

Career Technical Education Department Advisory Meeting
November 6, 2013

Present:

Dean Archer – Agriculture Instructor
 Rob Brown – Computer Instructor
 Rob Chase – ROP Stagecraft Instructor
 Heather Dyk – Agriculture Instructor (CTE Department Head)
 Pam Knapp – Linden Career Center Director & Counselor
 Chris Lemos – Agriculture Instructor
 Denise Moore – Linden Unified School Board Member
 Calvin Nash – Community Volunteer
 Laura Nealy – Home Economics Instructor
 John Schallberger – Assistant Principal
 Robert Seronello – Small Business Owner
 Albert Vaccarezza – Owner/Operator of L.Hawley’s Welding
 Annette Vana – School Secretary, ROP Coordinator, & Parent
 Rod Vasquez – Construction Technology Instructor
 Tony Yaghi – Computer Technician and Theater Producer
 Mike Zaklan – Computer Business Owner working with Agriculture

Not Present:

Donny Giottonini – DG Lumber & Past Student
 Gary Holtberg – Contractor & Parent
 Christine Ramsey - Kruger Foods Inc., Former Ag. Student, & Parent
 Clay Titus – Contractor & Parent
 Michael Toscano - Delta College Horticulture Instructor

I. Welcome and Introductions

Mrs. Dyk started the meeting at 2:03 pm by welcoming everyone and thanking them for coming to the meeting. Mrs. Dyk then started off the introductions which then proceeded around the table.

II. CTE Program Reports – Program Descriptions & Course Outlines

Laura Nealy - Home Economics:

Ms. Nealy reported that Home Economics is doing great. The program has received 5 new computerized infants for students check-out with regards to childcare.

There are several students who will be recognized for earning their first step in their Teaching Credential for preschool.

Child Development course has been submitted for a-g credit for students to use as they apply for university entrance.

Rob Vasquez - Woodshop:

Mr. Vasquez is teaching his usual load for Wood I, Wood II, and Design and Build courses. Mr. Vasquez commented on his implementation of Common Core and how his use of it is assisting with keeping students more focused and on-task. He has students write down their objectives for the day while working in the shop and then journaling what they accomplished at end of the period. Mr. Vasquez will be retiring at the conclusion of the 2014-15 school year; he's looking forward to completing his final two years on a positive note. He's already started conversation with administration about the future of the program after his departure. Mr. Serenello commented on how the Construction Technology program helps students develop hands-on skills, team work, and life skills. The advisory committee unanimously agreed that we need to work together to insure that the program continues.

Rob Brown - Computers/Technology Classes:

Mr. Brown reported that everything was going well other than losing the keyboarding software program that his Life Management students rely on to learn/enhance their keyboarding skills. Mr. Brown has 22 and 25 students who are enrolled in Computer Applications; these students earn college credit for this course as this class is articulated with Delta College.

Rob Chase - Drama:

Mr. Chase is busy working on the current Drama Production through is "tech" course. Students are creating/constructing the sets as well as learning how to operate some of the light/sound/video board technology. Mr. Chase would like to see our computer hardware updated so that he could dive more into the technology aspect involved with theater. Mr. Chase commented that his primary challenge is the fact that some students are gung ho and willing to work and then there are those that don't work at all which takes away from getting things done.

Chris Lemos - Ag Mechanics:

Mr. Lemos commented on his courses: Ag Mechanics I (basic Ag Mechanics), Ag Mechanics II (primarily welding), Ag Power Systems (small engines), ROP Construction (large welding projects). The program was able to purchase a Plasma Cutter to make precision metal projects. Some of the items have been functional for the school/Dept. as well as decorative items for fundraising purposes. Mr. Lemos is exploring the possibility of starting a CAD course so that students can design their own blueprints for projects. Mr. Serenello questioned whether or not there should be a waiver

for projects constructed in the Ag Shop in the event that there's an accident involving a project built on campus.

Dean Archer - Agriculture Science, Business & Leadership:

Mr. Archer commented on the status of his three courses: Ag Integrated Science (4 periods), Ag Leadership (1 period), and ROP Ag Business Computers (1 period). Classes are going well; the freshmen are starting to settle in to high school life and appear to be taking high school more seriously. The Ag Leadership students are a great group of junior students and have been involved in organizing some of our FFA Activities. The ROP Computer students are focused on learning Microsoft Office; this course is articulated through Delta College so students may earn CSU transferrable college credit for passing with a "B" or better.

Our FFA Chapter is off and running with the activities for the year. We've had an activity for our members each month. The FFA Officer Team has been meeting regularly on Thursday morning organizing upcoming activities; they've been looking at trying some new/different activities. Our Public Speaking Contest preparations are underway with many students preparing for the Sectional FFA Contests held here at Linden High School on Wednesday – December 11, 2013.

Heather Dyk - Ag Science & Horticulture:

Mrs. Dyk commented that her Ag Biology classes are going great and that she's making some minor modifications with Common Core. We are waiting to see how the new Science Standards will be affecting our science courses. The Ag Science class is moving along with allowing them to explore science concepts on their own. It's been challenging for the older students, but the sophomores are handling it better. ROP Horticulture is going a lot smoother as students are being more focused and accomplishing more work so that they may go work in the Ag Orchard/Laboratory and/or greenhouse.

Things are in full-swing with the FFA; Mrs. Knapp just returned from the National FFA Convention with 6 of our students as she was selected as the State Star Counselor for California FFA.

Pam Knapp – Career Center Coordinator:

Mrs. Knapp is in the process of meeting with senior and freshman students to discuss life after Linden High School. Mrs. Knapp is attending a meeting where she will be promoting the importance of Career Technical Education. She also attended the National FFA Convention last week as well as made jelly with the grapes from our Ag Orchard which has grapevines.

III. Long Range Planning/Future Planning of CTE

There is a \$320 million Technical Education grant that Pam Knapp will be looking to apply for funds from that grant. She is currently doing research as to what school(s) will be taking the lead. Mrs. Knapp expressed her concern with local program funding formula and how that will be impacting our programs.

Ms. Moore, School Board Member, indicated that she wasn't sure what would happen with the funding that would typically go to CTE. The landscape of educational expenses is changing. She commented that individuals from this Advisory Committee should attend school board meetings to express our desires for continued funding.

Ms. Nealy added that she is looking for students, particularly juniors, who are looking to work on their teaching credential so that they can complete that by their senior year. She would like to have the Advanced Foods course return for those students interested.

IV. Other

The idea of a CAD course was brought up again by Mr. Zaklan. Mr. Lemos explained what he's been working on to have for the future. The challenge is the technology and funding associated with the software. Mr. Lemos expressed that even some of technology such as welders that students currently use is nearly 25 – 30 years old. Ms. Moore presented the idea that he speak with some of the local agriculturalists about donations to update some of the welding machinery in the Ag Shop.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:37 p.m. by Heather Dyk

Submitted by: Dean Archer
