

1 **Southwest Vermont Regional Technical School District (SVRTSD)**
2 **Strategic Planning Committee Meeting, Thursday, September 25, 2014, 11 AM**
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5 Attending: RGB members – Jim Boutin, Gloria Alexander, Heidi Pickering; CDC represented
6 by Superintendent Michael Lawler and Marie Pierre Huguet, Assistant Director for Adult
7 Education

8 Recorder: Sandra Redding
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10 Minutes from the last meeting on May 16, 2014 were read and approved by the committee.
11 Gloria Alexander shared a brief history of this committee regarding the 5 year goals,
12 mission, philosophy and a newer set of goals. She also spoke of the Program Advisory
13 Guide as a useful tool for the group and the school. She would like to have the faculty look
14 thru the guide as well. A sub-committee was suggested to look at the mission, philosophy
15 and goals in the annual report as compared to what the committee has previously agreed
16 upon. Heidi Pickering and Jessica Gulley-Ward will do the research on this. Gloria would
17 like to bring a committee-approved set to the full board for approval, but this will probably
18 not happen until November. Michael Harrington, a guest at the last committee meeting,
19 suggested some possible programs for the future. These are included in the May 16
20 minutes.
21

22 The Education/Facilities committee and administration is considering applying for the 21st
23 Century Grant that SVSU usually has available for use. They lost the funding for this year,
24 so we would not be in direct competition with them for this grant. There is a workshop in
25 October to prepare for applying for this grant. Our administration thinks SVSU will re-apply
26 for this grant and perhaps, we could partner with them as we have a good connection with
27 the Middle School right now due to the agriculture program we are starting up. This would
28 be very good exposure for both districts; we could possibly use current instructors or post for
29 additional help. There is also a very good program with the Bennington Police Department
30 and National Guard. This is a very popular program with a waiting list of interested
31 students. Mike Lawler will research this with the BPD and report back to this committee on
32 the feasibility of establishing a camp of our own in this area or find a way to partner with
33 SVSU/BPD/NG. Could we do both programs? Mike Lawler will check this out as well; try to
34 establish cost; faculty input needed; check for what other programs could be involved.
35

36 Off-site programs could be an area of new development. The new superintendent in
37 Arlington should be contacted. Arlington has a nice performing arts center, very functional
38 woodshop and kitchen. There are lots of logistics to consider and the faculty needs to be
39 involved as well as polling the MAUMS 8th grade students.
40

41 Eight grade student tours are in the planning stage right now. These will take place in early
42 December. Faculty and staff get very involved in this event.
43

44 This committee discussed whether the agriculture program can be supported over the
45 summer. Are there programs in this community, interested students and available staff in
46 sufficient number to run summer programs for specific programs?
47

48 It was noted that Wilmington High School has merged with Twin Valley. Could we establish
49 a distance delivery program or online classes to increase our presence in this area? Online
50 would be 4 days followed by one day of labs. Springfield Tech Center has an electronics
51 program which is online and includes pre-packaged kits for students. Pharmacy Tech is a

1 program that works this way as well. There would be a need for just the right person
2 to run this sort of program.

3

4 Gloria suggested that we need more input from faculty and interested community members.
5 Kathleen Moore from Orvis is interested in joining the group. Gloria hopes the present
6 members of this committee will bring suggestions for additional input. Mike suggested the
7 meeting time should be advantageous to faculty members. Heidi Pickering will try to
8 suggest some new people from the Northshire.

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10 Reports from Mike Lawler and Heidi Pickering will be presented at the next meeting of this
11 committee for consideration of then being presented to the full board.

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13 The next meeting will be Weds; Oct. 23 at 2:30 PM.

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15 Meeting adjourned at 11:46 AM.

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