**SCC Meeting Minutes**

**March 5, 2013**

**PRHS Library**

Present: Julie Fogarty, Ryan Amtmann, Amey Bailey , Jordan Brownstein, Kate Brownstein, Stephen Buttolph, Andrew Buttolph, Dawn Day, Doug Ross, Carolyn Varin, Will Gunn, Lisa Ash, Barbra Noyes, Judi D’Aleo, Peter Gulick, Bob Price, Patricia Rella, Emelia Fleck

* Peter Gulick called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.
* January Minutes were accepted
* Peter discussed his research on the topic of Partnerships
* The Evaluation Report has not been completed yet
* The town of Plymouth, Speare Hospital and local business have been very corporative
* Students and parents/guardians can easily arrange a partnership
* Business need to be approved by the labor department
* Peter introduced Linda Hammond who discussed the STEM Program (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics)
* Linda gave an in-depth description of the STEM Program
* PSU is not an engineering school therefore they partnered with the Parametric Technology Cooperation to introduce engineering work and training to the school
* PSU will be offering a three day course for $175 per credit/$450 for non- credit
* The course would consist of learning three different types of software (Creo, Mathcad and Windchill) and receiving one million dollars worth of free software
* The STEM Program starts with Kindergarten going through to high school, college and into working professions
* 3D Software can be used in classes such as biology and mathematics
* Once enrolled ,the first class must be taken in the 3D classroom in Needham, MA
* In the 3D classroom students will experience such things as getting inside an engine of a Caterpillar Tractor
* Caterpillar has tractors in the Himalayas and use 3D software to successfully repair vehicles
* With 3D printers they can create parts for the repairs
* On June 24th the Federal Aviation Administration and the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics are giving a free 8 hour workshop at PSU for 40 teachers in the Field House where participants will be building a electronic tethered airplane, teaching the physics of placement
* Teachers must join and register through the AIAA
* Participating teachers will receive a $200 grant every year through AIAA
* Teachers can pool their grants for equipment for their school
* After the airplane is built teachers will take the learned information and materials back to the classroom, students will build the airplane and be entered in a competition next spring, competing against other schools
* Linda offered to send links and information about the June 24th class to anyone who is interested
* Partnership other than STEM are offered through PSU
* Professional development classes cost between $89 and $220
* Classes can be taken online via the PSU website, Ed to Go and Mind Edge
* STEM New Hampshire, which can be found of the EPSCoR website (nhepscor.org/stem) where teachers can add anything they are doing within the classroom and see what is happening throughout the state
* Linda explained how the STEM Program relates with PRHS and asked teachers who had participated in the STEM meeting to talk about their experience and opinions
* Math, Science and Tech Ed. teachers from PRHS participated in a STEM meeting at PSU where they were given an overview of the program which generated tremendous interest
* Over 50% of the Math and Science Department are interested in getting involved in the program and are hoping to sign up for the class that is being offered this June
* This is a positive direction as far as meeting the Core Standards, generating a high level of interest and allowing students to view Science, Math and the World in a different and engaging way while building critical thinking, problem solving and collaboration
* PSU realizes that they are a small regional University , they wanted offer experiences that you might have at a University such as MIT and the STEM program is the perfect avenue to achieve this goal
* There are two more partnerships scheduled for the future, one in medical, starting with Kindergarten
* PSU wants to serve the business within the state. Businesses are looking for people who are knowledgeable with Mathcad and Windchill, especially in manufacturing
* PRHS has concerns about technology and cost regarding the new equipment required
* Dan Pierce, the head of I.T, will be participating in the class this June to insure that everything coincides
* PRHS, through a grant from Perkins, will be purchasing a 3D printer next year
* PRHS has computer labs that will support all of the software (Creo, Mathcad and Windchill)
* The question was asked, is this anything that PRHS could offer through VOTECH as a program?
* PRHS does not want to limit this to only VOTECH
* It will be able to be integrated within the curriculum of any Science or Math class to use the methodology to help them better understand, learn and think more globally
* Many of the Ed to Go courses would be perfect for the VOTECH Department
