Monday, October 16th because of the October 9th holiday. Policy
14 committee will meet before the meeting.

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16 Supt. Lawler shared this year's SW Tech school calendar has adapted many, (10), half days to full, regular days for our
17 students. There is still the usual half days scheduled for professional development as in previous years. Bus
18 transportation will be arranged for all who need it.

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20 John Lamson has now provided the policy #3410C for discussion and adoption. With motions from Kinney and
21 Johnson and unanimous vote, this policy, (as noted above), was approved as presented at this time.

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23 With motions from Kinney and Johnson and unanimous vote, the board voted to adjourn at 10:50AM
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