

1 **Southwest Vermont Regional Technical School District (SVRTSD)**
2 **Strategic Planning Committee Meeting**
3 **Monday, September 24, 2012, 4 PM**

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5 Attending: RGB members – Gloria Alexander, Jim Boutin, Larry Johnson, Frank Lamb, and
6 Ed Letourneau

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8 Others: Jim Culkeen, Superintendent/Director
9 Recorder: Sandra Redding, Office Manager

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11 Gloria welcomed all and noted that the agenda was changed from the original after she met
12 with Jim Culkeen and Jim Boutin. She moved right into reviewing strategic planning models.
13 Jim Boutin distributed information, (see document A), on what a strategic plan really is. The
14 group then discussed how to begin this process and define the vision, mission, values and
15 strategies to create a positive and effective strategic plan. Ed Letourneau noted that in the
16 previous years, there had been a great deal of thought and work by many people to create a
17 5 year strategic plan. Some of this information could be used to begin this process. The
18 committee felt that a clear vision must be the starting place. Mission statement and goals
19 would follow.

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21 At this time in our state, there seems to be a great deal of interest in transformation in
22 technical education. The group brainstormed how to approach the legislators in our area for
23 assistance in re-opening the discussions regarding how to establish a
24 certificate/diploma/degree program in our technical center. This has been discussed many
25 times with interest shown by legislators as bills have been created to aid in this process.
26 However, the bills have not successfully made it to the floor of any session as of yet. The
27 committee feels that it is of utmost importance that we develop a process to truly encourage
28 our legislators to bring these bills to the floor with passion for our needs as a full technical
29 center. We are an independent center/district, but we need to be able to award a degree or
30 diploma as the finished product for a student's accomplishments at our school. We need a
31 vehicle to issue a graduate degree that would be recognized by the state. The time looks
32 right for moving in this direction as the department of education is pushing hard for
33 transformation in schooling.

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35 The committee brainstormed on what each member had as a vision. Frank Lamb stated we
36 should create the best technical education for students in our service area. Ed Letourneau
37 hopes for a degree producing tech center. Jim Boutin had several thoughts such as
38 changes to the traditional schedule, independent teachers' contract, funding techniques and
39 flexible educational studies for students. Larry Johnson was in some agreement with all that
40 was previously stated. Again, a clear vision is the first step for change.

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42 There was some discussion concerning the MGT report and how it relates to transformation
43 in education and new vision for the center. The committee believes that both can be
44 handled in a parallel situation. A strategy needs to be put in place to involve area legislators
45 and stake holders in a comprehensive plan to create and advance a strong, united front
46 pertaining to the future of the CDC. Also, we must be on the lookout for "vision killers" that
47 could stop or slow progressive movement. Perhaps, we could invite key players to a
48 breakfast meeting(s) to assist them in understanding our vision for the future and how they
49 can truly promote our needs/wishes with upstate. It was suggested that two faculty
50 members be invited to join this committee. Committee was in agreement with that
51 suggestion. Meeting adjourned at 5:15 PM. Next meeting scheduled for Mon; 10/22/12.