

1 **Southwest Vermont Regional Technical School District (SWVRTSD)**  
2 **Regional Governing Board Special Meeting Minutes: Tuesday, August 17, 2010**  
3 Assembly Room, Career Development Center

4  
5 Members Present: Gloria Alexander; Justin Corcoran; Claude DeLucia; Rickey Harrington;  
6 Leon Johnson; Frank Lamb; Ed Letourneau; Jon Peaslee.

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8 Members Excused: Kevin Goodhue; Larry Johnson; Fran Kinney.

9  
10 Staff and Others Present: Dr Barone, Superintendent/ Director; Greg Lewis, Business  
11 Manager; Sandy Redding, Office Manager.

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13 Videotaping: CAT TV

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15 Recorder: Barb Schlesinger

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At 6:30pm, Lamb called the meeting to order, welcoming all to the new school year. He  
18 noted the three excused members and requested the board members present to  
19 reintroduce themselves, which they did.

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21 **Public Comments**            There were none.

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23 **Agenda Changes/ Additions**

24 Lamb requested following two items be added as Action Items under the joint Education/  
25 Facilities Meeting report: 1) to exercise our lease option and 2) to ask administration to  
26 explore two new courses.

27  
28 **Peaslee moved and Leon Johnson seconded a motion to approve the Agenda with**  
29 **additions. All in attendance voted in favor.**

30  
31 **Consent Agenda**

- 32 - Minutes of the June 21, 2010 Regional Governing Board Meeting  
33 - Minutes of the July 21, 2010 Regional Governing Board Special Meeting  
34 - Minutes of the August 3, 2010 Joint Education and Facilities Committees Meeting  
35 - SWVRTSD Payroll Warrant # 127 06/29/2010 in the amount of \$ 1,892.93  
36 - SWVRTSD Payroll Warrant # 1052 06/29/2010 in the amount of \$ 23,109.68  
37 - SWVRTSD Payroll Warrant # 1 07/30/2010 in the amount of \$ 4,636.05  
38 - SWVRTSD Payroll Warrant # 1000 07/30/2010 in the amount of \$ 15,089.37  
39 - SWVRTSD Payroll Warrant # 2 07/30/2010 in the amount of \$ 4,049.29  
40 - SWVRTSD Payroll Warrant # 1001 07/30/2010 in the amount of \$ 17,107.83  
41 - SWVRTSD Payroll Warrant # 3 07/30/2010 in the amount of \$ 9,423.19  
42 - SWVRTSD Payroll Warrant # 1003 07/30/2010 in the amount of \$ 26,089.72  
43 - SWVRTSD Payroll Warrant # 4 08/17/2010 in the amount of \$ 4,576.85  
44 - SWVRTSD Payroll Warrant # 1006 08/17/2010 in the amount of \$ 20,192.26  
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46 - SWVRTSD Vendor Warrant # 1053 06/29/2010 in the amount of \$ 39,748.88  
47 - SWVRTSD Vendor Warrant # 1002 07/20/2010 in the amount of \$106,424.95  
48 - SWVRTSD Vendor Warrant # 1004 07/30/2010 in the amount of \$ 75,404.19  
49 - SWVRTSD Vendor Warrant # 1005 08/17/2010 in the amount of \$ 24,114.88

1 **Peaslee moved and Corcoran seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.**  
2 **All in attendance voted in favor.** There was no discussion.

3  
4 **Revenue and Expenses/ Treasurer's Report**

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6 **Harrington moved and Alexander seconded a motion to accept the Treasurer's**  
7 **Report and Revenue & Expenses. All in attendance voted in favor.** There was no  
8 discussion.

9  
10 **Nominations for CTSO and Service Positions**

11 Barone reported that he has addressed the question of compensation inequity presented  
12 by the FBLA advisor. The per hour compensation is contractual; the issue has been  
13 resolved by the advisors revising the amount of hours their positions entail. This  
14 adjustment in hours will be a 'cost wash'; three advisors revised their hours downward and  
15 one recalibrated upward. The revised hours will take effect this year.

