1 Southwest Vermont Regional Technical School District (SWVRTSD) Regional Governing Board Meeting Minutes: September 19, 2011 2 3 Assembly Room, Career Development Center 4 Members Present: Gloria Alexander: Jim Boutin: Justin Corcoran: Kevin Goodhue: Rickev 5 Harrington; Larry Johnson; Leon Johnson (arrived @ 7:07 and joined the Executive 6 Session); Fran Kinney; Frank Lamb; Jon Peaslee; Rick Pembroke. 7 8 9 Staff and Others Present: James Culkeen, Superintendent/ Director; Greg Lewis, Business Manager; Sandra Redding, Office Manager; Dawson Raspuzzi, Banner reporter; Bill 10 Swisher, Guidance, with approximately ten CDC instructors. 11 12 Videotaping: CAT-TV 13 14 Recorder: **Barb Schlesinger** 15 16 Call to order/ Welcome 17 Boutin called the meeting to order at 6:00, noted a quorum was present and welcomed all. 18 19 20 Public Comment Bill Swisher, school councilor/ coordinator and member of the Vermont Education 21 Association (VEA), acted as spokesman for both the members present and the entire 22 23 faculty. He voiced their disappointment with the failure of the school boards to reach a fair agreement with their teachers. Swisher reminded the board fifteen months of bargaining 24 have come and gone and the teachers have worked without an agreed upon contract since 25 July 2010. A fact-finders report was received last spring and instead of settlement the 26 27 boards imposed working conditions. The current proposed contract continues these 28 imposed conditions. Swisher asked the Board for their support across the district; the teachers stand ready to negotiate. 29 30 Jim Boutin, who serves on the district-wide Negotiations Committee, commented that they 31 too want to negotiate however; they want an agreement from the Association to conduct the 32 33 negotiations openly and in public. 34 **Committee Reports** 35 36 Finance September 19, 2011 Lamb reported the committee met just prior to this meeting and voted to recommend to the 37 full board approval of a one year childcare lease. It was noted there were no changes in the 38 lease as provided in the packet. 39 40 Kinney moved and Corcoran seconded a motion to approve the Childcare Lease. 41 Vote was taken with all in attendance voting in favor. The motion carried. 42 43 44 Lamb noted this just approved childcare lease is only a one year contract; Finance will be sending out a RFP in January with a timeline of responses back on March 1st and full Board 45 action on a new three-year lease at the March 2012 meeting. 46 47 Education/ Facilities 48 49 Goodhue reported the committee met three weeks ago and discussed the agriculture

1 programs including hiring an instructor, new curriculum and the greenhouse. They are waiting for the Ag Advisory to get back in touch (delayed by Tropical Storm Irene). 2 3 Boutin requested that newly hired Superintendent Culkeen be filled in on what is going on. 4 Lamb inquired about the time frame of hiring a new instructor for the AG program, is it still 5 for January 2012? Goodhue responded yes; a program/ curriculum update will be 6 presented to the board prior to the January meeting. 7 8 Facilities 9 Harrington reported they plan to meet with the Education committee to deal with the 10 greenhouse; Harrington requested direction. Lamb suggested Culkeen take the lead. 11 12 Culkeen took note. 13 14 Strategic Planning Alexander referenced the Advisory Committee Report that was passed out this evening, in 15 particular Section D Composition of the Advisory Committees and the need for 16 representatives from the Northshire. 17 18 Marketing 19 20 There was no report. 21 **Policies for Adoption** 22 23 #3106C Tuition for Non-Resident Student Admission 24 25 26 Pembroke moved and Corcoran seconded a motion to Adopt policy 3106C. All in 27 attendance voted in favor. The motion carried. There was no discussion. 28 #4327C Family and Medical Leave 29 30 Harrington moved and Kinney seconded a motion to Adopt Policy #4327C. All in 31 attendance were in favor. The motion carried. There was no discussion. 32 33 34 35 **Consent Agenda** 36 37 Peaslee moved and Harrington seconded a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. 38 Minutes of the August 16, 2011 Regional Governing Board Meeting 39 _ Minutes of the August 23, 2011 Regional Governing Board Special Meeting 40 _ Minutes of the September 8, 2011 Regional Governing Board Special Meeting 41 _ 42 SWVRTSD Payroll Warrant # 4 43 -8/29/2011 in the amount of \$ 2.784.88 SWVRTSD Payroll Warrant # 1006 8/29/2011 in the amount of \$ 20,698.26 44 SWVRTSD Payroll Warrant # 5 9/19/2011 in the amount of \$ 7,201.29 45 -SWVRTSD Payroll Warrant # 1007 9/19/2011 in the amount of \$ 56,672.36 46 _ 47 SWVRTSD Payroll Warrant # 6 9/19/2011 in the amount of \$ 6,843.22 -SWVRTSD Payroll Warrant # 1009 9/19/2011 in the amount of \$ 54,767.11 48 -49

