

1 **Southwest Vermont Regional Technical School District (SVRTSD)**
2 **RGB Finance Committee Meeting Minutes: Monday, December 11, 2023**

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4 **RGB members present:** M. Cutler, J. Kelly, F. Kinney, K. Swierad and A. Williams; L. Johnson and C.
5 Putney, online

6 **SWT represented** by: Michael Lawler, Supt./Dir; Rebecca Tattersall, Business Manager

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8 Audience: no public attendees

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10 **Recorder:** Sandra Redding, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent

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12 Meeting was called to order at 3:04PM by Chair Kinney noting no audience or comments.

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14 Tattersall presented the reconfigured as requested FY2025 Proposed Budget.

15 The Power Point packet was shared with the following breakouts:

- 16 • Page 1-showing our participating schools in the SW Tech district
- 17 • Page 2-descriptions of SW Tech programs, pre-tech classes, certification courses and online
18 classes
- 19 • Page 3-CTSOs and NTHS
- 20 • Page 4-FY25 Proposed Budget-\$4,817,556, Budget change +9.8%
- 21 • Page 5-FY25 Key Factors in Budget Increase
- 22 • Page 6-FY25 budget estimated 6 semester average FTE calculation
- 23 • Page 7-FY25 budget proposed announced tuition, \$26,875
- 24 • Page 8-announced tuition breakdown
- 25 • Page 9-questions/discussion FY25 proposed budget amount/ proposed tuition and next steps

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27 Points of discussion:

- 28 • How is what we pay to MAU/SVSU determined?
- 29 • What is included?
- 30 • When was it last examined closely?
- 31 • Very vague at this point; only Lawler and Culkeen remain as part of previous process
- 32 • How do we adjust agreement to update with today's needs?
- 33 • What more do we need from facility management?
- 34 • Need to meet with the SU to re-examine in the next year
- 35 • How is tuition rate set for other sending schools?

36 Tattersall explained the major reasons for the increases needed such as inflation costs, employee union
37 contracts and health insurance cost increases. Negotiations for contracts are ongoing and the final
38 Vermont health insurance increases are not solid yet. She shared that we are trying to keep the increase
39 as small as possible without taking away from student resources such as CTSO support and NTHS
40 changes. Both of these areas are very critical for student enrichment and growth potential. Local tuition
41 formulas for our area sending schools will be determined when the FTE amount is finalized.

42 The committee thanked Tattersall for the in-depth report on the many needs, costs and possible
43 outcomes with the percentage changes shown in the several versions of the proposed budget.

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45 With the information presented in today's Power Point FY2025 budget proposed by Tattersall, the
46 committee, with motions from Cutler and Kinney and unanimous support, agreed to bring the FY2025
47 budget to the full board for vote.

48 With motions from Kinney and Kelly, the committee, again with unanimous approval, voted to bring the
49 Announced Tuition FY2025 to the full board for vote.

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51 Williams noted that we must continue to upgrade and add new equipment to stay current with industry
52 trends. As the budget stands right now, there is not a great deal of room for these additions. Most
53 surpluses have been used up, there is no Covid money available at this point and grants are harder to
54 come by. We are fortunate to see continued growth in our programs such as we see in Culinary at this

1 time and we want to see that in all our programs. There must be continued push to encourage growth and
2 participation in all our programs plus ensure upgraded training for those interested.

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4 With no further business, the committee adjourned at 3:53PM with unanimous approval.

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