

1 **Southwest Vermont Regional Technical School District (SVRTSD)**  
2 **Strategic Planning Committee Meeting, Tuesday, October 15, 2013, 3 PM**  
3

4 Attending: RGB members – Gloria Alexander, Jim Boutin, Leon Johnson and Jackie Kelly.  
5 Others: Jim Culkeen, Superintendent/Director; Wendy Klein, Co-op Coordinator and Bill  
6 Swisher, Guidance. Recorder: Sandra Redding, Office Manager  
7

8 Gloria welcomed everyone and had everyone review the minutes. Minutes were approved  
9 by committee. Gloria began by thanking Sandy for organizing the minutes from the last  
10 meeting into a workable format. She shared information from a few articles she had read  
11 concerning the use and set up of personal plans for students being done in other schools  
12 that are similar to the personal portfolios and articulated plans that are currently available to  
13 CDC students. The committee discussed the Seeds of Success program which MAU set up  
14 in response to a NEASC recommendation. This is more of a directed study time as opposed  
15 to a personal contact time. We believe that tech teachers spend more interactive time with  
16 students with discussion often covering jobs, education and technology. The “SOS”  
17 unfortunately interferes with several CDC program schedules. Wendy Klein noted that  
18 according to the Best Practices Conference she recently attended, contact with students  
19 should begin at the middle school level at least. The committee next discussed the many  
20 ways we could interact and encourage younger students to become more interested and  
21 involved in technical education programs. Some ideas included:

- 22 A presence at the Middle School
- 23 Develop relationships with administrators and faculty there
- 24 Help students to understand what we offer
- 25 Run mini classes
- 26 Send Wendy and/or Bill up there as they are experts in career education
- 27 Begin Kudor program again
- 28 Leadership program-be a part of the Workforce Development Program
- 29 Team building
- 30 Go to the Northshire for collaboration
- 31 Get to know the new Banner staff-encourage more articles about the CDC
- 32 Step-up Day Program-either bring programs and equipment to MAUMS or bus the  
33 students down here for a program experience
- 34 Get counselors involved
- 35 Find ways to keep interest growing as students move from 8<sup>th</sup> grade up

36 The committee then began the task of weeding through the philosophy and goals. It was  
37 noted that when it comes to non-traditional students, we seem to be doing okay with the  
38 number of females in our programs as noted in the many Facebook pictures. The group  
39 then went item by item through the Philosophy and suggestions were made and noted.  
40 These are noted on a separate worksheet. Jim B. and Supt. Culkeen will be attending a  
41 meeting on Wednesday, October 16 at the Veterans Home with other interested Bennington  
42 parties to discuss the needs and actions for the future.

43 Supt. Culkeen told the committee of the planned outing for our students and several faculty  
44 to Mack Molding next week which will showcase products made in Vermont and the need  
45 for continued training. HR has shared that most new skills can be taught, but again, those  
46 very important soft skills need to be firmly in place by the time they receive graduates from  
47 the CDC.

48 The committee will work on Goals next time. Goals must be measurable and philosophy is  
49 what we believe can happen.

50 Next meeting will be Tuesday, November 12, 2013.

51 Meeting adjourned at 4 PM.