

Attendees: Ryan VenHorst and Nick Michalek (OPRF), Lindsey Longstreth, Brian Burcham and Michael Matticks (Leyden), David Weishaar (Riverside-Brookfield), Derrick Caepart (Ridgewood)

All schools have started in a remote fashion to this point, and RB has since gone to a hybrid schedule to get students into the building in a limited basis. All teachers report a struggle for consistent engagement, but there have been some upsides to the implementation of various technologies being used. RB has reported having students using online CAD software (OnShape). OPRF and Ridgewood have also utilized OnShape as a supplement to Autodesk Inventor for use in the Introduction to Engineering Design course. Leyden has postponed the implementation of the new dual credit auto program for this year based on the limitations of the in person time required of the course.

Teachers from OPRF and Leyden reported completing some professional development opportunities offered through Triton and the ILCTE Innovative Curriculum Project through Illinois State University relating to remote learning techniques.

OPRF had two teachers participate in the virtual Illinois Technology Education Conference at the beginning of November. RB and OPRF have plans for teachers to attend the virtual ACTE Conference, and Leyden has plans for one teacher participate in the Illinois ACTE. The International Technology and Engineering Educators Association Conference will be virtual and OPRF has plans to have participants.

Discussion about engagement and participation in Technology-related courses took place with an emphasis on how to encourage students to take advantage of these CTE opportunities next year. Each school discussed having course recommendations as the main method to communicate with prospective students. Leyden mentioned the idea of making some promotional videos to share with students to inform them of coursework available as well.

Each school is working on acquiring new A/V technology for the expected return to a hybrid model for in-person learning at some point in the year. This included cameras, screens, document cameras, and microphones and speakers. RB has plans to incorporate some computer-aided manufacturing equipment to show things virtually, but allow for students to take parts and projects home that were produced at the high school.

Dual credit discussions for this school year and next were tentative with unknowns about current contact hour requirements and current models not fully understood to this point as to whether the remote experience is able to compare to the expected dual credit in a typical year.