

**COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL OF VERMONT
STATE BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
Tuesday, March 10, 2015
Department of Corrections
White Cap Business Park
Williston, VT**

Approved

State Board Members Present: Carol Bokan, Vice-Chair; George Cross, Chair; Richard Fraser, Brian Vachon, Offie Wortham

State Board Members Present via phone: David Luce, Secretary; Sarah Flynn

State Board Members Absent: Dan Alcorn, Jason Gibbs

CHSVT Administration Present: Wilhelmina Picard, Director, Corrections Education; Dana Lesperance, Assist. Dir., Corr. Educ.; Troy McAllister, Assist. Dir., Corr. Educ.; Sheila Sayah, Admin. Svcs. Tech.

CHSVT Administration Absent: Jerry Schartner, Assist. Dir., Corr. Educ.

CHSVT Local Advisory Board Members Present via phone: Blanche Kelley

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

Public Comment – None

Administrative Reports – Below as Discussion Item

Discussion Items

a. Introduce New Board Member

George introduced Offie Wortham to the Board. Offie replaces Andy MacIlwaine. Offie is from Johnson, VT.

b. Update on Legislative Session

Wilhelmina, Dana, and Troy met yesterday, with the Operational Management Team (OMT) which included Deputy Commissioner, Lisa Menard; Director of Correctional Facilities, Mike Touchette; Offender Classification, Cullen Bullard; and Financial Director, Matt D'Agostino. The group met to discuss plans moving forward with possible education programming being cut from P&P offices as well as from most facilities.

The media has had stories relating to closing the Windsor Workcamp. There was some discussion with the Board about what ramifications that could have statewide.

Wilhelmina will meet this week with Program Services Director, Kim Bushey, to discuss ideas that would involve CHSVT educators teaching some programs that would eliminate the need for some outside contracts that could bring some savings to the department. Services would not include substance abuse or sex offender treatment.

Local Legislators have been visiting education campuses at facilities throughout the state. So far, they have visited with educators and students in St. Johnsbury, Windsor and St. Albans. They will be visiting in Springfield on March 23rd. Some Board members have expressed an interest in attending the next visit. Troy will send the details to the Board for their information

Wilhelmina, Troy and Dana, have been asked to speak tomorrow, at House Education, about Bill H.274 that pertains to the funding of CHSVT.

There was a discussion about what will happen to the under 23 population, who are under care and custody of the DOC, if the community campuses are closed. George offered to write a memo to Commissioner Pallito about Special Education and the needs of the U23 population out in the community.

Wilhelmina has been asked to provide the OMT with some budget saving ideas that may help keep CHSVT intact, by next week.

The Board is concerned about the need to meet again before the next scheduled Board meeting in June. Wilhelmina will keep the Board informed with ongoing news and the Board will call a meeting if they feel the need to meet before June.

Next Scheduled Meeting

Tuesday, June 9, 2015 Central Office, Williston.

Richard Fraser entertained a motion to adjourn and Brian Vachon seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sheila Sayah