

Essex North Shore Agricultural & Technical School District
Essex Technical High School

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Fall Program Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Information Technology Services

Tuesday, October 17, 2017

Minutes for breakout sessions:

Facilitators:

Elaine Batzer, Essex Tech Instructor
Kathleen Sheldon, Essex Tech Instructor —

Members Present:

Nicole Medina, Student
Debralee Medina, Parent/Salem 5 IT Dept
Vincent Ghika, formerly of Dell EMC
Mark Ambrefe, MITRE Corp.
Brad Sheldon, Broadcom

Subject: Update Advisory Committee makeup

Discussion: reviewed DESE checklist and noted the need for full spectrum of representation

Subject: Curriculum Review

Discussion: Discussed changes to last year's curriculum. Linux Essentials had been addressed by Mr. Harris using a review of various GUI's but not as much in-depth CLI. Need to include Powershell and Windows Server (still). Vinny suggested running in a virtual environment but instructors noted that students initially would struggle to understand the concepts; need to begin with actual boxes and move on to virtualization, another major employability skill. Free courses are available for VMWare. Server 2016 was suggested.

The PC's in shop are four years old and will soon need to be replaced. We need to be sure to have

adequate hardware to support virtualization, which should be used by upper grades to become familiar with a virtual environment.

Inclusion of PowerShell was *again* stressed. In the budgeting process we need to be sure to include subscriptions for each instructor for Lynda.com online training to allow for development of Windows Server and Powershell curriculum.

Subject: In-school Help Desk

Discussion: PAC members suggested that the program set up a help desk for the public, staffed by students. We debated the logistics of this, since there would need to be staff oversight, we don't want the public to be in the building unsupervised, liability is a concern for devices.

Subject: Documentation for DESE

Discussion: Curriculum Bias Review Checklist, Annual Programmatic Review, Membership Form, and Quality Assessment Tool were introduced. We reviewed the documents as a group and briefly discussed the contents. The committee was made aware that we will be completing the assessment tool this year.

We filled in the Curriculum Bias form. We reviewed the Cisco Netacad curriculum and saw that it represents a diverse group of role models. Since our chair was absent from this meeting we will be reconvening with him to review and finalize the Programmatic Review Form.

Subject: Discuss need for additional internships, Co-op placement, and collaborative industry partnerships.

Discussion: with the addition of Lisa Berube this year (who visited the meeting) we are making more contacts and providing more opportunities. One junior has secured a position starting in January 2018 when he becomes eligible, with TechEvolution.

Subject: Recruitment of Trade Specific Substitute Teachers

Discussion: At this time the board was unable to give us any names of potential substitutes for our program.