

DVR Technology & Engineering Education Committee

Year End Report 5/18/20

The DVR member schools have worked together this year to discuss the goals listed below. The four meetings had focal areas of general technology education, automotive, manufacturing, and construction.

Leyden- continuing with the program structure in place.

OPRF- continuing with PLTW Engineering courses and woodworking and automotives.

Riverside-Brookfield- Offering the same courses as 2019-20.

Proviso- continuing with the PLTW implementation

Ridgewood- Continuing with PLTW courses and current offerings in construction and woods.

Elmwood Park- No current TEE program

The DVR Technology group has met this year and covered topics pertaining to the following goals.

1. Promotion of Technology and Engineering Education programs at each school through strengthened collaboration among the teachers in the high schools and Triton Community College.
 - a. Riverside-Brookfield, Leyden, OPRF, and Ridgewood and Proviso teachers met at 2 of the 4 meetings this year, and four of the districts had representatives at 3 of the four meetings. In this time there have been discussions about subject area matter and collaborative dialogue on practices that have been working in the classroom to get the best engagement out of our students.
 - b. Following our third meeting this year, we set aside time at Triton to coordinate training time on Autodesk Inventor with Antigone Sharris. Antigone offered access to the Triton dual credit curriculum for the teachers to follow along and get a better grasp of the skills that would need to translate to the subsequent coursework offered through Triton. We looked at possible drafting equipment that could be used to aid in each of the design courses to solidify communication skills through visualization and implementation of basic objects. We looked over work from current Triton students from the area that were taking the equivalent course to what is offered at the high school.
2. Help foster growth of the advisory councils for each school related to the various programs offered within the technology departments.
 - a. Each member school with representation at the meetings this year was asked to begin creating a list of the possible businesses within their districts who may be able to play an influential role in an advisory council for their programs. OPRF,

Proviso district, and Leyden have career coordinators in the buildings now, and RB is considering adding the position. Ridgewood has been collaborating with their administration to bolster the business connections helping to align their course offerings to the manufacturing needs within the community. Each school is working on further development in creating a meaningful advisory council and this will continue to be advanced in the future. The end of this school year prevented our typical operation of technology meetings. I will intend to build on this point next year with the Technology Committee as our education systems may be taking on new challenges with regard to our operations in light of the Covid-19 pandemic.

3. Promote professional development among TEE teachers through state, regional, and national conference attendance.
 - a. Leyden and OPRF sent teachers to the Illinois Technology Education Conference in Bloomington, IL in early November of 2019. This conference focused on bringing literacy into the career and technical education classrooms as a means of assisting students in reading, writing, and general communication while engaging in hands-on learning projects.
 - b. Teachers and administrators from Proviso, OPRF, Ridgewood, Leyden, and RB all attended the Association of Career and Technical Education Vision Conference in Anaheim, CA in early December of 2019. There was a major influence of drone technologies being utilized in industry along with current manufacturing trends, and rapid prototyping. One session of interest was the Tiny Home construction that allows high school programs to implement on site construction courses on a small scale.
4. Collaborate with schools to create career awareness campaigns formally through field trips and speakers cooperating with high schools and informally through teacher collaboration projects involving various industry needs and skill requirements that can be infused into various classroom exercises or projects.
 - a. Leyden, OPRF, and RB took students to Fabtech 2019 at McCormick Place Convention Center to see a large variety of manufacturing equipment companies. These companies offer the opportunity to see the large manufacturing processes and machines that make engineering with high technology a possibility today. From automotive to aerospace, many industries are represented and the students were able to see how the world around them is manufactured.
 - b. Students from OPRF participated in the Regional Illinois Design Educators Association (IDEA) regional competition on February 28th alongside students from Morton West, Morton East, and Evanston Township High School. This competition allows students to work on design based problems and see how their acquired skills compare to peers from other schools as well. 2 OPRF students qualified for the State Competition, but it was canceled this year due to the pandemic.