

NSERVE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL MEETING
Maine East High School, 2601 Dempster St, Park Ridge, IL 60068
Friday, February 8, 2019 – 1:00 p.m.

I. Call to Order

Ms. Martha Eldredge Stark, NSERVE Executive Director, officially called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

II. Roll Call

Present

Ms. Samantha Archer
Mr. Jason Boumstein
Mr. Patrick Fonsino
Ms. Dawn Hall
Ms. Mary Kosirog
Mr. Chris Powell
Ms. Becky Stewart
Ms. Michelle Vazquez
Mr. Marc Battista
Ms. Cindy Nijmeh
Ms. Julianne Arvizu
Ms. Martha Eldredge Stark
Ms. Mary Anne Brown

Absent

Mr. Steve Belford
Ms. Shelley Gates

Martha Eldredge Stark welcomed Marc Battista from Oakton Community College. Marc is the new Vice President for Workforce Education/Dean of Business and Career Programs. He joined Oakton in January 2019 and will attend future Administrative Council meetings along with Cindy Nijmeh.

III. Approval of Joint Board and Administrative Council Meeting Minutes – December 11, 2018

A motion was made by Becky Stewart and seconded by Sam Archer to approve the minutes of the joint Board and Administrative Council Meeting of December 11, 2018. All were in favor.

IV. Collaboration Time

Dawn Hall reported that they are developing new courses in CTE for special education students at Glenbrook South. They have also created a student advisory board for science and engineering. One thing that has come out of the student advisory group is that the students would prefer to spend time in the maker space than in other activities. Dawn believes that there are distinct advantages to involving students in shaping their program.

Patrick Fonsino reported that he is still working on creating a capstone course in engineering.

Jason Boumstein reported that New Trier is creating a new strategic plan which may result in a re-alignment of departments which will also affect future cross disciplinary study. Jason expressed concern about the future of PLTW courses and if they will bring new direction that is needed in the future of pre-engineering courses. Becky expressed her concern as to PLTW's requirements for teacher training for its courses. Jason is concerned that there are no longer the connections between PLTW and 4-year institutions. Chris Powell mentioned his Engineering Design Development class, which is Niles' capstone class, and said that they always adapt the original PLTW curriculum to keep the standard high.

Martha reported that she spoke with Mark Harris, CEO of the Illinois Science and Technology Coalition, about their program to partner companies with schools on specific real-world projects, which could apply for a capstone course in engineering. Martha is planning to liaise further with Mark Harris and will report her findings to the Administrative Council members. Becky Stewart and Jason Boumstein expressed concern that previous connections with ISTC did not reflect enough focus on engineering. Patrick Fonsino suggested that forming individual personal connections with a company might prove a better route. Martha suggested that Inspire your Future could help with making that type of connections. She said that in her future connections with Mark Harris she would be emphasizing that connections with companies that work in all types of engineering are needed to be able to collaborate on applied tech projects.

She also reported on the professional development on April 26 for teachers to explore projects that can be done in plastics and can be integrated into PLTW classes. The PD will be offered by John Winzeler, President of Winzeler Gear. Faculty from UW Stout will be included to offer advice on curriculum and their plastics engineering degree. The training will also cover Industry 4.0. Martha is also looking to include some teacher stipends in the FY20 grant to finance curriculum development in plastics.

Chris Powell is going to the PLTW conference and will be taking the training to become a master teacher with the PLTW Launch Program. This will qualify him to train elementary grade teachers to teach the Launch program.

V. NSERVE Programs of Study revision

Martha Eldredge Stark drew attention to the sample pages of the new NSERVE Career Pathways Programs of Study which now correspond to the seven pathways in the PWR act. The new brochure will be printed in February. It will feature a “how to use this guide” page as well as a full index of careers for students to explore their pathway. There is also a full revision of all the post-secondary sections including Oakton, Harper, Triton colleges as well as TMA, ICATT, and CISCO. Also included in the packet were sample pages of the new Programs of Study created by Evanston High School and Niles Twp. High Schools. Michelle Vazquez spoke about the process of developing their new brochure which is now in eleven career pathways. Chris Powell reported that their new Career Pathways brochure was very well received at their recent events for parents and students. The continued message from D219 to its incoming students is to have them find their interest and passion, help steer them in the career path that will get them there, and select electives based on that choice.

Patrick Fonsino explained the new Pathways Concept map that has been adopted by the District 207 high schools. Maine freshman are taking the YouScience assessment to establish their pathway and the district is using the Pathway Manager software to help determine their plan to achieve their career goal. Chris Powell reported that it is D219’s goal to have the student education and career plan incorporated into their infinite Campus program. It would mean that there would be one program to monitor many aspects of each students such as courses, dual credit courses, APs, credentials etc.

VI. New Education Pathways Grant (SEPI)

Martha Eldredge Stark explained the opportunity for a new Scaling Education Pathways in Illinois (SEPI) grant for schools. The grant is an attempt to provide an education pathway to address the teacher shortage in Illinois. Martha shared the example that is being pursued by the Rockford school district in collaboration with Rockford University. It enables students to pursue the education pathway in high school and then complete at degree at Rockford University for just \$5,000 per year. Students can also work in schools during the summer to earn money to offset tuition costs. Students that commit to teaching in the area are offered a master’s program at no cost. Martha shared a document which outlined the requirements to achieve the grant. There is also a webinar about the grant on Friday February 15th. The grant would be \$14,000 shared between at least four high schools and postsecondary partners. The application deadline is close – March 15 – but Martha will follow up with any schools that are interested. There was interest from those present and a desire to learn more about it and how it fits in with their district’s current plans. Martha encouraged people to attend the webinar to learn more and will follow up with the districts.

