

DVR Industrial Technology Committee

Meeting 1 – Friday, October 15, 2010

Minutes

Attendees:

Steve Silca (Ridgewood High School), Frank Holthouse (Leyden High Schools), Carl Fedeles (Proviso High Schools), Antigone Sharris (Triton College)

Meeting started @ 9:30am.

Topic covered:

I. Discussion with Antigone about Engineering Technology @ Triton

Program overview –

Engineering Technology @ Triton is doing well, having had a 101% increase in enrollment since 2005. There are (3) new labs, equipped to be able to allow someone to go from design to final product for a variety of products, and the first set of 85W solar panels just arrived yesterday for the program to use in incorporating green technology into the curriculum.

The goals for the future include -

- a. More involvement within the high schools, visiting the classes and talking with the students, career days, etc. Some of this was lost when people retired and/or left. More needs to be done here.
- b. Host state and nationally recognized STEM competitions at Triton for area high schools
- c. Increase participation in robotics related competition(s)

II. STEM based competitions

- FIRST Robotics Competition –
\$5,000 entry fee, but more like a \$30,000 – up commitment, to be part of the regional competition. This is an internationally recognized competition that challenges youth and adult mentors to work collaboratively and apply multiple skill sets, requiring high energy/high involvement. Outcomes of being involved include scholarships to top tier schools for youth participants. Additionally, top tier companies seek out FIRST graduates because of the multi-faceted skills gained as a FIRST team member. Involvement typically starts as an after school club in Engineering and/or Robotics, applying what is taught in a number of courses, including Business, Physics, Math, and Applied Technology.
- JETS TEAMS Competition –
Approx. \$250 entry fee per team, with multiple teams per school allowed to compete. This is a nationally recognized annual high school competition challenging students to work collaboratively and apply their math and science knowledge in practical, creative ways to solve real everyday engineering challenges. Involvement typically starts as an in-classroom problem solving activity that can be incorporated into any Math and Science based curriculum.
- IDEA Drafting Competition –
Approx. \$7 entry fee per division. This state level competition involves high end mechanical and architectural engineering drawing testing the knowledge of youth in CAD courses at high schools across Illinois. Involvement typically starts as an in-classroom CAD project activity that can be incorporated into the curriculum.

Interest in IDEA was voiced by both Steve and Frank. Frank has some interest in FIRST, something already in Proviso, but perhaps something for next school year to start up as a club activity.

III. Dual Credit

Antigone gave Frank the Triotn curriculum for ENT110, ENT111, ENT116, ENT117, ENT118 for review, along with encouraging the teachers to put in an application for being adjuncts at Triton and sending her their resumes to see if she can hire them to teach classes for Triton in Engineering Technology.

IV. Program Marketing

- a. Steve ran the first ever Elective Fair last year at Ridgewood and tripled his enrollment
- b. Frank says they do that at Leyden and the competition for the students is tougher
- c. Carl says they only have Automotive at Leyden East and West, so there is very little competition and his enrollment is good.

V. School backed Curriculum Models to support the Technology programs

- a. Frank thinks that Leyden will be doing Project Lead the Way, probably starting in 2012
Wheeling High School uses it and their program and school is stronger for it
- b. Proviso (at least PMSA) is doing Engineering by Design, started this year

VI. Other

- a. Leyden is using an inexpensive 3D printer that requires the user to calibrate and do more than “plug and play”, the BFB 3000.
- b. A number of Technology high school teachers are going to the following conference:
ITEC – Illinois Technology Educators Conference, November 12 and 13, Normal, IL
- c. Tour of Engineering Technology facilities took place and the high school teachers received a Sound Reversing Car kit to take home with them.

Meeting ended at 12 noon.