

**COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL OF VERMONT  
STATE EDUCATION BOARD  
MINUTES  
Wednesday, April 4, 2007  
Stagecoach Inn, Waterbury**

Members Present: Dwight Davis, Richard Fraser, Blanche Kelley, David Luce, Don Messier, Chuck Pearce, John Stewart.

CHSVT Administration Present: Bob Lucenti, Director - Stephan LaTulippe, Principal - Mary Koen, Special Education Chief - Sheila Commo, Program Services Clerk.

The meeting was called to order at 9:45 a.m.

**1. Review of Meeting Minutes**

**Dwight Davis made a motion to accept the meeting minutes of March 7, 2007. Richard Fraser seconded it.**

Discussion followed. On page three, second paragraph. Beryle Gardner's name is misspelled. There was also some discussion as to the poor attendance from the local boards at the annual meeting.

With the noted changes, **the motion was called, and it passed unanimously.**

Bob shared his thoughts about Wilma Paronto's funeral. Caitlyn, her driver, expressed to Bob, Wilma's love of attending the board meetings and how much she missed them when she could not attend.

The February meeting minutes were discussed. On page two, paragraph one..."and there is a *copy* of 197 residents." The word *copy* should be changed to *cap*.

Also on page two, the paragraph about Frankie....."and now actually *like* school", should be *likes* and "He is working toward *this* HSD", should be *his*.

**Blanche Kelley made a motion to accept the meeting minutes of February 7, 2007. John Stewart seconded it. With the noted changes, the motion was called, and it passed unanimously.**

## **2. Election of Officers**

**Don Messier nominated Chuck Pearce for Chair of the Board and Dwight Davis seconded it. The motion was called and it passed unanimously. Chuck was re-elected as Chair of the CHSVT State Advisory Board.**

Bob Lucenti asked if the board had term limits stated in their By-Laws. The answer was no. Bob briefly explained that the CHSVT faculty is currently debating that very issue.

**Richard Fraser nominated Dwight Davis for Vice-Chair of the Board and Don Messier seconded it. The motion was called and it passed unanimously. Dwight was re-elected as Vice-Chair of the CHSVT State Advisory Board.**

**Don Messier nominated David Luce for Secretary for the Board and Dwight Davis seconded it.** Someone asked for an explanation of the duties of Board Secretary. The explanation was read in the By-Laws. **The motion was called and it passed unanimously. David was re-elected as Secretary of the CHSVT State Advisory Board.**

Blanche is a member of the Vermont Retired Teachers Association Executive Committee. She would like to be assured that this position is always held by a CHSVT State Advisory Board member. This board meets four times a year and one of her duties includes creating a report for the VRTA newsletters. Discussion as to whether there should be a fourth position added to the board to meet this need was tabled until Blanche could obtain more information about the current position.

## **3. Revisit By-Laws**

Annual Meeting Date Change: There was discussion about the lack of attendance at the annual meeting. Possible reasons included weather, vacation week and people not being able to get away from work. There was a suggestion of moving the meeting to early fall to avoid the weather and vacations. There was also a discussion of a questionnaire or study of local board members to get an idea what would work for attendance. Dwight read the rules about changing the date of the annual meeting in the By-Laws. Any change to the By-Laws needs to be presented in writing to the board and voted on at the next meeting.

Missing Consecutive Meetings: Discussion ensued about what should be done when a board member consistently misses meetings.

**Dwight Davis made a motion that reads: If a board member misses three consecutive meetings, they need to either attend the next meeting or expect to resign from their position. The board will have the authority to automatically remove any member not complying with the above request.** An amendment to the motion was suggested. Discussion ensued. The amendment was defeated and the original motion was voted on. **The motion was called and it passed unanimously.**

#### **4. Ad Hoc Committee Report, Self Study and NEASC Recommendations:**

John Stewart gave a brief report from the Ad Hoc committee meeting. The minutes represent a draft of the combined recommendations of the NEASC and the CHSVT self study that the committee feels the board should be responsible for. It was suggested that the board members take the minutes home to read and decide what individual members might want to be responsible for.

Steve read the Community High School of Vermont Self Study Report Recommendations with the board and listed each recommendation and whether the faculty, administration or board, would be responsible for each one.

Bob handed out a copy of the action plan for school improvement and explained to the board how each recommendation will be documented during the process.

John recommended the board review the Ad Hoc minutes for approval at the next board meeting. Dwight would like to see a final draft of who has been appointed to each recommendation. Bob stated that it may take a few months to complete, as some recommendations are still being placed. Dwight would like to see a timeline for when each recommendation should be completed.

#### **5. H.135**

H.135 is a bill in the House Institution Committee that states: All persons under the custody of the commissioner of corrections, who are under the age of 26 and have not received a high school diploma, shall participate in the education program unless exempted by the commissioner. Bob explained that there are approximately 200 inmates that meet these criteria. Approximately 60 of them are out of state and the remaining 140 are spread throughout the nine facilities and some are already attending CHSVT. The bill is still in preliminary stages and more information will be shared as it is made available.

Blanche shared a letter from CHSVT instructor, Cara Berryman. The Beryle Gardner Committee has increased the awards to include two students who have graduated from CHSVT, annually. They have provided each campus with brochures, posters and a tip sheet to help students apply for this award.

#### **6. June Board Meeting:**

The board would still like to have local board members attend this meeting to continue with discussions from the annual meeting. Steve will draft a letter to invite them to the Best Western for a working meeting. No lunch will be served at this meeting.

## **7. Set May Agenda:**

The May 2nd, meeting will be held at the St. Albans Probation & Parole Campus.

Agenda Items:

Student Presentation from the St. Albans Probation & Parole campus

Approve Ad Hoc recommendations

Approve written recommendations of By-Laws

Legislative Report

Status of Policy 389

Blanche expressed her concern that the board is still short a member. There was discussion as to how to get more names for possible appointment by the Governor. It was suggested that any interested local board member fill out an application to be appointed by the Governor so that there are several names to send. There will be applications available to local board members at the June State Board meeting.

There was a brief discussion as to what will happen to the work being done with Work Force Development when John Gorczyk retires. Bob informed the board that there will be a position created at the Community High School of Vermont to replace his position.

**David Luce moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:15 p.m. Richard Fraser seconded it. The motion was called and the meeting adjourned.**

Respectfully Submitted

Sheila Commo