

EAC Meeting January 27, 2010

The January meeting opened with members: Hans Andrews; J. Burt; Jim Carlson; Mike Driscol; Tina Hardy; Debb Ladgenski; Laura Pastorik; John Piano; C.G. Pillai; and Con Spirrisson; present.

Reading of the minutes from the previous meeting was postponed until the next meeting.

The following Committee reports were presented:

- 1) Parental Engagement – Mike Driscol thanked J. McCracken who helped prepare a set of slides for presentation illustrating the best practices of LaSalle & Putnam Counties. Not a lot of models are available in Illinois. This power point will be presented to area school superintendants with the hope that they will take an idea to model after within their districts. Measures of success will be taken from the implemented of any similar programs established after the presentations.
- 2) Community Partnerships – J. Burt discussed Steve Wrobleski's presentation at the IVAC Breakfast about L-P's careers path. A discussion was also held regarding the Vermilion Advantage Career Lab that may be developed here, utilizing IVCC resources along with business support. Jim Carlson suggested that perhaps a partnership could be established between North Central Illinois Logistics, IVCC and NCI Works.
- 3) Transitions/Rigor-Relevance-Relationships – A handout was presented on November 25th to exemplify RRR. A discussion followed including such points and suggestions as:
 - a) IL learning standards are so broad that teachers tend to only cover content.
 - b) We have to have teachers who care about the kids and are willing to provide choices of learning.
 - c) We need to instill trust and confidence.
 - d) There should be a new teacher's workshop with RRR + practiced tips; a planning committee; sharing opportunities (i.e., IVCC work with H.S. teachers for better transitions.).
 - e) IMSA will provide 4 days of free training to LaSalle County teachers with follow-up for next year.
- 4) Hans Andrew spoke about his research and publications dealing with how to help teachers, evaluating for excellence, teacher rewards, what is good teaching, and dual credit classes.
- 5) Other Committees & Initiatives – J. Burt suggested working to increase membership to become more regional and develop more public relations functions for better awareness.
- 6) Other Items
 - a) Volunteers – schools should identify what their needs are, then website could help publicize these needs.
 - b) Mentors – help for troubled teens/Youth Service Bureau
 - c) Other - Future discussions on unfunded mandates and the effect of Charter & Magnet Schools.
 - d) 2010 EAC goals – will be discussed at a future meeting.
- 7) The next meeting will be scheduled in the spring. No definite date was set.

Respectfully submitted,

Debb Ladgenski