

1 **Southwest Vermont Regional Technical School District (SWVRTSD)**  
2 **Regional Governing Board Meeting Minutes: May 16, 2011**

3 Assembly Room, Career Development Center  
4

5 Members Present: Gloria Alexander; Jim Boutin; Justin Corcoran; Kevin Goodhue; Rickey  
6 Harrington; Larry Johnson; Leon Johnson (arrived at 6:08); Fran Kinney; Jon Peaslee; Rick  
7 Pembroke.

8  
9 Members Excused: Frank Lamb

10  
11 Staff and Others Present: Alan Baker, citizen; Penny Burgess, Ag Advisor; Greg Lewis,  
12 Business Manager; Bob Montgomery, Interim Superintendent/ Director; Dawson Raspuzzi,  
13 Banner reporter; Sandra Redding, Office Manager; Attorney S Stitzel; students (4); Addie  
14 VanDeurzen, Instructor.

15  
16 Videotaping: CAT-TV

17  
18 Recorder: Barb Schlesinger  
19

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20 **Call to order**

21 Boutin called the meeting to order at 6:00.  
22

23 **Executive Session**

24  
25 **At 6:02 Kinney moved and Alexander seconded a motion to enter executive session**  
26 **for 1) personnel and 2) teacher's contract. All in attendance were in favor.**

27  
28 Larry Johnson and Kevin recused themselves from the first part of the executive session  
29 (contracts). Attorney Stitzel joined the board. Leon Johnson joined the board upon his  
30 arrival.

31  
32 At 7:00 pm, Peaslee and Pembroke excused themselves for the ESP discussion. Larry  
33 Johnson and Goodhue entered executive session.

34  
35 At 7:09 Peaslee and Pembroke reentered executive session.  
36

37 **At 7:20 Peaslee moved and Pembroke seconded a motion to exit executive session.**  
38 **All in attendance were in favor.**

39  
40 No action was taken.  
41

42 **Public Comment**

- 43
- 44 • Penny Burgess, longtime AG Advisor spoke in support of recently RIF'd  
45 Instructor McElhenny. Penny gave a summary of her involvement with the Ag  
46 Program over the years and the growth she has witnessed. She spoke in detail  
47 of the Farm to School initiative, the recent revival of FFA which she credits  
48 McElhenny for, and the current classes offered in the program.

49 Burgess requested an answer/ explanation as to where the zero enrollment

1 figure came from which led to McElheny being RIF'd. Burgess elaborated on the  
 2 Ag students that are continuing their education after leaving the CDC, historically  
 3 'low' early enrollment numbers, the recent stumbling blocks the instructor has  
 4 encountered (being displaced from classroom, lack of greenhouse, inadequate  
 5 solar room), lack of a 'home base' for the students, and the lack of a mentor/  
 6 support the instructor has had.

7  
 8 Burgess suggests the following to keep the program alive and flourishing: a  
 9 permanent classroom, the greenhouse on property, assistance to guidance at  
 10 MAU, advanced opportunity to get the 'word' out and that the advisory board  
 11 works together with administration and the RGB.

- 12
- 13 • Student Breiana Tole on behalf on Instructor McElheny. Ms Tole spoke of the  
 14 two kinds of students at MAU – the ones that succeed and the ones whose only  
 15 option is to drop out, of which she considered herself. The Ag class makes  
 16 school interesting and reaches these kids. Ms Tole has been in the AG program  
 17 since her freshman year; she spoke of the positive behaviors she and her  
 18 classmates have adopted because of the program. Breiana would like to see the  
 19 program and classes continue so that the opportunity will be available to other  
 20 students.
- 21
- 22 • Boutin thanked Burgess and Tole and responded that time was needed to look  
 23 into their concern(s). The Education Committee will have to reexamine the  
 24 program and enrollment and guidance issues will also have to be looked at.  
 25 Burgess requested contact with the Advisory Board.
- 26
- 27 • Alan Baker spoke of NECAP and the need for teaching students about natural  
 28 resources and the ag sciences. CDC's ag program is the only place students  
 29 can get this education. Baker expressed that horticulture has gotten the short  
 30 end of the stick and noted it is up to the Board and administration to decide; they  
 31 have the tools and space to do it right.
- 32