VII. JobsEQ/RTI

Martha Eldredge Stark reported on the usage statistics for the JobsEQ/RTI program. Some districts have been using the program a lot. Martha also reminder people that there are an array of report and there is also online training. It seems that it is possible to research an area wider that the three county area we anticipated. This seems to be offering an added benefit we were not expecting. Patrick Fonsino asked if it was possible to have a “cheat sheet” that would easily explain the data that the reports produce until such time that people become more familiar. Martha will look into it.

VIII. Professional Development

Martha Eldredge Stark will send out more information about the April 26 professional development day with Winzeler gear (mentioned in collaboration time). Martha asked the group to come up with possible projects that could be included in the training day. There was some concern voiced that setting up programs for plastics will likely incur considerable cost for schools; Martha noted that several companies might be willing to offset that cost.

She reported on the upcoming day at Triton college’s, Jerome Drosos School of Culinary Arts. Martha has surveyed the attendees and asked them to provide information on what they would like to see in future professional development, and what best practices they would like to share with the group. It is hoped that this will provide a better structure to the best practices sharing session. A major topic of discussion on the day is the possibility of dual credit with Triton and our schools.

The fact that Triton currently require all dual credit students to complete and Accuplacer test is a potential stumbling block which needs to be investigated. Martha also mentioned that she is planning to arrange a hands-on professional development day with Kendall college. They are in the midst of moving premises so it is likely to be next spring.

Further conversation brought up the issue of schools having to extend their year to accommodate school days rescheduled due to bad winter weather. Martha explained that we are likely to delay the start day of the NSERVE Career Exploration courses, but the exact new date is not yet decided. Martha will keep districts posted on the changes.

She shared information from Peter Oliver at Switch Electric Vehicles. Peter Oliver is offering 4-day training in the SWITCH electric vehicle curriculum at Niles West in March. Peter Oliver is borrowing Niles West's car for the ASCS conference in Chicago and, in exchange for using Niles' car, he is offering the course to Niles teachers. For a fee of \$3,000, he is willing to open up the training to 2 more teachers and hopes to secure 2 more paying-teachers. If he cannot secure the two extra paying-teachers, we will be able to have 4 additional seats for the \$3,000 fee. Martha will let the schools know if these two extra seats become available. Niles is taking the four "free" seats and Glenbrook North are taking the other two. Glenbrook North has plans to purchase the electric vehicle kit for their engineering program.

IX. Equity and Post-Secondary Enrollment and Completion

Martha reviewed some data provided to the group from the 60 x 25 Guiding Team regarding post-secondary enrollment completion and equity. The charts from ICCB and IBHE show data about post-secondary enrollment and completion, which is significantly lower for non-white students. Hispanic enrollment is increasing which is good news, but black enrollment is decreasing. Those trends are matched in the degree completion data. The focus now turns to how we can turn the data trend around. Martha will send out the complete PowerPoint to the group. Marc Battista explained how the IPED data works in tracking where students go after high school and after community college.

X. Oakton Update

Cindy Nijmeh spoke about dual credit with Oakton. She reminded the group of the deadlines related to enrolling/withdrawal of students in dual credit courses. Cindy also reported that Maine D207 will offer a dual credit course in Law Enforcement in fall of 2019 using the Oakton online platform, taught by Oakton faculty. Evanston currently has this taught in their school, in collaboration with the Evanston Fire and Police departments. Cindy reported that they are also working with Niles and Evanston to offer BNA100 in school year 2020/21. Maine is also looking to offer two new computer science courses (Python and Javascript), also offered via the Oakton online program taught by Oakton faculty. Marc Battista reported that he is still new to his position at Oakton but is looking forward to learning more and moving forward with new ideas and collaboration with high schools.

Chris Powell reported that he is on an advisory committee with Oakton for their computer information systems department. He is hoping to be able to increase the number of courses offered to students as dual credit or industry qualifications.

Becky Stewart reported on Maine's progress with Amazon Web Services (AWS). Becky said that the focus was on cybersecurity. Negotiations continue and Amazon is interested to work with schools in order to find their future workforce. They are contacting and visiting schools to explain what they are willing to offer schools and individual students. Amazon will support up to 95% of education for employees but have strict loyalty requirements. Too many days away from work is considered "job abandonment" and would mean that an employee could never work for any Amazon company again. The company group is expanding into many new areas such as their own shipping companies and pharmaceuticals.

XI. Inspire Your Future Update

Julianne Arvizu reported that the number of businesses and coaches continues to increase. Julianne is now working with implementing Inspire with students and will be presenting with Martha at the GBN Spartans Connect day in March with panels of experts for students in the areas of Healthcare, Engineering, Manufacturing Technology and Trades, and Business, Hospitality, and the Arts.

Julianne and Martha also participated in Niles D219 Career Options Night. Inspire is also working closely with the Evanston Mayor's Employee Advisory Council helping Evanston High School connect with Evanston businesses. Julianne has also been helping schools find judges for DECA and FCCLA. Julianne plans to report more data on students' usage going forward.

XII. Other Items for Consideration

The following items were shared with the Administrative Council:

- IACTE Career & Technical Education Showcase Day
- “Stop Calling It Vocational Training” – Virginia Foxx, Wall Street Journal, December 31, 2018
- District 214 Career Pathways Program Stories
- GF Machining – Apprentice Open House, Thursday February 21st

Martha asked if any schools could participate in IACTE Career and Technical Education Showcase Day in Springfield. She emphasized the value in legislators meeting CTE students to educate them on the importance of CTE in schools.

XIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:56 p.m.