1 2 3	 SWVRTSD Vendor Warrant # 1008 8/29/2011 in the amount of \$ 33,084.43 SWVRTSD Vendor Warrant # 1010 9/19/2011 in the amount of \$ 64,292.14
4 5 6	Pembroke requested a correction to the August 16, 2011 minutes to reflect his abstention on the Warrants (<i>page 5, line 23</i>).
7 8 9	All present were voted in favor excepting Pembroke, who abstained. There was no discussion.
10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17	 Governance Audit Update Boutin gave a brief update: MGT has been in contact with Boutin as to when they can start. They requested State Auditor Salmon's office send a boiler plate contract. Boutin requested MGT delay until Culkeen can get on board and be involved. Contract will be filled out late October and then work will commence; Culkeen will lead the charge.
17 18 19 20 21 22	<u>CDC Goals Discussion</u> Boutin asked for discussion as priorities as to where the CDC should be going. He noted Alexander's group, Strategic Planning, has been working on this for some time and that she has been in contact with him.
22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29	 Alexander expanded on the five goals on her handout (Five Year Strategic Plan) 1. Community Education 2. Greater Student Involvement 3. Employability skills for every CDC completer 4. Focus on Curriculum 5. Reviewing and Monitoring Overall Program & School Evaluation
29 30 31 32	She noted all are welcomed at their meetings, which are held on the second Thursday of the month at 2:15.
33 34 35	Corcoran thanked Alexander and commented that it might be prudent to keep some of the goals separate as to student versus center wide goals.
36 37 38	Harrington commented on the great job. As to Goal 3, Harrington hopes that life skills are included; politeness, communication, basic math, etc. Alexander will add these to the goals.
39 40 41 42	Boutin commented on Goal 2 and added he would also like to see increased student enrollment particularly in distance learning and the new AG program. Alexander will add these.
43 44 45 46 47	Lamb also commented on Goal 3, noting that portfolios are an excellent evaluation tool as we work toward a diploma for the District. There was brief discussion about diplomas with Lamb noting the state is finally talking about a diploma and Peaslee noting that without the diploma, it is logistically not possible to have distance kids come to here. Moving toward a diploma will be included in the goal.
48 49	Kinney commented about Goals 4 & 5 and noted that in the past there has not been follow-

1 up on projects. He would like program projects monitored and reported on. Boutin reported 2 that monthly faculty reports will be reinstated.

- 3
- Alexander thanked the board for their comments and suggestions. Boutin thanked
 Alexander
- 5 Ale

7 Chairman's Report

8 Boutin noted he gave a Governance Audit update and had the Goals discussion. He had no 9 additional items.

10

13

14

15

16

17

18

23

24 25

11 Superintendent/ Director Report:

12 Culkeen reported:

- He has been working on the Governance Audit and anticipates a draft contract next week and someone on site by early November.
- The opening of school went very well considering the delay caused by the Hurricane Irene and it being his first day.
- He has been roaming the building and would like to commend the responsible party for the condition of the school facility – he has found it in an excellent state.
- With the help of Sandy Redding, he has begun meeting with staff members
 individually and having 'get to know' conversations, which last 45 minutes to an hour,
 with them. This is giving him an enhanced, quicker insight as to who the staff is
 here.
 - He offered his thanks for being brought 'on board' and noted he would be an 'official' resident of Bennington by week's end.
- 26 **<u>Other</u>** There was none.

28 Executive Session

29

27

At 6:37, Corcoran moved and Kinney seconded a motion to enter Executive Session for personnel.

31 32 33

34

36

Larry Johnson and Pembroke asked if contract would also be discussed, Boutin replied no.

35 Vote was taken with all in attendance voting in favor.

At 7:13, Lamb moved and Peaslee seconded a motion to return to Open Session. All were in favor.

40 No action was taken.

41

39

42 Adjournment

- 43
- 44 At 7:14, Corcoran moved and Lamb seconded a motion to adjourn. All were in favor. 45
- 46 Respectively submitted,
- 47

48 Barb Schlesinger

49 September 25, 2011

1 Attachments:

- 2 Minutes of the August 16, 2011 Regional Governing Board Meeting
- 3 Minutes of the August 23, 2011 Regional Governing Board Special Meeting
- 4 Minutes of the September 8, 2011 Regional Governing Board Special Meeting
- 5 SWVRTSD Payroll Warrants # 4 & 1006
- 6 SWVRTSD Payroll Warrants # 5 & 1007
- SWVRTSD Payroll Warrants # 6 & 1009
- 8 SWVRTSD Vendor Warrant # 1008
- 9 SWVRTSD Vendor Warrant # 1010
- 10 Statement of Cash Flow/ Revenue/ Expenses
- 11 Polices for Adoption
- 12 o **3106C**
- 13 o **4327C**
- 14
- 15 Meeting Additions/ Handouts
- 16 Childcare lease
- Strategic Planning on Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes September 7, 2011
- 18 Five Year Strategic Plan outline