16  
17 **Corcoran moved and Letourneau seconded a motion to accept the nominations. All**  
18 **in attendance voted in favor.**

19  
20 **Committee Reports/ Action Items**

21 **Joint Education/ Facilities**

22 Letourneau summarized the joint meeting by touching on the following topics discussed  
23 at the joint committee meeting:

- 24 - More classroom space is needed. With the addition of the Culinary Program,  
25 there is no extra room.
- 26 - Black River Design was asked to review the original building designs and come  
27 up with a rough cost estimate for each of three different scenarios.
- 28 - Black River Designs cost estimate was \$450k – \$550k.
- 29 - CDC has a classroom that for many years has been used by MAU. CDC's  
30 agreement with MAU allows for CDC to request MAU to relinquish this room.
- 31 - Programs and where they would move to. This is still unresolved.
- 32 - Possible new course that would combine math/ english class. This would allow  
33 students who would like to attend CDC to move up to the level they need to be  
34 at to properly and successfully complete those CDC courses.
- 35 - Motions were made to send to the full board the MAU relinquishing request and  
36 the math/ english class request for action.
- 37 - By exercising the classroom option, CDC will forestall the need to construct the  
38 second floor unfinished space into classrooms for at least one-two years.

39  
40 Lamb reported on the history of the room that MAU is using (Home Ec). He also  
41 reported the other rooms discussed at the joint meeting are not available to CDC; they  
42 were not built with Federal money designated for vocational education. Lamb  
43 requested the Board to vote on the two recommendations.

44  
45 Discussion followed as to MAU possibly allowing CDC to use the other classrooms  
46 discussed at the committee meeting to CDC and thus save them money, MAU/ CDC  
47 agreement, enrollment increasing at CDC and decreasing at MAU and the fact that  
48 CDC pays MAU for the space it uses. Lamb noted this exploration is what school  
49 boards are supposed to do.

1 **Harrington moved and Letourneau seconded a motion to direct the Superintendent**  
2 **to exercise CDC's option concerning Classroom 229C. All in attendance voted in**  
3 **favor.**

4  
5 Leon Johnson opened discussion asking why the need for a remedial pre-tech math/  
6 English course? Barone noted that at present, pre-tech English is covered in the  
7 individual classrooms if necessary, however pre-tech math is not. Letourneau noted  
8 that CDC classes often require more technical english and math skills; students need to  
9 be brought up to speed in order to succeed.

10  
11 Discussion as to the need, options, evaluations, scheduling, instructor input and  
12 integrating soft skills into all courses followed. Barone will explore all options.

13  
14 **Peaslee moved and Corcoran seconded a motion to direct administration to explore**  
15 **a pre-tech English and Math course. All in attendance voted in favor except Leon**  
16 **Johnson, who voted Nay. The motion carried.**

17  
18 **Director/ Superintendent's Report**

19 Barone touched on his Director's Report briefly:

- 20 1. Patrick Ryan, Building Trades instructor was in last week organizing his shop. He is  
21 on his honeymoon this week and will begin working next week.
  - 22 2. Congratulations to Megan Maguire (nee Metcalfe), Outreach Coordinator on her  
23 recent marriage.
  - 24 3. The Culinary Arts program received the anticipated startup grant in the amount of  
25 \$48,000. The space is being prepared. The instructor position has been posted  
26 and ads will be placed tomorrow. Four applications have already been received.  
27 Board member Gloria Alexander will be helping with interviews. Barone reported  
28 the application closing the end of September, with interviews and instructor  
29 selection concluding in mid-October.
  - 30 4. Model Railroad and Water Resource Management have received state approval.  
31 Both will be run pending enrollment.
  - 32 5. He is on the agenda for MAU's next meeting to discuss constructing a detached  
33 greenhouse on the CDC campus. The kit greenhouse is 26' x 28'; Barone  
34 anticipates this being placed on a 30' x 30' space outside of Building Trades. CDC  
35 needs MAU's permission to increase their footprint.
- 36  
37 - Opening enrollment (as of today) for 2010 is 546 students; last year at this time it  
38 was 526. These numbers reflect daytime students (including adults). Barone feels  
39 Culinary will increase this enrollment and draw new students.
  - 40 - Barone invited the public and the Board to visit the new CDC website  
41 ([www.svcfdc.org](http://www.svcfdc.org)). Jen Holley, Meg Maguire and Bob Mazur worked very hard to  
42 design this new, classy site.
  - 43 - Barone spoke of the email he received from the State Department of Education re  
44 the voluntary Challenges for Change. Barone responded, initially disagreeing with  
45 their assessment. He received a response lowering the assessment but he still  
46 disagrees with their methodology. Barone spoke of the \$19 million earmarked to  
47 Vermont to keep teachers; the Commissioner says the money will be used to delay  
48 or cancel Challenges for Change. Challenges for Change is voluntary, Barone is  
49 choosing not to volunteer.
- 50  
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1 Comments:

