

**Des Plaines Valley Region  
Business Committee  
Minutes—October 4, 2016  
Elmwood Park High School**

The following members were present: Karen Bear, Elmwood Park High School, Lauren Martire, Leyden High School, Nancy Bardo, Oak Park River Forest, Barb Burchill, Proviso West High School, Patty Sarcady, Riverside Brookfield, Dr. David Anderson, Triton (Technology)

**Summer Programs**

We are still distraught that our Teacher Work Experience program and the Summer Camps were cancelled. We discussed the benefits of TWE and the Health Careers Camp (which had full enrollment.) It is unanimously felt that TWE was our single best professional development each year. We learned about the businesses through observation and discussion. This also ties into our business advisory requirement. We strongly believe that our concerns are not being heard or addressed.

**Business Advisory Groups**

Discussion was held about the advantages of having a Business Advisory Group for each school. We reviewed the book Anne shared and talked about ways to use technology to encourage more involvement as time constraints are an issue with prospective members.

Leyden and Elmwood Park have groups that meet. OPRF, RB and Proviso attendees stated that to their knowledge they do not have groups that meet. Triton has a group that meets twice a year.

**Update of Dual Credit progress**

The new contact and school contacts were reviewed. Dr. Anderson suggested that there is a fit in Dual Credit for work programs.

**Triton Updates (From Dr. William Griffin via e-mail)**

Triton College of Business will be submitting their first draft report to the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs. This process moves us closer to becoming one of the few community colleges in the state that will have a nationally recognized accredited program for our Accounting and Business Department. A new Bookkeeping Certificate Program will be available in Fall 2016. ACC 101 Financial Accounting will move from a 3 credit hour class to 4 credit hour class Fall 2016. Triton is working with Luisa I. Hernandez, Executive Director of Bridges to College and Careers. Triton College is working closely with this group to help launch “Accelerating Opportunities Program” that will help move more ESL students into credit classes. A new Accounting Assistant Program is in the works along with a CPA Pathway Program.

Triton’s Advisory Business Meeting will be November 4 at 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. with dinner following at Triton College. Nancy Bardo is planning to attend to represent our group.

## **Career Spotlights**

We reviewed the available career spotlights. Members were disappointed that schools were restricted to certain visits. For example, only a few schools had the opportunity to attend the Price Waterhouse trip. In addition, those who attended the presentations still felt that the presentations were not very structured and generally were not as useful as the visits.

## **Tech Share Workshop**

In response to the business teachers of the area requests we decided to hold another Tech Share workshop this year. The event will be held at East Leyden High School on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Further information will be forthcoming. The invitation is open to CTE teachers from the region. Twenty-one participants are already scheduled. Committee members were asked to confirm additional attendees by next meeting. Topics include sharing ideas, Gamification and using social media and promotion using Snapchat. Additional details will be discussed at our November meeting.

## **Workshops**

Members of the committee are planning to attend several professional conferences this year. Patty Sarcady is going to the Careers Pathways Conference as well Gamification to Strengthen Student Engagement and Learning Conference. Barb Burchill will be attending the IBEA Conference in Springfield. Nancy Bardo will be attending CABEA. Many members will be attending the Connections Conference in March.

## **New Courses**

OPRF is working on the Incubator Project and a student tech work program. Elmwood Park is working on adding AP Computer Principles and hopefully, Mobile Maker, the following year. Leyden is adding AP Computer Principles and Web Design is changing to Mobile Maker.

## **Curriculum Sharing**

Karen shared economic sites and materials about Marketing Psychology and the Science Behind Design Principles.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Bear  
Business Committee Chairperson

## **Business Committee Meeting Schedule**

Thursday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, Elmwood Park High School, 12:30  
Tech Share – February 18<sup>th</sup>, East Leyden High School, Little Theatre  
Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, Elmwood Park High School, 12:30