

2/4/09 PETAC Minutes

PRESENT:

Kim Runion, Bob Henry, Greg Donald, Kevin Shyne, Val Zanchuck, Michele Munson, Dan Caron, Judy Houston

MINUTES/TECHNOLOGY LANGUAGE AMENDMENTS:

Relative to draft language for the Tech. Ed. Standards, Bob suggested that competency language regarding “Engineering Principles and Design” is redundant as those competencies are imbedded in the other content/skills. As a remedy, Bob will send out draft language clarifying the issue with the understanding that:

- Many teachers may be assessing these competencies but not know it.
- Everyone, regardless of profession, NEEDS tech awareness.

When you receive Bob’s draft, please send suggested revisions to Bob & Michele ASAP. She would like the final draft for Paul Leather @ the March 4th PETAC meeting. Dan will then need to get it in the hands of Tech Ed teachers when finalized. Many thanks are due Dan and all who put the work into this.

Further discussion left us with these questions:

- Has Tech Ed become so academic that it no longer has the “different feel” that it once had for kids?
- Do kids still see it as an enjoyable part of the day where they got to apply what they know? (*God, do we miss the good old days!*)

1st IN ALL SCHOOLS:

The Governor is promoting this as *1st in all NH high schools*. Lots of discussion ensued on logistics relative to the roughly \$25,000 cost, the availability of mentors and of industries to support the schools in certain areas of the state. PLTW opted not to partner with 1st because it was episodic and not curriculum based. Bob felt it would make more sense to do it state wide in way that parallels athletic conferences and that the idea behind 1st is a great concept; let’s “*make it NH*”. Point was made that there are other models that we may want to identify for the Governor.

KEVIN’S REPORT: (See attachment above.)

NOTES:

- Kim shared that the State will be doing middle school training to help teachers guide students to career awareness.
- Bob let us know of a developing partnership between Great Bay C.C. & UNH geared toward kids interested in engineering, who have good math skills, but haven't taken enough math to be successful @ the university.
- Next meeting is March 4th, @ 8:30 @ the Walker Building. (A decision was made not to change the meeting time.)
- Norm Major has been reappointed as our legislative rep.
- TSA meetings are the last Thursday of the month and Dan says they are always looking for judges.
- UNH Summer Tech Camp will be for two weeks: Week #1 is five one-day sessions on a variety of topics for campers with limited experience. Week #2 will have campers focus on one topic and is for those with pre-engineering or technology experience. Cost will be in the \$350 range for day campers and another \$350 for boarders. They are looking for corporate sponsors. Brochure is coming soon.