SCC Meeting

October 15, 2007

5:15-6:15

Present: Maryanna Swanson, Connor Barry, Matthew Lepage, Amy Jemery, Richard Smith, Sarah Bunkley, Lena MacLean, Lora McPhail-Bates, Ethel Gaides, Kathy Boyle, Gillian Cavezzali, Carol Junie, Lynda Niles, Donni Hughes, Carolyn Varin, Nicholas Mignanelli, Linda Horton, Julie Fogarty, Peter Gulick, Pam Harland, Bruce Parsons, Taysha Allen, Hannah Ingerson

The SCC subcommittee on the Senior Capstone Project reported on the recommendation for a 4-yr. digital portfolio plan to culminate as a senior capstone project:

* Freshmen will arrive with a digital portfolio from k-8 (many freshmen already have this).
  + Next year, every incoming Freshmen will have a digital portfolio.
  + Freshmen will be introduced to Taskstream, our digital portfolio management software, during Freshmen Seminar.
* Sophomores are currently working with the English department.
  + We would like to see this change to Math, Science, or both.
  + Rich Smith reported that this year the English department will work with students on locating a “best example” of some work.
  + Pam Harland agreed to assist English teachers with the uploading process.
  + Nobody from the Science department attended the meeting.
  + Math would prefer to work with Freshmen.
* Juniors will work with Social Studies department.
  + US History or American Studies classes will work on a research project that students choose to add to their portfolio.
* Seniors will work with the English department- as this is the only class that every senior takes. Within the English department structure, students will work on writing reflections for the work they have added over the passed 3 years. They will also encourage students to continue to add their “best work” to the portfolio.

Concerns:

working on digital portfolios is taking class time away from curriculum work.

Does moving English to senior year fit in with their current curriculum?

Suggestions:

English department suggests that Guidance oversees the digital portfolio process.

A Sophomore student suggests adding a senior seminar piece to the schedule.

A Senior student thinks senior seminar would be a mistake.

Ethel Gaides presented the ICT state standards to the committee and explained that a High School portfolio will be required for the class of 2009/2010.

Mr. Parsons asked “Where does this high school want to go with this?” Instead of having the state dictate how we should do this- why don’t we figure out what is best for us and our students?

Pam & Lena volunteered to put together a couple of completed sample portfolios for the committee to browse.

We all agreed that eventually students will be working independently on this- but the first few years they will need guidance from the entire staff.

Peter suggested that we continue this discussion at our next scheduled meeting: Monday Nov. 19th at 5:15.