



DVR Business Committee FY18 Mid-Year Report

On September 26, 2017 **IT faculty** across our districts met with business advisors and discussed changes in the IT industry and the importance of constantly keeping up with new skills. At that time Dr. Anderson from Triton included an industry trend overview on the labor market. Brian Matzelle from CompTIA discussed certifications being used as hiring criteria across many IT jobs. Paul Baker from Webitect discussed the higher echelon of Programming, developer positions, which do not look at mainstream certifications, but instead look at collaborative code sharing sites to see what people are contributing to new code. Teachers shared specific creative instructional approaches used in their classes.

On October 19, 2017 Business teachers participated in a full day workshop by Certiport regarding industry credentialing in IT. This hands on experience was hosted in a computer lab at Oak Park & River Forest High School. Teachers were excited about the opportunity to improve their skills through this workshop experience. Eleven teachers took advantage of this workshop.

On November 16, 2017 the **Management and Entrepreneurship Business** Advisory took place at Triton College. Business members included Cristina Martinez from Turano Baking Company. Discussion about business needs and course offerings were included. Jobs are available across business fields, but there needs to be a match with student interest and training. Attending: Lauren Martire, Leyden, Jim Melich, Elmwood Park, Patty Sarkady, Riverside-Brookfield, Sharue Winfield and Dan Renaud, Proviso, Beth Metzler, Illinois Finance Learning Exchange/Econ Illinois, Christina Martinez, Turano Bakery, Cynthia Saucedo, Jr. Achievement, Roberto Curci and Gerardo Belcaful, Dominican University, Anne Cothran, DVR.

Discussion covered how to define what is the best job?, Asking students what problems they want to solve, not what they want to do, and how to move students in to a process of how to analyze, do active learning, and love new ideas. They will need creativity in how they approach problems.

Discussions on course sequences included challenges in student scheduling for adding second year training courses into student schedules. Dominican University is splitting the Business Admin major into Finance, Marketing and Management areas, with entrepreneurship to follow. This will create more options for collaboration with secondary programs that are organized along the same lines.

Junior Achievement already partners with many DVR schools, and can help with logistics on job shadowing.