* Linda stated that the reason this course was created was the realization that there is a huge learning curve with the software and teachers would need time to master the program before it is integrated into the classrooms
* PSU offers LEGO Engineering and Robotics Camps taught by master teachers and students
* Peter asked the committee if there was anything else that needed to be discussed regarding partnerships
* Early Childhood Development
* Survey for students regarding VLACS and gaps
* Guidance or the SCC would need to create the survey
* The survey would consist of student expectations going into VLACS, what students received from taking a course, how VLACS compared to classes at PRHS, why are students signing up for VLACS (the class is not offered/because the class is easier/the student dislikes the teacher)
* Any survey administrated through the school must first be viewed and accepted by the school board
* The questions was asked, What would the purpose of the survey be?
* To answer concerns about competencies
* The survey would be related to graduates who have come through the system and can reflect back on their experience
* The suggestion was made that the questions could be added to the Senior Exit Survey
* PRHS has stopped using the follow up surveys administrated after graduation
* Due to lack of response regarding the follow up surveys PRHS now uses a new system, The National Student Clearing House, which follows every graduate enrolled in college (94% of Colleges participate) following their progress through every semester of College, Graduate School, Medical School etc.
* One thing that is different about VLACS as opposed to other ELO’s is that there is not a connection with a certified teacher within the walls of PRHS
* PRHS looks at VLACS the same way as they would transcripts from a transferring student , a certified teacher would only be required within the building if a student was doing an internship or something that required a certified teacher but does not provide one
* Students are continually giving teachers within the building feedback on ELO’s but there is no feedback for VLACS available, making it a noticeable disconnect that is not necessarily in line with the PRHS mission
* Barbra stated that the school board would like to hear all of the SCC’s ideas for topics of discussions for the 2013-2014 school year
* Peter stated that, as an option, the members of SCC that are in the school board would have first access to the Evaluation Report and could suggest a number of approved topics to the SCC for topics of discussion
* It was suggested that the SCC would provide options to the school board
* Scheduling was brought forward as an option
* The committee was reminded that the topic of scheduling was discussed thoroughly three years ago
* Class rank was brought up as an option
* It was suggested that the SCC evaluate the report before voting on a topic
* The SCC will be meeting in April to finalize topics to suggest to the school board for approval and will take a final vote in May on all suggested, approved topics resulting on a decision for next year’s topic
* Peter asked SCC member to e-mail him (PGulick@prhs.sau48.org ) topic suggestions to be compiled into a list for the April meeting, a final decision will be made and presented to the school board in May
* The topic of a closure to the partnership discussion arose
* PRHS has no issues with partnering with businesses, lawyers, doctors etc.
* It was suggested that partnerships be added to the list of topic presented to the School Board
* Linda offered to investigate partnering students with Early Childhood program or licensed daycare center
* Natural Recourse Management, Environmental Planning and Forestry was suggested as another avenue for partnerships
* Many parents are unaware about all of the different partnerships that are available
* PRHS has a vast amount of partnerships with the Community College System and The Running Start Programs
* The topic of expanding partnerships and looking at what programs PRHS offer and could qualify as Running Start arose
* Running Start is taught by teachers that have been approved and follow the curriculum provided through the Community College System. PRHS pays the Running Start enrollment fee, when the class is passed the student receives both high school and Community College credit if they chose to go to Community College
* The largest hurdle PRHS has with students enrolling in classes at PSU is scheduling , the two schedules do not coincide
* If PRHS chose to have a traditional schedule students would have more flexibility as far as taking classes at PSU
* Linda brought up the Clep and Dantes tests
* The Clep test allows students who excel in a particular subject to take an exam in the subject of choice and receive three to six college credits
* This is a wonderful way to bring down student loans
* The cost is $100

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 1st at 5:15 p.m in the PRHS Library.