DVR Technology & Engineering Education Committee

Mid-Year Report 2/24/21

The DVR Technology group has met twice this year and discussed the following goals.

- 1. Align technology and engineering related coursework to current and potential dual credit offerings through Triton Community College.
 - a. Each school has looked into the current school year as an anomaly in trying to offer the dual credit options created in the past several years. At this point, Leyden has suspended the offerings for this year. OPRF has intentions of creating enough hands on opportunity for the coursework to meet the requirements, but communications will continue this semester to determine how to proceed once there is a better understanding of all of the contact hours. RB does not have any current dual credit offering, but is working toward alignment of the coursework. Ridgewood is continuing to offer Introduction to Engineering Design with the aligned dual credit. OPRF has used the framework created by Leyden to begin discussing an automotive dual credit option that will be offered in 2021-2022 as current plans move forward.
- 2. Foster growth of Advisory Councils for the respective TEE programs at each high school.
 - a. The work toward growth of the Advisory Councils for each pathway continues with the implementation of positions at each school with oversight of CTE related coursework. RB, Proviso, Leyden, and OPRF have dedicated positions to foster this growth and Ridgewood also has a position that has been overseeing the CTE program development and the advancement of more connections to create councils to aid in facilitating communication between students, faculty, parents, and businesses in the community to build relationships for future employment.
- 3. Promote professional development among the TEE teachers through state, regional, and national conference attendance.
 - a. Professional development has been focused this year on the need to better engage students in relation to remote learning and hybrid learning schedules. The high schools have implemented camera, microphone, and speaker technology in conjunction with various video conferencing platforms to continue offering the best opportunity for students to engage collaboratively. The differences in connection with students and content have been noted as difficult. Each school is experiencing challenges that continue to be addressed with technology as best suited to address the needs.
- 4. Collaborate with member schools to advance successful ways in adapting to the current pandemic related school schedule.
 - a. Each meeting has consisted of an opportunity for teachers to share their own best practices. While there have been no silver bullets, the general consensus is that the technology advancements are helping to assist motivated students, and there are more self-guided programs to assist in keeping students progressing as the year moves forward.