

CAC CURRICULUM MEETING

MINUTES OF 01.26.16

ATTENDANCE: Committee Members Lisa K. Hopp, Ian Horn, Julie Winterhalder, Seth Rinder, Nadia Attia, Tracy Kelly, Maria Garbarz, Brock Friedman, Mary VanSlyck, Susie Sias, Klaudia Tomlin; Trisha Shrode (Staff Liason)

GUESTS: April Wells, Coordinator Gifted, Academies, AP & World Languages; Dr Terri Lozier, Asst Superintendent for Secondary Schools Instruction and Equity; Deb Perryman, EHS teacher

Call to order: 7:04 pm by Lisa Hopp, Co-Chair

Minutes of 12.15.15 were reviewed. A list of current 2015-2016 IGNITE and AIM sites were added. Motion to approve made by Mary VanSlyck, second by Brock Friedman. Minutes approved.

National BioDiversity Teach In

Deb Perryman from Elgin High School, presented an overview of the National BioDiversity Teach In

- A student led project, "Teach In" is a series of Webinar presentations from scientific experts. Participants have an opportunity to engage with presenters.
- Students are in Elgin High School's Environmental Science courses.
- Last year, there were approximately 8,000 participants. In 2016, there will be over 20,000 participants from 13 countries.
- Participation is free, the public or teachers just register. Registration is necessary to engage with presenters, but presentations will be available on the National BioDiversity's YouTube Channel.
- 2016 Teach In has grown to 4 Friday and 1 Thursday (5 days total) schedule of 39 different presentations.
- More information and registration:
www.nationalbiodiversityteachin.com

Advanced Placement (AP) Courses – an Overview

Guests April Wells, Coordinator Gifted, Academies, AP & World Languages and Dr Terri Lozier, Asst Superintendent for Secondary Schools Instruction and Equity presented a general introduction to Advanced Placement courses in U-46

- What is AP? AP courses are a college level class, with oversight provided by the National College Board.
- U-46 Teachers must submit a course outline to the National College Board. U-46 is working towards having more collaboration between AP teachers.
- National College Board and U-46 both have similar philosophies that all students should have access to the more rigorous coursework of an AP class.
- Currently, district-wide, U-46 offers 30 different AP courses.

AP EXAMS -

- Students have an opportunity to sit for National College Board AP Exams.
- AP exams are not required
- The cost of per exam is \$87. In 2015, the U-46 Board of Education allocated funds to pay for all student's first exam. (at this time, the Board has not allocated funds for 2016)
- Scores on AP Exams may transfer to college credit. However, there is no standardization among colleges and universities. A student must research how an AP score would be accepted with their college of choice.
- whether AP credit is applied 1:1 subject, or as general elective credits, AP credits can result in significant tuition savings for students.

OTHER BENEFITS OF AP COURSES -

- provides an excellent bridge between high school – college
- A's and B's in AP courses are weighted when calculating GPAs
- College admission officers acknowledge the more rigorous coursework completed by student
- Students practice critical thinking and time-management skills
- Students have an opportunity to learn more and delve deeper into subjects that interest them

HELPING YOUR STUDENT -

- Start a conversation with your student, "What subjects interest you?" "Thoughts about college? Career?"
- Questions for guidance counselor – "What courses am I likely to enjoy? Do well in?" "Are there other courses that may help me succeed in AP?"
- Know deadlines to enroll AP class, register for exams.
- Be familiar with resources offered by teacher and/or school for extra support.

MEETING SCHEDULE -

Next meeting – Tuesday, February 23, 2016 Marc Hans will update on K-8 Science Early Implementation.

Committee will begin work on 2015-2016 Final Report in March to finalize and approve in April. 2015-2016 Final Report goes to Executive Committee and General Membership in May.

PUBLIC COMMENT – there was no public comment.

Adjourn – Motion by Mary VanSlyck, second by Brock Friedman. Motion passed.