

DVR Technology & Engineering Education Committee

Meeting 4- Friday, Feb. 10, 2017 8:00 AM- 11:30 AM

Triton T-Building Room T138

Construction Technology (Construction, Woodworking, Manufacturing/Metals, etc.)

In attendance: Ryan VenHorst, Paul Zurek, Antigone Sharris, David Weishaar, Brian Collier, Andrew Hebert, Jason Quint

AGENDA

Scheduling of Meetings for 2017-2018

The following dates were discussed among the attendees as suitable dates to plan for the Technology and Engineering and Industrial Technology Committee. These are tentative at this point and will be confirmed in early September of 2017.

General All Areas Meeting- ITEC- Oct. 27-28, 2017

Manufacturing Meeting- Triton- Dec. 1, 2017 Joint Advisory Meeting T-126, DVR

CAD/Engineering Meeting- January 19, 2018 at OPRFHS or Leyden, TBD

Construction Meeting- March 8, 2018 at Ridgewood HS

Field Trips

Discussion of the DVR arranged field trips was led by an agreement that the student contact with these companies is very valuable and will help to broaden their understanding of career opportunities. The positive benefits will always outweigh the negative aspects of being out of the classroom, however concerns from several people were made over the ability to bring enough students to justify missing time in the classroom. The issue was addressed this year by creating opportunities for schools on a rotating basis in order to take students to various companies to experience various environments. Another suggestion to improve the experiences is to broaden the companies in contact to see more variety in careers. Elkay, Siemens, Dudek & Bock, Freedman Seating, and Headly Manufacturing were all mentioned as companies that are currently or prospectively possible for connections with some or all of the schools. Everyone was willing to continue to make efforts to have their students attend trips to see these companies as a part of their curriculum in the CTE fields.

Career Spotlights

The career spotlights offered through DVR are valuable for the students to hear about career opportunities in various engineering and manufacturing areas. David Weishaar of R-B said that his students thought they were awesome. Several mentioned that new and more diverse companies being represented at the spotlights would be nice. While most students are attending their first spotlight, some are attending for a second time and the presentation can be repetitive.

From the perspective of the teachers, there was a request to have more communication at an earlier time in order to facilitate planning in a more concerted manner.

Industry Tours

The Industry Tour organized by Frank Holthouse this December was very informative for the teachers and something that others were interested in. Brian Collier suggested that time during the school year is best and incorporating Counselors, Administrators, Board Members, and other educational stakeholders into these tours could be a great benefit to our programs and the awareness for our students in the long run.

Triton (Antigone Sharris) will be offering a Summer Laser Training Session from June 12-15, 2017. This will be an opportunity for teachers to get assistance in learning about some powerful learning tools that can be used in the CTE classrooms. Jason Quint and Andrew Hebert from the Proviso District have shown interest in attending and others may if the option is made available through the schools and possibly funded through DVR. CPDUs would be available for the time and this is done in conjunction with SIU at Triton.

Student Opportunities/Internships

Schools are offering various opportunities for co-curricular and extra-curricular participation in career exploration projects. Leyden participates in VEX Robotics and Battlebots. OPRF offers VEX Robotics and the High School Innovation Challenge through Northrop Grumman. Several schools and teachers are working with students in other capacities as well to offer more CTE insights for the student population.

Action Items

Schools are continuing to look into and develop stronger business partnerships for Advisory Councils. Leyden has an established Manufacturing Advisory Council and each school has been participating with Triton as a part of their business partnership Advisory Council. As previously reported, many of the schools are currently working on more informal bases.

Instructors from every school are showing interest of plans for onference attendance 2017-18. Below is a list of the conferences that have been mentioned from various teachers.

ITEC- October 27-28, 2017 Bloomington, IL

ACTE- Dec. 6-9, 2017 Nashville, TN

ITEEA- April 12-14, 2018 Atlanta, GA

A request for feedback for the Technology Committee Meetings will be sent out in March to gauge teachers perspectives and requests for involvement next year. Teachers were encouraged to respond when it is sent out in order to help plan for productive meetings in the future as well as get the necessary supports that each school needs in the Technology Programs.

Adding more manufacturing and engineering back into the schools as we rebuild and revitalize CTE programs was deemed an important goal for each of the schools.

Equipment Recommendations

Antigone Sharris suggests laser engravers for Tech Ed classrooms. (Epilog Laser Engraver was suggested over the comparison to the Trotec Rayjet)

Paul Zurek talked about 3D printers being great for design students in order to bring prototyping and visualization of designs to life for the students.