

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 8th 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.