

1 **Southwest Vermont Regional Technical School District (SVRTSD)**
2 **Strategic Planning Committee Meeting, Wednesday, April 27, 2015, 2:40 PM**
3

4 Attending: RGB members – Gloria Alexander, Heidi Pickering and Jim Boutin
5 CDC represented by Superintendent Michael Lawler, Meg Honsinger, Asst. Director and
6 Marie Pierre Huguet, Assistant Director for Adult Education; Kathleen Moore
7 Recorder: Sandra Redding
8

9 Gloria opened the meeting by asking for approval of the March minutes. After a slight
10 correction to line 11, page 2, to read, “Cisco is a viable option,” the minutes were approved.
11

12 Gloria asked for comments concerning the AAUW luncheon and tour that took place this
13 month. All were in agreement that it was received very well by the entire group of 23
14 people. The luncheon served by the culinary students was delicious and well presented.
15 The Law Enforcement Program students served as guides and doormen for the event and
16 were very impressive. The ACE Program with Marie Pierre Huguet and Teresa O’Loughlin
17 did an exceptional job of organizing and hosting the event. Tours were given by Meg
18 Honsinger and Mike Lawler to the delight of the AAUW group. The group was quite
19 surprised as to the size and scope of the Center. Members of the committee feel it would be
20 beneficial to the Center to organize more events along these lines. The group discussed
21 which groups should be invited to participate. It was suggested that we remember to reach
22 out to the Northshire as we are a district school. Also, both communities have young
23 professionals groups that might be good for networking.
24

25 Superintendent Lawler had some updates for the committee. He shared news concerning
26 the LNA classroom and declared that the room is almost finished and coming along quite
27 well. Mike went on to explain the last in-service day agenda and the connection with Tech
28 Centers That Work. Each instructor did an individual assessment of their program as well
29 as an overall assessment. Topic up for discussion was 21st century skills. Linda Jackson,
30 President of TCTW, was the speaker/trainer. There will be further training in May. The state
31 is leaning towards the same program, so that puts us on a good curve. It was noted that
32 math initiatives must chase needed cash. Mike is working on the Perkins Grant at this time.
33 Sustainable Foods grant is into its second year. This grant is not completely assured, but we
34 will apply for it. The program must pay for itself in its third year. Innovation grants are not
35 guaranteed.
36

37 Mike shared with the committee the response to having a national speaker here at the CDC
38 for all the students to hear in an assembly together. Actually, there were two sessions that
39 were highly enjoyed by the students and faculty. There was a 1 hour workshop after the
40 student events and it was also well received. There were many great comments from the
41 students who attended this event. Mike would like to schedule more similar events in the
42 future.
43

44 Our administrators will be attending the BCIC Annual Meeting this week. The CDC is a
45 sponsor of this event this year being held at the MACC.
46

47 The discussion turned to the assessment of several CDC programs and their future. There
48 were many comments, concerns and ideas shared about computer networking, marketing,
49 finance and business management courses. Mike has begun a process of talking with the
50 involved instructors concerning the future direction of their programs. There is a lot more
51 ground work to be established and research to be done. This will be an ongoing process

1 with some changes in the coming year and some changes not happening for a while. Mike
2 is also exploring the setup of a STEM academy and the effect that will have on our present
3 programs. The business programs may be connected thru an academy style program using
4 the campus store as a lab. Of course, all of this needs to be discussed with the
5 education/facilities committee and then, on to the full board. It will take some time to
6 develop. This is no small endeavor. Also, sending school counsellors need to be advised of
7 program changes well in advance to inform their students. We could possibly be the first
8 school in VT. to setup STEM initiatives. Costs need to be considered as well.

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10 The committee voted unanimously to recommend the discussion be moved to the
11 education/facilities committee for further discussion. This committee is scheduled to meet
12 Tuesday, May 5, 2015 at 2:30 PM.

13
14 The strategic planning committee decided to make the 4th Thursday of every month, 2:30
15 PM, their regular meeting date and time, making the next meeting May 28, 2015.

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17 Meeting adjourned at 3:45 PM.
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