RAPID CITY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 51-4
SPECIAL BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

The Rapid City Area School Board of Education held a special meeting on Thursday, September 22, 2011, at Western Dakota Technical Institute, 800 Mickelson Drive, Rapid City, SD 57703. President Jeff Nelsen called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. with the following board members in attendance: Doug Kinniburgh, Sheryl Kirkeby, Bret Swanson, Dr. Suzan Nolan and Jim Hansen. Board member Brian Blenner was absent with notice. Ad-Hoc Members Bruce Rampelberg and John Pence were absent with notice. Others in attendance included: Dr. Craig Bailey, Dr. Tim Mitchell, Student Representative Amanda Olson, WDT staff and other members of the community.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

HANSEN moved and KINNIBURGH seconded to approve the establishment of the agenda as presented and recommended. MOTION CARRIED (6-0).

EXECUTIVE SESSION

No Executive Session was held.

COMMUNICATIONS AND RECOGNITION

Dr. Bailey recognized Ann Murano’s Professional Development class who were in attendance.


WDT recently earned the “Military Friendly School Title” by G.I. Jobs, the premier magazine for military personnel transitioning into civilian life. The 2012 Military Friendly Schools list honors the top 20 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools that are doing the most to embrace America’s military service members and veterans as students. In the past academic year, WDT served 214 veterans. This semester, 147 vets, or 14 percent of WDT’s total enrollment, are attending class on campus.

Dr. Bailey presented Doug Kinniburgh with a gift for his years of service to Western Dakota Tech. Dr. Bailey also thanked Doug for his service and wished him well.

SWANSON moved and HANSEN seconded to amend the agenda to add “Skills USA” to the Capacity Building. MOTION CARRIED (6-0).
REPORTS

Dr. Bailey reported on the Library which will open in August 2012; WDT now has an MOU with United Tribes Technical College in Bismarck North Dakota; WDT has an consortium with Ft. Meade, VA-Hot Springs, EAFB, Camp Rapid, RCRH, USD, SDSU and NAU to create a mobile unit semi-trailer or medical simulation center which will have high tech medical equipment to be used for students in the medical fields. A partnership is also being developed with the Rapid City Fire Department to create a Fire Station Training Center which will be the new home for our Fire Science Program. Our faculty and staff will have a chance to choose a new name for the new addition in the near future.

Mr. Jeff Nelsen gave an update on the New Rushmore Building.

Mr. Doug Kinniburgh reported on the WDT Governance Committee meeting held on September 7th at WDT. It was suggested that more board members are needed on WDT committees.

Ex-Officio Member Reports

No Reports

Student Representative Report

Ms. Amanda Olson gave a report on the recent SGA activities. The 2nd Annual Leadership social took place on August 31st with Dr. Mitchell as the keynote speaker. The Leadership retreat was held September 9-11 at Storm Mountain. Many more activities are planned for the school year. Amanda was invited to attend the regular RCAS board meetings to give updates there as well.

Superintendent’s Comments

Dr. Mitchell commented on the Welcome back in-service for WDT faculty on August 15th in which he presented the “13 Trust Behaviors”. Dr. Mitchell also spoke to WDT’s student leaders on August 31st at their Leadership Social. Dr. Mitchell commented on the working relationship and the open communication between RCAS/WDT.

OPEN FORUM

No speakers were present.

CAPACITY BUILDING

Student Organizations: Ms. Rae Getz gave a report and presentation on Student Organizations. WDT currently has 22 student clubs and organizations that are active.

Veteran’s Programs: Mr. Curt Lauinger gave a report on the Veteran’s programs offered at WDT. A Veteran’s Resource Center on campus was formally organized this past
summer. Students are using this space for tutoring, studying and networking with others. This semester, 147 vets are attending class on campus.

**Special Services Programs:** Ms. Melanie Krauter gave a report on the Special Services Programs offered to our non-traditional students. Non-traditional students are defined as single parents, homemakers/displaced homemakers, minority students, first generation college students and students enrolled in non-traditional programs (i.e. a male in Nursing or a female in Welding). WDT recognizes the fact that non-traditional students have a very different circumstances and barriers than traditional students. Services available include resource information and referrals, textbook assistance programs, life skills workshops, mentoring, support groups, and limited financial resources.

**Disabilities Programs:** Ms. Mary Ann Slanina gave a report on the Disabilities program which assist students who may be experiencing academic difficulty by providing reinforcement beyond the regular classroom. This may include accommodations within the regular classroom, one-on-one tutoring, peer tutoring or study group.

**Jenzabar Update:** Mr. Travis Lundquist gave an update on the student’s information system “Jenzabar.” This new program is on schedule and will go live on June 25th, 2012.

**Skills USA:** Mr. Justin Jutting reported on the Skills USA. Skills USA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce. Skills USA helps each student excel. The Skills USA Championships is the showcase for the best career and technical students in the nation. Contests begin locally and continue through the state and national levels. This past summer, WDT sent 42 students to compete in 10 competitions for the 2011 state skills conference; Seven placed in first, five went to the Nationals and one placed second in the Nation.

**OTHER REPORTS**  (Reports given to Board Members in advance)

**Academics** – Dr. Cathy Anderson reported on the Career Summit that will be held on October 27th at WDT. High School Teachers and our Advisory Board members are invited; WDT faculty will present on their programs. More information will be sent at a later date.

**Corporate Education Center Highlights** – Ms. Patsy Schmidt

**Student Services Highlights** – Ms. Janell Oberlander

**Marketing and Admissions** – Mr. Steve Buchholz
Business & Gen Ed Departments – Ms. Kelly O’Brien
Health & Human Services Departments – Dr. Marge Beam
Information Services Department – Mr. Travis Lundquist
Registrar’s Office – Mr. Brad Henrich

ADJOURNMENT

KIRKEBY moved and NOLAN seconded to adjourn the September 22, 2011, special board of education meeting at 7:30 P.M. MOTION CARRIED (6-0).

FUTURE AGENDA – The next WDT Quarterly Board meeting is November 29, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Janak, Business Manager

Reva Bad Wound, Administrative Assistant

ATTEST:

Mr. Jeff Nelsen, President
Rapid City Board of Education