

1 **Southwest Vermont Regional Technical School District (SWVRTSD)**
2 **Regional Governing Board Special Meeting Minutes: Tuesday, February 10, 2009**
3 Assembly Room, Career Development Center

4
5 Members Present: Gloria Alexander; Justin Corcoran; Claude DeLucia; Kevin Goodhue;
6 Fran Kinney; Frank Lamb, Chair; Ed Letourneau; Rob Sperber.

7
8 Members absent: Rickey Harrington; Leon Johnson; Bob Kobelia.

9
10 Staff and Others Present: Dr Frank Barone, Director; Nicky Forrest, Instructor; Jessica Hill,
11 Outreach Coordinator; Larry Johnson, Board Candidate; Wendy Klein, Coop; Greg Lewis,
12 Business Manager; Bob Montgomery, Assistant Director; Sandra Redding, Office Manager;
13 James Weber, Co-Student.

14 Videotaping: CATTV

15 Recorder: Barb Schlesinger

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19
20 Lamb called the meeting to order at 6:30.

21
22 **Public Comments:**

23 Lamb introduced Larry Johnson, a candidate for the Board.

24
25 **Agenda Changes:**

26 Lamb noted the Agenda is 'set' because this meeting is being considered a Special Meeting;
27 February's meeting is being held tonight rather than the third Monday of the month.

28
29 **Corcoran moved and Goodhue seconded a motion to accept the Agenda as printed.**
30 **All were in favor and the motion passed.**

31
32 **Student Presentation:**

33 James Weber, Coop student explained the team website project he is working. The
34 Business Management students have created a website, www.tagsaledeals.com, where
35 donated items are for sale. The profits will go toward a general fund, CDC scholarship,
36 which any CDC student will be eligible for. The students have worked closely with Jen Holly
37 of Websites & More, Shaftsbury VT.

38
39 Weber led the board through the site, noting its link from the CDC site, www.svcdc.org.
40 Weber commented that the project has been a fantastic experience and Jen Holly in
41 essence donated the site and her guidance.

42
43 Instructor Forest noted that part of the project was to file a 501c(3) with the State. This is an
44 arduous task and Weber thanked Lewis for all his help.

45
46 **DeLucia suggested sending a formal thank you to Ms Holly. The Board was in**
47 **consensus.**

1 **Consent Agenda:**

- 2 - Minutes from RGB Special Meeting January 26, 2009
3 - Minutes from RGB Meeting January 20, 2009
4 - SWVRTSD Payroll Warrant # 115 1/27/2009 in the amount of \$ 16,597.61
5 - SWVRTSD Payroll Warrant # 1029 1/27/2009 in the amount of \$ 52,245.60
6
7 - SWVRTSD Vendor Warrant # 1030 1/27/2009 in the amount of \$ 73,997.12
8 - SWVRTSD Vendor Warrant # 1031 2/10/2009 in the amount of \$ 24,614.61
9 - DECA Field Trip Burlington VT March 4 to March 6, 2009

10
11 DeLucia questioned the Treasurer's Report as to there being sufficient funds. Lewis noted
12 that all the funds were collateralized.

13
14 **Corcoran moved and Alexander seconded a motion to accept the Consent Agenda.**
15 **All were in favor and the motion passed.**

16
17 **Committee Reports:**

18 SVSU Superintendent Search

19 DeLucia reported the search has been narrowed to two candidates and his work is
20 done. DeLucia commented that John Waller used his report for today's Banner article
21 regarding the status of the search.

22
23 **Superintendent's Report:**

24 Carpenter was not in attendance.

25
26 **Chairman's Report:**

27 Lamb spoke of several legislative issues that have been sent to the State Representatives in
28 Montpelier:

- 29 → Taxing Authority: CDC will collect its own tax revenues rather than MAU acting as
30 its agent and passing the monies through.
31 → Tech Diploma: CDC would like state guidance toward developing a tech diploma.
32 The diploma would be in conjunction with a MAUHS diploma, not a stand-alone.
33 → Out-of State Tuition: A bill is needed to set the tuition rate for schools outside of
34 Vermont that do not receive state aid.

35
36 Lamb thanked retiring Board members Bob Kobelia and Rob Sperber for their time, effort
37 and their contributions toward the quality education that CDC provides. Redding presented
38 Sperber with a token gift of appreciation.