- 2 - Peaslee expressed his strong opposition to Challenges for Change.  
3 - Leon Johnson requested support documentation be placed on the website for the  
4 published Warned Agenda and that this Agenda also include CDC's web address.  
5 Also discussed was a ribbon showing the website on the CATTV meeting viewing.  
6

7 • **Sub Pay**

8 Barone reported that the current method of paying substitute instructors is very  
9 convoluted. This system was inherited from SVSU; CDC has never adopted their own.  
10 Barone proposes simplifying the pay structure: one rate for instructor subs (\$14.00/ hr)  
11 and a lower rate for clerical staff/ para subs (\$12.00/ hr).  
12

13 Discussion as to standardized pay, CDC's pool of subs, sub standards, procedure for  
14 selecting subs, policy for sub list and the proposed para compensation.  
15

16 Leon Johnson would like Policy to review the sub policy/ standards and make sure  
17 everything is in sync before the pay rate is changed. It was noted that Policy does not  
18 set compensation. The Policy Committee will review the Sub Standards.  
19

20 **Peaslee moved and Letourneau seconded a motion to accept Barone's proposal for**  
21 **Intermittent Substitute Personnel Compensation. All in attendance voted in favor**  
22 **excepting Leon Johnson and Harrington, who voted Nay. The motion carried.**  
23

24 **Chairman's Report**

25 Lamb reported/ inquired as to the following topics:

- 26 - Five Year plan: should be able to put into operation this year.  
27 - Action Items – Legislative issues  
28 Lamb inquired as to the status of the Legislative issues. Barone responded that the  
29 Directors group, of which he is a member, has met with John Fisher and Fisher will  
30 be in contact shortly to review. The four questions were initially given to the  
31 Commissioner, who handed them off to Fisher, who has handed them off to the  
32 Directors group. Barone noted that a couple of the questions are specific to CDC.  
33 Lamb reiterated that he wants answers by January.  
34 - Action Items – Distance Learning  
35 Lamb inquired of Barone why this isn't being done yet, particularly with Pre-Law,  
36 Pre-Med and engineering. CDC's Pre-Law program is the only certified one in the  
37 state; we should have students from all over the state enrolled.  
38 - Third floor rooms. Lamb asked Barone to report next month as to how the rooms  
39 will be put to use.  
40 - The June personnel issue has been resolved by administration.  
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42 **Executive Session** There was none  
43

44 **Adjourn**

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46 **At 7:17pm, Peaslee moved and Corcoran seconded a motion to adjourn. All in**  
47 **attendance were in favor.**  
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- 1 **Attachments:**  
2 - June 21, 2010 Regional Governing Board Meeting Minutes  
3 - July 21, 2010 Regional Governing Board Special Meeting Minutes  
4 - August 3, 2010 Joint Education and Facilities Committees Meeting Minutes  
5 - Payroll Warrants #127 & # 052 Dated June 29, 2010  
6 - Payroll Warrants #1, #1000  
7 #2, #1001  
8 #3, #1003 Dated July 30, 2010  
9 - Payroll Warrants #4, #1006 Dated August 17, 2010  
10 - Vendor Warrant #1053 Dated June 30, 2010  
11 - Vendor Warrant #1002 Dated July 20, 2010  
12 - Vendor Warrant #1004 Dated July 30, 2010  
13 - Vendor Warrant #1005 Dated August 7, 2010  
14 - Revenue & Expenses  
15 - Treasurer's Report  
16 - Nominations for CTSO and Service Positions  
17 - New Program Approval (2) Culinary & Model Railroad Zero Hour  
18 - Director's Report  
19 - Substitute Pay  
20 - Response to Challenge for Change  
21 - FYI  
22 - Action Item update