

DVR Business Committee / IT Meeting Minutes

October 21, 2020

Virtual - Google Meet: meet.google.com/kco-owsd-vqg

12:45 – 2:30 pm

I. Introductions

Present: Tony Pecucci (Leyden), Neil Posmer (Elmwood Park), Michael Henson (Triton), David Anderson (Triton)

II. Sharing of Online/Hybrid Lesson Planning in Tech Classes (Ideas/Thoughts)

Members of the committee shared ideas on how they are executing both hybrid and online learning. Some of the strategies shared included:

- *Creation of online tutorials*
- *Use of breakout rooms to discuss multiple ideas, with instructor entering/exiting rooms to follow discussions*
- *Use of TestOut for online computer tech simulations (without the ability to physically work with hardware)*
- *Use of Cengage Mindtap for programming challenges and other ways to teach programming remotely.*

For some of the coding classes, the structure of the way the class is taught has really not changed. For others, the classes need to be modified as students only have Chromebooks, which do not allow for downloading software. Adjustments in lesson plans are being continually made to find alternatives for hands on activities or activities that involve PC software.

III. [Review of Google IT Support Professional Certification](#) (Free Opportunity Leyden pursuing)

Leyden has been invited by Google to participate in their Google IT Support Professional Certification program. This free program allows for all online study materials, test vouchers, employment resources (like Big Interview, etc.) and job placement opportunities. Leyden sat in on an introduction call and is currently in the onboarding process. Leyden and Triton discussed possibly starting the program together in the Fall of 2021 and establishing dual credit opportunities immediately. More to come on this subject as the schools go through the integration process.

IV. [Microsoft Certifications Retired/Restructuring \(Thoughts\)](#)

A. [Certification Path](#)

Triton, Leyden and Elmwood Park discussed the changes to Microsoft certifications and retirement of various certifications. At this time, all three institutions are only offering the basic Microsoft certifications - Word, PowerPoint, Excel and Access. While Leyden experimented with higher level certifications a few years back, they found they were not achievable by high school students with limited access and experience in those programs. For now, all schools will stick with the basic Microsoft certifications; but Leyden will bring this issue up to their Technical Advisory Board which is scheduled to meet in January/February of 2021.

V. Conferences

A. [IBEA](#)

B. [NBEA](#)

At this time, all conference opportunities will be virtual. Elmwood Park will likely be attending Connections virtually and there are some Marzano virtual conferences as well. While Triton does not have traditional conferences on the schedule, their current professional development is tied to CompTIA IT Fundamentals as 4 faculty will be getting certified. Triton is also attending an Indiana University Assessment Practice to get better at assessing based on course level. Leyden has been attending various one time webinars in areas such as eSports and Cybersecurity, looking for various ways to grow their programs. At this time, no one on the committee will be attending IBEA or NBEA.

VI. Possible eSports @ Leyden (Implementation in Business Department)

Leyden will be working to institute an eSports club into their district. This idea came from a Dell webinar attended by one of the Leyden Video Game Design teachers. The idea is to work eSports into the curriculum of marketing, video game design and Technical Support Internship (TSI). eSports revenue will grow to \$1.1 billion in 2020 and students are excited about integrating this into school (not just a club). More to come, but Leyden will pilot this program in January 2021.

VII. Discussion of Current Efforts/Future for each school

Elmwood Park is teaching stand alone courses in Computer Science and Programming. However, they are looking at certification opportunities to provide to students. Triton is working IT Fundamentals (see above) - but also restructuring programs to identify stackable credentials and increase dual credit arrangements. There is a December Advisory Meeting at Triton where more will be shared. Leyden is working on the initiatives above.

VIII. [Toon Boom - 2D Animation/Web Animation Credentials](#)

The committee looked at this website and the tool as a whole. While Elmwood Park still focused on animation and flash, animation typically falls into visual communications (Triton) or Art Departments (Leyden). It was determined that this would likely not fall into Business or Technology departments at the current time.

IX. [Completion of DVR Exit Slip](#)

All in the group will complete the exit slip.

X. Other?/Adjourn

Meeting adjourned.