39
40 Lamb also spoke briefly about the Advisory Board Breakfast and asked Governing Board
41 members to meet with as many Advisory board members as possible.

42
43 **Directors Report:**

44 Barone drew the Board's attention to the five-page report he prepared for the Board
45 (handout 1). Barone touched tonight on seven items that he is addressing/ has addressed
46 since the last meeting:

- 47 Item # 1: Improving student attendance: Approach as a job skill.
48 Items # 2 #3: Enrollment: Involves both outreach and recruitment.
49 Efforts will begin after February vacation.

- 1 Item #4: Burr & Burton: Alternative and hand scheduling possible for some
2 programs.
3 Item # 5: BOCES: Is there NY State law similar to Vermont's in regards to
4 'geographically isolated' schools and out-of-state tuition to Vermont (CDC).
5 Item # 6: Email accounts for the sitting Regional Governing Board members.
6 Item # 8: Enrollment data by program. Barone requested that the Board wait until
7 April for the report in order to include current semester data.

8
9 Kinney asked about how many students were enrolled from the outside
10 districts, was it still twenty-one? Montgomery concurred that it was still
11 about that many.

12
13 **Board consensus was to wait until April for the full Report.**

14
15 Barone noted John Waller's Banner article (handout 2) about the video senior Ashley Bump
16 filmed of her trip to Obama's inauguration. Barone congratulated Bump on her continued
17 success, Instructor Foley for his inspirational teaching and Waller for his article. Barone also
18 thanked the teachers who submitted program updates in time for his report. DeLucia &
19 Alexander thanked Barone for the printed report.

20
21 **Other:**

22 DeLucia passed on to Barone 'Healthcare is a Human Right' information. The meeting will
23 be held February 19, 7:00PM, at the Unitarian Universalist Meeting House on School Street.

24
25 Lamb reminded all that the Annual Meeting is March 2 at the River Street Fire House,
26 5:00PM. Following the meeting will be the Annual Meetings of the district sending schools.
27 Redding has a signup sheet available for these.

28
29 The CDC will have an Open House on February 26 at 6:30PM.

30
31 Kinney had the following questions:

- 32 ▪ Does the Board intend to share a Superintendent with the other Regional Technical
33 School Districts?

34 Lamb and Corcoran clarified that Barone will be both Superintendent and Director for
35 CDC only; there will be no sharing.

- 36
37 ▪ Do we pay a teacher to teach a class with no students?

38 Kinney stated that former Superintendent Knapp concurs that this has happened in the
39 past. He hopes that Barone will see to it that it does not happen in the future.

40 Discussion followed as to what other schools do, contracts, layoffs, et al. Corcoran
41 asked for specifics as to the situation Kinney is referring to. Letourneau reiterated that
42 a teacher has never been paid to teach a class with no students; he furthered explained
43 that the supposed incident was discussed at an Education Committee meeting and
44 Knapp was corrected.

- 45
46 ▪ Are the teachers who come to Board meetings paid to do so?

47 Forest responded no; she was there to support her students on her own time. The
48 Policy Committee does pay a stipend Lee-Clark for his advisory legal role.

49

1 **Executive Session:**

2 **At 7:06 Goodhue moved and Alexander seconded a motion to enter Executive**
3 **Session for personnel/ grievance. All were in favor.**

4
5 **At 7:15 Letourneau moved and Corcoran seconded a motion to come out of Executive**
6 **Session. All were in favor.**

7
8 **Letourneau moved and Goodhue seconded a motion to reject the grievance for the**
9 **reason stated in the letter dated January 26, 2009. All were in favor.**

10
11 **Adjournment:**

12 **At 7:16PM Corcoran moved and Letourneau seconded a motion to adjourn. All were**
13 **in favor.**

14
15 **Attachments:**

16 RGB Special Meeting Minutes of January 26, 2009

17 RGB Meeting Minutes of January 20, 2009

18 Payroll Warrants #115, #1029

19 Vendor Warrants #1030, #1031

20 Revenue and Expenses

21 Statement of Cash Flow

22 Field Trip Request – DECA – Burlington VT

23
24 **Addendum Handouts:**

25 Director's Report to the Board of Education February 10, 2009

26 *Young Filmmaker Focuses on Obama.* Waller, John. Bennington Banner. Feb 7, 2009