### 33 Consent Agenda

- 34 - Minutes of the April 18, 2011 Regional Governing Board Meeting
- 35 - Minutes of the April 7, 2011 Strategic Planning Committee Meeting
- 36 - Minutes of the April 26, 2011 Finance Committee Meeting
- 37
- 38 - SWVRTSD Payroll Warrant # 22 4/29/2011 in the amount of \$ 9,127.35
- 39 - SWVRTSD Payroll Warrant # 1040 4/29/2011 in the amount of \$ 69,241.37
- 40 - SWVRTSD Payroll Warrant # 23 5/16/2011 in the amount of \$ 11,887.15
- 41 - SWVRTSD Payroll Warrant # 1042 5/16/2011 in the amount of \$ 65,878.89
- 42
- 43 - SWVRTSD Vendor Warrant # 1041 4/29/2011 in the amount of \$ 70,580.89
- 44 - SWVRTSD Vendor Warrant # 1043 5/16/2011 in the amount of \$ 44,804.52
- 45

### 46 Discussion:

- 47 • **Minutes**

48 April 7, 2011 Strategic Planning Minutes will be amended to reflect:

49 Page 1, line 30/ 31: Jim Knowlton at the Mark Skinner Library.

1 Pembroke requested the Nomination Form show the prorated salary per the April 18  
2 meeting minutes.

3  
4     ▪ **Payroll Warrants**

5 There was no discussion.

6  
7     ▪ **Vendor Warrants**

8 Pembroke asked about postage. Lewis replied that Pitney Bowes is the vendor for the  
9 postage meter.

10  
11 **Peaslee moved and Kinney seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. All**  
12 **in attendance were in favor excepting Leon Johnson and Pembroke who abstained.**

13  
14 **Field Trips**

- |                    |             |                |            |
|--------------------|-------------|----------------|------------|
| 15     ▪ FBLA      | 6/27 → 7/2  | Orlando FL     | 6 Students |
| 16                 |             |                |            |
| 17     ▪ SkillsUSA | 6/20 → 6/25 | Kansas City MO | 6 Students |

18  
19 **Peaslee moved and Pembroke seconded a motion to approve the FBLA and**  
20 **SkillsUSA field trips. All in attendance voted in favor.**

21  
22 There was no discussion.

23  
24 **Action Items**

- 25     - 3D Printer

26 Engineering and Design instructor VanDeurzen presented a PowerPoint that highlighted the  
27 following topics:

- 28     • **Project Lead The Way (PLTW)** and how it provides for **Science Technology**  
29 **Engineering and Math** classes for students. The CDC is a ‘STEM’ school. The  
30 presentation highlighted benefits such as sharing a common curriculum, teacher  
31 training, professional contacts, and online support.
- 32     • 3D printing and how it allows for rapid prototypes, ie 3D models. A Fox Focus story  
33 highlighted that these printers will ‘change the world’; allowing for making prototypes  
34 and products with no waste.

35  
36 Benefits of a 3D printer include: engaging the students, enhancing design projects,  
37 reducing prototype time, equipment training, local industry support and multi-program  
38 use.

39  
40 VanDeurzen did a quick comparison of the two printers she researched and  
41 explained the process of how they work. She also noted that grants are available to  
42 help with the purchase. She also linked to the zcorp.com site for a demonstration  
43 video clip.

44  
45 The following questions and comments were asked/ made and discussed:

- 46     • Cartridge cost and duration - \$3 to \$4 per cubic foot
- 47     • Reason for purchase? Will the students really benefit or have a use for? Leon  
48 Johnson expressed the he was very impressed that we are able to do this

1 (purchase), it is state of the art, and this is exactly what are students (and area  
2 needs) ie to be able to compete and bring business to the area.

- 3 • Short block class length (50 minutes for CAD), length of print job (4hrs) and how  
4 most projects are class projects, not individual.
- 5 • Printer will be used by CAD, Design and Engineering, Design and Fabrication and  
6 Artificial Intelligence who will stagger their usage.
- 7 • Have any advisory committee members had 'hands-on' experience? Larry Johnson  
8 expressed that they are great for production but not for an educational tool.
- 9 • How would we pay for it? Pembroke noted it is not in the budget; would we be using  
10 contingency money? Being that we don't have a good handle at this time on the  
11 operating costs, wouldn't it be more prudent to wait and go through the normal  
12 budgeting process? Harrington expressed there was no concern when \$30k was  
13 approved for a study that the students would not benefit from, so why the concern  
14 now? Lewis elaborated on reserve, contingency, Perkins grant monies and the  
15 selling of unused equipment.
- 16 • Boutin commented on a CBS news program that focused on students falling behind  
17 in math, science and technology; this allows us to move ahead. Boutin reported two  
18 thirds of the funding would be grant money. Our #1 task is to provide support and  
19 resources to the students and give them a chance to step ahead.

