

Education Action Team
Meeting Minutes
November 6, 2008

The Education Action Team Meeting was called to order at 4:05 pm by Chairman Jay McCracken.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Egan Colbresee, Jim Conness, Carrie Folken, Scott Harl, Jay McCracken, Sherry Moritz, Mary Stouffer

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Jim Andreoni, Carol Baness, Rob Lentz, Kevin Lindeman, Judd Lusher, Paul McMahon, Lynn Wagner

OTHERS PRESENT:

Carol Betts

Approval of Minutes

Mary Stouffer motioned to approve the September 9, 2008 meeting minutes as presented. Motion was seconded by Jim Conness; motion carried.

Chairman's Comments

Jay McCracken read an email from Robert Lentz. Rob asked that due to a lot of conflict with scheduling and the challenge of a recent job change he be removed from the Education Action Team. Rob would like to be on the team's information list. (Rob's email is attached.)

Scott Harl motioned to accept the resignation of Robert Lentz. Motion was seconded by Egan Colbresee; motion carried.

Jay distributed a copy of a report sent by Brenda Veronda from Carus Corporation and asked that the members take a minute to read the report. The report was a follow-up on a meeting Brenda had with Don Loeback the Science Camp Director from Peru Catholic School. Brenda indicated that Carus is interested in expanding the camp if funding is available, and Don has agreed to expand the camp to two weeks. (The full report is attached.) Brenda also would like to join the Education Action Team.

Egan said he is researching the possibility of finding a grant to help fund the camp.

Jay said the science camp certainly fits into the team's program.

Business Meeting

Speakers Bureau Update

Carrie said Bureau Valley High School has had one speaker from logistics speak at the school. A speaker from Perry Memorial is scheduled in December and another speaker from manufacturing will be at the school in the spring. Streator Dependable is going into Streator Township High School (BRIDGE program), and Dependable is doing a tour of their facility on December 2nd.

Carrie also said that Pam Furlan had a conversation with Jay Stortz, the Co-op Teacher at Ottawa Township High School. Jay is interested in having a speaker talk to his Co-op Class every week next year. Carrie said Jay wants to start the program with the next school year. Carrie asked if any of the members knew someone that

would be willing to go to the school and talk with the students to let her know. Dianna Schuler is talking with some employers, but they will need others too.

Jay suggested that within the bigger firms, they may have multiple areas that can speak to the students.

Carrie agreed

Teacher in Industry

Update was given from Brenda Veronda during the Chairman's Comments.

Employability Certification Program and WorkKeys®

Mary Stouffer will check with Carol Baness to see if she has any follow-up for the team.

New Business

None

Other Business

Jay said the team needs to decide how many times to meet and what issues they want to discuss. Jay also said he thinks that the Employability Certification Program is a worthwhile goal for the team to pursue.

The team agreed to meet every other month or when needed.

Sherry asked if Rosalyn Pigati could be invited to be part of the team since Rosalyn is so involved in the WorkKeys. It would be good to get updates and information on what we can do to help.

Jay suggested that if Rosalyn doesn't want to make the commitment to be a full time member maybe she will agree to attend the next two or three meetings.

Sherry said that if we can get the employer's to request the WorkKeys scores the scores for the schools will improve.

Carrie said that after Rosalyn talked to the logistics employers, they seemed very interested. They were forming a group to get the word out to employers on how to contact the schools.

Mary said that in southern Illinois the employers got together and agreed to ask for the WorkKeys scores. This is a help to the schools, because the students know the WorkKeys scores are important if they want a job when they graduate.

Jay said that if there is a successful model in the southern part of the state, it would be nice to get both a representative from the school and a representative from the employers to share their information with the team.

Jay will call Rosalyn and invite her to the next meeting; two possible dates, January 22nd or February 19th, will be presented to Rosalyn.

Adjournment

With there being no further business, Sherry Moritz motioned to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Jim Conness and carried. Meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Carol Betts