



Sweeny Independent School District

Career and Technology Advisory Council

Minutes – April 14, 2014

Members Present

Administration:
Brian Brooks
Les Kluttz
Brett Miksch
Randy Miksch
Dr. Donna Thompson

Teachers:
Kelly Bertsch
Windy Byrd
Derek Cook
Jeff Kemmerling
Mark Manley
Rayetta Martin
Melanie Milberger
Darla Reynolds
Kim Robbins
Ronald Wilson

Community Members:
Ron Bonnett
Sabrina Cannon
John Crouch
Charlie Greenberg
Larry Kemmerling
TJ Loftus
Stephanie Mack
Earl Mathis
Connie McAda
Jasmine Wright

Students:
Jake Crouch
Ben Loftus
Alexis Mack
Efren Martinez
Garrett Reynolds

The Chairperson's Message

Jeff Kemmerling, Co-Chair, brought the meeting to order at 5:19 pm. He welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Chevron Phillips for providing today's meal.

Old Business

Mrs. Byrd read minutes from November 19, 2013 meeting. Dr. Thompson moved to approve meeting minutes, Sabrina Cannon 2nd, motion carried.

New Business

Dr. Donna Thompson reported on program purpose and value. She shared the value of our community attending these meetings and giving our CTE teachers feedback. She shared that much of the value of this gathering is really behind the scenes of the meeting. By bringing industry and business managers together with our CTE educators, we can shape a real program here at Sweeny ISD. For example, at the last meeting Mr. Sammy Brooks discussed the needed digital skills required in his industry with Mr. Kemmerling our computer technology teacher. This conversation would not have happened without this advisory council.

Mrs. Byrd reported on Bylaws. She discussed the current bylaws and asked for feedback.

Mr. Randy Miksch, SUSD Superintendent, reported on House Bill 5 that will affect high school graduation requirements. He reviewed the new course requirements. All 8th graders must make a choice on which endorsement they will pursue. Endorsement areas include Business, STEM, Public Services, Arts/Humanities, and Multidisciplinary Studies. Sweeny HS is excited to announce the creation of the Petrochemical Academy that will offer dual credit courses through Brazosport College in CTE classes such as millwrights, pipefitting, welding and process technology. This facility will help train a new workforce.

Student Showcase

Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources {Principles of Ag, Ag Mechanics, Food Tech, Wildlife, Floral Design, FFA}

Efren Martinez and Garrett Reynolds played a slide show displaying events and activities the AG department is involved in. The show included cake auction, Migration Celebration participation, gate built and donated to local wildlife refuge, and sold team competition at A&M.

Arts, A/V Technology and Communications {Audio Visual Communications I & II}

Health Science {Principles of HS, Pathophysiology, Anatomy & Physiology, Practicum of HS, Sports Medicine, HOSA}

Business, Management & Administration {BIM I & II, HR Management, Problems & Solutions, Accounting I & II, UIL, TSDE}

Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics – {Concepts of Engineering, Engineering Design & Presentation I & II, TSA}

Alexis Mack presented about TSA-JH results at state competition. Three students qualified for National TSA conference in Washington, DC this summer.

Jake Crouch and Ben Loftus reported TSA-HS results at state competition. A total of eight students competed. Video Game Design team earned 3rd place at state. All art for the event was completed in Paint. Tech Bowl placed 5th out of 20 teams.

Open Forum

Mr. Kemmerling led the open forum conversation. He explained that this is an opportunity for our community and business partners to express concerns or make suggestions based upon their experience in the field.

Mr. Crouch shared how 3D printing has created opportunities in his work. He suggested that Sweeny ISD review a 3D printer and its application to engineering and design. Mr. Manley shared that the JH has reviewed 3D printers and has budgeted for a small one. Maybe the high school should consider a 3D printer in their program as well. Mr. Manley added that the JH is applying for a grant that will be used for a laser engraver in his Inventions and Innovations class next year.

Mrs. McAda asked about how students are being exposed to careers in our area. She shared that she takes her son to work with her to Dow but is there a program on a larger scale that allows students to tour, discuss and get more information about careers in our area? It was shared that most often the reason students are not transported to local plants is due to age requirements and liability. Mrs. Cannon added that at STP they have a mock area that gives students an idea of what the nuclear plant is like without actually taking them to the plant. The new Petrochemical Academy will also address some of this concern by giving students hands-on experience in trades that are common in our area. Mr. Cook shared that his Health Science students have an option to participate in rotations and can see actual surgeries. With the addition of technology, Skype/Google Hangouts can increase the conversation of careers in the classroom by bringing the conversation in the classroom with a webcam.

Mr. Klutz shared that the state has now recognized the need for more technology, especially in replacing a retiring workforce.

Mr. Kemmerling thanked everyone for their contribution to the forum.

Adjournment

Dr. Thompson moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Brooks 2nd the motion. Meeting adjourned at 6:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Windy Byrd