20  
21 Leon Johnson moved and Goodhue seconded a motion to purchase the 3D printer. Motion  
22 was amended to look at a funding source (\$10,085 required form the local budget; rest of  
23 the funding available through a Perkins grant). Motion was again amended to look at other  
24 sources other than contingency.

25  
26 Lewis reported that Design and Fabrication had a balance of ~ \$13 k. The 3D scanner is  
27 located in that room also. Using this money is better than using reserve funds.

28  
29 Motion was again made to amend to take the local expense out of the Design and  
30 Fabrication line.

31  
32 Leon Johnson moved and Corcoran seconded a motion to call the vote. Larry Johnson  
33 abstained.

34  
35 **Hand vote was taken with all in attendance voting in favor (7) excepting Pembroke,**  
36 **Larry Johnson and Kinney who voted against. The motion carried to purchase the 3D**  
37 **printer and to fund the balance after Perkins grant from the Design and Fabrication**  
38 **line.**

39  
40 - Treasurer Salary & Stipend Ratification

41 **Peaslee moved and Goodhue seconded a motion to approve the Treasure's stipend.**  
42 **Motion was made to withdraw because the Treasure's stipend was approved by**  
43 **statute.**

44  
45 Peaslee recited 17 V.S.A. §2661 whereas the voters have accepted the budget: the Board  
46 does not have a say at this time. Pembroke concurred. There was brief discussion as to  
47 treasurer compensation, the position being one that is elected, how salary is disbursed from  
48 payroll and the stipend being a reimbursement for supplies et al (1099).

## Committee Reports

Finance Lamb being absent, committee member Larry Johnson bulleted the minutes of the April 26<sup>th</sup> meeting (Consent Agenda).

Facilities Met today beginning at 5pm.  
Harrington reported the following were discussed:

- Day care lease – discussed extending the current contract for 1 year. To be finalized: cost of lease to change, advance notice and what we are getting.
- MAU greenhouse sharing: Back burner for the moment.
- Equipment in storage: Requests administration put together a list of priorities.
- Next meeting: One hour before next regular board meeting (5pm, June 20).

### Strategic Planning

Alexander reported that this Wednesday, May 18, Chef Michael John Galbraith will be conducted a chocolate cooking demonstration in the new culinary kitchen.

Policy Meeting not scheduled yet

### Superintendent Search

Larry Johnson reported the committee has met three times; they have created a job description, advertised on Schoolspring, and have received nine applications to date from that source. Print advertisement costs will be approximately \$2,200. The ad will run in the Banner, Rutland Herald and the Burlington Free Press.

Brief discussion as to advertising cost and more in-depth discussion as to 'job description' followed. Board approval of the job description, we already have one, using it as a tool for evaluations, and using it as criteria for hiring were all discussed.

## Chairman's Report

Boutin reported he has made contact with the MAU principal regarding the exercise equipment grant; MAU has also received a grant and we will consolidate.

## Director/ Superintendent's Report:

Montgomery reported that the Reduction in Force (RIF) Letters have been sent and received.

## Other

- Bus Routes  
Kinney inquired as to the cost of the bus routes for sending schools. Lewis answered that we bill Arlington directly at the state rate and Burr and Burton is billed directly to the state. Reimbursement (by mile) is a percentage.

1 - Cost of MAU's Solar House  
2 Boutin reported he is in possession of a signed agreement for the expenses for the use of  
3 MAU's solar house.  
4

5 **Harrington moved and Peaslee seconded a motion to sign the Agreement for the use**  
6 **of the solar house and to pay off our share (~ \$2,500). Vote was taken with all in**  
7 **attendance voting yea except Goodhue who voted nay and Pembroke who abstained.**  
8 **The motion carried.**  
9

10 **Adjourn**

11 **At 8:48pm Peaslee moved and Kinney seconded a motion to adjourn. All in**  
12 **attendance were in favor.**  
13

14 **Attachments:**

- 15 - Minutes of the April 18, 2011 Regional Governing Board Meeting
- 16 - Minutes of the April 7, 2011 Strategic Planning Committee Meeting
- 17 - Minutes of the April 26, 2011 Finance Committee Meeting
- 18 - SWVRTSD Payroll Warrants # 22 & 1040
- 19 - SWVRTSD Payroll Warrants # 23 & 1042
- 20 - SWVRTSD Vendor Warrant # 1041
- 21 - SWVRTSD Vendor Warrant # 1043
- 22 - Revenue & Expenses
- 23 - Treasurer Report
- 24 - Field Trips (2x)
- 25 - Action Item Request: 3D Printer Purchase
- 26 - Action Item Request: Set Salary & Stipend for Treasurer