

1 **Southwest Vermont Regional Technical School District (SVRTSD)**  
2 **RGB Education/Facilities Committee Meeting Minutes: Monday, April 26, 2021, Zoom Online**  
3 **Meeting**

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5 **RGB members present:** M. Cutler; A. Edelson; J. Kelly; K. Swierad; AJ Williams and L. Johnson

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7 **CDC represented by:** Meg Honsinger, Assistant Director;

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

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11 Meeting was called to order by Honsinger at 10:15AM as we had a few connectivity issues. She  
12 welcomed the public and asked for comments. Comments:

- 13 • Edelson inquired as to an adding an agriculture program; in the recent past, there has been very  
14 little interest; we did have such a program in the past and saw enrollment decline steadily; we  
15 also assisted MAUMS in setting up their program with supplies and equipment.
- 16 • Cutler suggested a feasibility study perhaps including renewable energy and solar energy
- 17 • Kelly noted that coding is a popular app right now; lots of money in this field, so it might be hard  
18 to find someone willing to teach; maybe as a second income or a retired skilled person might be  
19 interested in teaching; can we tie building trades, forestry and renewable energy together? Online  
20 learning can be developed and enhanced as well
- 21 • Williams added all good ideas that could be worked into hybrid programs, like culinary with  
22 agriculture/horticulture/farm to table; tie in adult classes, CDL and other trades, maybe team  
23 teach; check with state/DMV for any programs they may be involved in

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25 Election of chairperson began. Jackie Kelly was unanimously chosen by vote of the committee. She  
26 inquired as to what we could do about these comments from board members. It was suggested:

- 27 • Look at enrollment/numbers
- 28 • Find what's lacking
- 29 • Gather info from sending schools as to interest of students in specific programs
- 30 • Reach out to school counselors
- 31 • Poll present students
- 32 • Meg-do a survey of in-person students, both past and present
- 33 • Try to get info by June-before summer or by August for sure
- 34 • Schedule response for August meeting
- 35 • Three areas of interest:
  - 36 ○ Creating coding apps
  - 37 ○ Culinary/agriculture
  - 38 ○ Building trades/renewable energy

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40 The committee decided to next meet Monday, June 14<sup>th</sup>, 9:15AM right before the full board.

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42 Meeting adjourned at 10:40AM with unanimous vote.  
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1 **Southwest Vermont Regional Technical School District (SVRTSD)**  
2 **Regional Governing Board Finance Committee Meeting Minutes: June 7, 2021**

3 **Zoom format online**

4 **RGB members present:** Committee members: Michael Cutler, Francis Kinney, Ken Swierad; board  
5 members Leon Johnson and Asher Edelson

6 **CDC represented by:**

7 Rebecca Tattersall, Business Manager

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

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11 Meeting was called to order at 10:03AM by Business Manager, Rebecca Tattersall who informed the  
12 committee that Asst. Director, M. Honsinger was not available due to a family emergency. She welcomed  
13 all and asked for any comments/concerns. Hearing none, she invited nominations for chair of this  
14 committee. Ken Swierad and Fran Kinney were nominated and seconded for consideration. After a small  
15 technical issue, vote was taken and Swierad became chair for the ensuing year. Swierad inquired as to  
16 the health of the SW Tech budget at this time. Tattersall responded that we are in very good shape due  
17 to many expenses being covered by Covid funds this past year and into next year. Swierad would like a  
18 report on the enrollment numbers for the 2021/2022 year. How do we stand compared to past years?  
19 Tattersall will have info for the next board meeting on enrollment. She noted that we had more than we  
20 could handle last year, so expectations are high. Also, could we have some discussion with our rep,  
21 Brian Campion, regarding additional funds for the tech/trades education of area adults. We could make  
22 this school a leader in helping to provide skilled labor that is very much in demand. Kinney pointed out  
23 that there are many high paying jobs/trades that do not need a four year college education which often  
24 results in large debt loads. Many are opting out of traditional college routes for better opportunities in  
25 trades/tech industries and we could be of great assistance to people who need this type of training.  
26 Mike Cutler was interested in what credentials/ certifications our students earn after completion of our  
27 programs. Tattersall informed the group that industry certification certificates are awarded to program  
28 completers if state requirements are met. L. Johnson noted that we have sufficient funds to continue to  
29 upgrade our equipment for students to learn/experience and prepare for the present day work  
30 environment. A. Edelson is looking forward to touring the school facility and hopes to learn more about  
31 our program offerings. We look forward to having our board and public back in our building as soon as  
32 the state allows. K. Swierad congratulated Supt. Lawler on his leadership during this crisis and thanked  
33 the faculty and all staff for the hard work and dedication demonstrated to keep our students engaged in  
34 learning.

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36 The June full board will more than likely meet online with the hope that in-person meetings may resume  
37 by August. We will keep the board informed as the situation changes. Agency of Education guidelines  
38 will be forthcoming concerning the opening of our buildings and the return of students/public.

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40 With no further business, the committee adjourned at 10:26AM with motions from F. Kinney and M.  
41 Cutler. Unanimous agreement.