

Twinsburg City School District
Business Advisory Council (BAC) Meeting
Tuesday, October 23, 2018
Visual Marking Systems (VMS), 2097 E. Aurora Road, Twinsburg ~ 8:00 a.m.

Meeting Minutes

In Attendance: Rob Felber (Board Member), Michelle Willmott (VMS), Kathi Powers (TCSD), Chad Welker (TCSD), Laura Hebert (TCSD), Jenny Stupica (Conxus NEO), Melissa Mertes (Mad About Marketing), Steve Schiopota (Heritage One Resources LLC), Todd Courtney (Crown Composites), Celena Roebuck (ideastream), Belinda McKinney (In Full Bloom Consulting), Kristen Schiopota (Hope Family Counseling), Megann Eberhart (Twinsburg Chamber of Commerce)

Meeting was called to order at 8:10 a.m.

Minutes from the August 7, 2018 meeting were approved. Minutes will be posted and Rob Felber will share with the Board.

- Superintendent Powers welcomed those in attendance and introduced Belinda McKinney.
- Belinda will be assisting with the efforts to recruit students for *The Academy*. She will be working with Norm Potter to connect all the pieces of *The Academy* to create a consistent flow for the program. Belinda has met with some of the students currently in the program and has been in contact with many of the parents.
- Belinda will be focusing on Freshmen and Sophomore students and their parents to introduce them to *The Academy* in efforts to try to get them involved.

Questions asked:

- Will there be any credit offered for participation in *The Academy*?
 - Answer: Will consider how this can be possible.
- Are any more field trips planned?
 - Answer: The Rockwell trip was part of National Manufacturing Day. Other field trips will be considered. Interests of the students should be identified and field trips matched to their interests.
- When can field trips take place?
 - Answer: The Board can approve opportunities for students
- Swagelok Internship update – Mrs. Mertes will send the Swagelok connection information to Belinda. The engineering program is an 8-week program. Still working on the connection between Swagelok and *The Academy*.

❖ Kathi and Chad toured Lincoln Electric during a recent meeting of the Northeast Ohio Business Advisory Council.

- ❖ Jenny mentioned the Explorers Program which provides hands-on mentoring to students. Most of these students continue on to Career Centers. There is no cost to schools and they can provide the insurance that companies usually can't. Police and Fire have worked with the Explorers Program and provided mentorships.
- ❖ All were in agreement that there needs to be a cohesive plan for what students would get out of participating in *The Academy* from year to year and a cohesive plan for how businesses can provide help and mentorship for students.
- ❖ Business partners need to know how they can fit in. They could also use talking points to present to management explaining why they should be a part of *The Academy* efforts.
- ❖ Mrs. Powers will be meeting with THS administration and Dr. Hebert to define pathways for students in *The Academy* and how the pathways will be connected with the curriculum and to the new Honors Diplomas. Options need to be clearly defined.
- ❖ Talent and areas of expertise of the business partners should be recognized and matched to student's interests. What career fields can the business partners offer *The Academy*? Should make use of the talents businesses can offer.
- ❖ Exploratory piece is important to present to students.
- ❖ Advantages of *The Academy* that need to be focused on:
 - The type of student is changing – they are purposeful and passionate and think differently than the traditional Internship model.
 - Make sure the middle performing student is not left out. Students learn differently. Some are better with hands-on work.
 - Students need to know that success comes in many forms. The end game is not always college.
 - All students deserve all experiences and all opportunities. Need to help students connect to their passion.
 - Individual opportunities also need to be available outside the pathways.
 - Some students don't know their passion – *The Academy* should help these students find their passion. May have the academics down but not sure what to do with the knowledge.
 - How will *The Academy* work with School Counselors? School Counselors should be able to guide students and expose them to the opportunities of *The Academy*.

Points from Celena Roebuck, Ed.D., Community Engagement & Education Manager, ideastream:

- Lifelong learning is key.
- Student and Parents should be informed about demands in careers (IT, Construction, etc.) and what careers are no longer in demand.
- Businesses should be required to go through training to know how to handle students in Internships.
- Kathi and Norm are invited to present at ideastream's American Graduate Advisory Committee Meeting on December 4th. The topic will *be The Academy at Twinsburg High School*.

❖ Norm is working on the Summer Programming opportunities and will report back.

Next meeting will be December 18, 2018. Location to be decided.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

Meeting Minutes Approved, December 18, 2018