

**Des Plaines Valley Region
Business Committee
End-of-Year Report 2011-2012**

Conferences and Seminars

Curriculum Revitalization Workshop – Tech Share

Our third annual Tech Share was a great success. Fifteen teachers from the area schools attended. Steve Grigalunas of Elmwood Park presented comprehensive information about Google Docs, Google Sites and website creation.

We created our “Wiki” named Biznology. The group created the structure using Google Sites and added lessons, videos and great web sites and ideas for wide range of curriculum topic areas covering Accounting to Marketing to Getting a Job. We will continue adding to the wiki. We agreed that we would keep the site available to the public but that we would be the only ones adding to it until we had fully loaded the site. At that time we may consider allowing others to add to the site.

In addition, each participant had the opportunity to start creating a professional website. More time will be needed to enhance all of our projects but based on the results of the session assessment all participants were highly satisfied with the day’s efforts.

It was universally agreed that it is our most effective program. We will continue the program next year but will possibly move the event to the fall. We want more time to work on the wiki and websites as well as collaborate.

Other Conferences

Members attended Connections, ICE, CABEA and Heather Sass programs. The programs were discussed.

Teacher Work Experience

We will be visiting Hammacher Schlemmer in the morning and Red Frog Event in the afternoon. The second day will be focused on creating interactive lesson plans based on what we learn during the first day.

Programs of Study

The entire Programs of Study process was discussed. Members were given copies of their school’s Program of Study to familiarize themselves. Next year we will be reviewing them in terms of course sequence, knowledge and skills.

Update of Triton Programs

Triton is introducing a new Associate Applied Science Degree in Accounting/Finance and a Financial Services Certificate along with two new courses: Personal Finance and Introduction to Commodity Markets. As those certificates are added the Program of Studies will be adapted.

Curriculum Changes for 2012-2013

Members discussed the changes at their schools. Leyden students are being issued Chrome Books as they partner with Google. An additional class called Tech Support Internship will be offered. The students will be the Help Desk for students and teachers while they work towards certifications. They will have a Digital Lit class instead of Computer Literacy. Ridgewood is running a Marketing class. Several programs are diminishing.

Goals for 2012-2013

In addition to the Program of Study review we plan to continue our curriculum sharing and technical training.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Bear
Business Committee Chairperson